



# USCCA PROTECTOR ACADEMY™ SHOOTING QUALIFICATIONS

## LEVEL 1

**REQUIREMENTS:** Take a two-hour in-person class of your choice with a certified firearms instructor. Simply return to this section of your Protector Academy™ training to add your course into your account after completion.

**SUCCESS CRITERIA:** You must get at least 70% (35 or more) of your shots inside the 9-inch center circle of your target.

**COURSE OF FIRE:** You will complete a series of basic handgun marksmanship challenges meant to test your accuracy at varying distances. There will be NO time limits. This is purely a test of your accuracy with your self-defense handgun.

- **STAGE 1:** Put your target 3 yards away from you on the range. Fire 10 rounds at the 9-inch center circle.
- **STAGE 2:** Place your target 5 yards downrange. Fire 10 rounds at the 9-inch center circle.
- **STAGE 3:** Place your target 7 yards downrange. Fire 10 rounds at the 9-inch center circle.
- **STAGE 4:** Place your target 10 yards downrange. Fire 10 rounds at the 9-inch center circle.
- **STAGE 5:** Place your target 15 yards downrange. Fire 10 rounds at the 9-inch center circle.

**ASSESSMENT:** If you successfully placed 70% (35 or more) of your total shots inside the 9-inch center target, you have completed your Level 01 USCCA Qualification. ("Inside" does not include breaking the ring; a shot must be fully inside the ring to count.)

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- USCCA Silhouette Target with 9-inch center circle
- 50 rounds
- 1-2 magazines

## LEVEL 2

**REQUIREMENTS:** Take a four-hour in-person course with a certified firearms instructor. Add your course into your Protector Academy™ account after completion.

**SUCCESS CRITERIA:** You must complete the following:

- 1** Competency check: Load, unload and show clear (using snap caps).
- 2** Complete the following three drills with 100% accuracy and in the allotted amount of time for each drill.

**COURSE OF FIRE:** You will complete a series of drills meant to test your ability to load and unload, load and shoot, reload, and clear malfunctions while engaging a target at a distance of 3 yards.

Each drill will be timed. This course of fire is designed to test your ability to complete these tasks under the stress of time while accurately engaging your target at a plausible self-defense distance.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- USCCA Silhouette Target with 9-inch center circle
- 15 rounds and 2 snap caps
- 2 magazines
- Shot timer

**\*\*\*You MUST be facing downrange at your target BEFORE you pick up and secure your firearm for any drill.\*\*\***  
**\*\*\*Your firearm MUST be secured in a proper grip – with the barrel facing downrange at your target – BEFORE you chamber a round.\*\*\***

**COMPETENCY CHECK:** Using snap caps, load, unload and show clear (three repetitions, not timed).

## **PART 1: LOAD & SHOOT DRILL**

*You must complete this drill in under six seconds and with 100% of your hits inside the 9-inch center of your target.*

- 1** Place your target 4 yards downrange.
- 2** Load three rounds into one magazine. Place it on the table. **Do not load your firearm yet.**
- 3** Lock the slide of your UNLOADED handgun to the rear. Place it on the shooting table, with the ejection port skyward and the barrel facing your target downrange.
- 4** Face your target downrange. **If allowed by the range, start by facing away from your target, turning after starting the timer.**
  - Start the drill and timer (required time = six seconds or less).
  - If you're starting turned away from your target, turn your whole body until it is facing the target (if not, continue to face your target directly downrange).
  - Pick up your firearm and secure a proper grip, with the barrel pointing downrange at your target while you're in the high compressed ready position.
  - Insert your loaded magazine (with the gun's barrel still pointing downrange), chamber a round, extend the firearm, and fire all three rounds at the 9-inch center of your target.
- 5** Clear the firearm and return it to the table.
- 6** Repeat three times. The first time is an untimed warmup. The second and third repetitions are timed and count toward qualification requirements.

## **PART 2: RELOADING DRILL**

*You must complete this drill in under 12 seconds and with 100% of your hits inside the 9-inch center of your target.*

- 1** Keep your target 4 yards downrange.
- 2** Load three rounds each into two magazines. Place them both on the table (or keep one on the table and one in a pocket or magazine pouch). **Do not load your firearm yet.**
- 3** Ensure your firearm is completely unloaded, with no rounds in the chamber. Place it on the shooting table, with the barrel facing your target downrange.
- 4** Face your target downrange. **If allowed by the range, start by facing away from your target, turning after starting the timer.**
  - Start the drill and timer (required time = 12 seconds or less).
  - If you're starting turned away from your target, turn your whole body until it is facing the target (if not, continue to face your target directly downrange).
  - Pick up your firearm and secure a proper grip, with the barrel pointing downrange at your target while you're in the high compressed ready position.
  - Insert one of the three-round magazines (with the gun's barrel still pointing downrange), chamber a round, extend the firearm, and fire at the 9-inch center of your target until the slide locks on empty.
  - Drop the empty magazine from the firearm while returning to a high compressed ready position.
  - Reload using your second magazine, chamber a round, extend the firearm, and fire at the 9-inch center of your target until the slide locks on empty.
  - Clear the firearm and return it to the table.

- 5** Repeat three times. The first time is an untimed warmup. The second and third repetitions are timed and count toward qualification requirements.

### **PART 3: CORRECT MALFUNCTION & RELOAD DRILL**

*You must complete this drill in under 15 seconds and with 100% of your hits inside the 9-inch center of your target.*

**Note:** *You will be using two snap caps to simulate malfunctions (one in each magazine). You will have to clear the simulated malfunctions when they occur by using the tap/rack method and then finish firing your remaining rounds to complete the drill.*

- 1** The target remains 4 yards downrange.
- 2** Load three rounds and one snap cap at random into each of two magazines. Place both magazines on the table (or keep one on the table and one in a pocket or mag pouch). **Do not load your firearm yet.**
- 3** Ensure your firearm is completely unloaded, with no rounds in the chamber. Place it on the shooting table, with the barrel facing your target downrange.
- 4** Face your target downrange. **If allowed by the range, start by facing away from your target, turning after starting the timer.**
  - Start the drill and timer (required time = 15 seconds or less).
  - If you're under the supervision of a certified firearms instructor and it is allowable at your range, turn your whole body until it is facing the target (if not, continue to face your target directly downrange).
  - Pick up your firearm and secure a proper grip, with the barrel pointing downrange at your target while you're in the high compressed ready position.
  - Insert one of the three-round-plus-one-snap-cap magazines (with the gun's barrel still pointing downrange), chamber a round, extend the firearm, and fire at the 9-inch center of your target. Clear any malfunctions as needed and continue firing until the slide locks on empty.
  - Drop the empty magazine from the firearm while returning to a high compressed ready position.
  - Reload using your second magazine. Chamber a round, extend the firearm, and fire at the 9-inch center of your target. Clear any malfunctions as needed and continue firing until the slide locks on empty.
  - Clear the firearm and return it to the table.
- 5** Repeat three times. The first time is an untimed warmup, and the second and third repetitions are timed and count toward qualification requirements.

**ASSESSMENT:** If you successfully placed 100% (30) of your shots inside the 9-inch center target in under the required time for each drill, you have completed your Level 02 USCCA Qualification.

#### **REQUIRED TIMES:**

*Load & Shoot Drill:* 6 seconds x 2 reps (3 rounds/rep)

*Reloading Drill:* 12 seconds x 2 reps (6 rounds/rep)

*Correct Malfunction & Reload Drill:* 15 seconds x 2 reps (6 rounds/rep)

If you fail this qualification, consult with a certified firearms instructor. He or she should be able to help you diagnose and correct any issues. Then shoot the drills again.

# LEVEL 3

**REQUIREMENTS:** Take a live-fire, six-hour firearms course with a certified firearms instructor. Add your course into your Protector Academy™ account after completion.

**SUCCESS CRITERIA:** You must complete each drill within the time allotted. Additionally, you must hit all designated target areas on your USCCA DSF Target based on the requirements for each drill.

**COURSE OF FIRE:** You will complete a series of drills meant to test your speed and precision. Each drill will be timed.

**\*\*\*You MUST be facing downrange at your target BEFORE you fire.\*\*\***

**\*\*\*You MUST begin each drill from the HIGH COMPRESSED READY position, with your gun's barrel pointing downrange.\*\*\***

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- USCCA DSF Target with 8-inch high-center-chest square
- 27 rounds
- 1-2 magazines
- Shot timer

## DRILL SET 1: SPEED-FOCUSED

You must complete these drills within the time allotted and with 100% of your hits inside the 8-inch high-center-chest square of your target. Load five rounds into each magazine. You will complete this course of fire twice, with the first attempt serving as a warmup.

### 3-YARD SPEED DRILL

- 1 Place your target 3 yards downrange.
- 2 While facing your target, assume the high compressed ready position, with the barrel of your firearm pointing downrange at your target.
- 3 Insert one five-round magazine and chamber a round.
- 4 Start the drill and timer.
- 5 Engage your target by firing all five rounds at the high-center-chest square.
- 6 Clear the firearm and return it to the table.

### 5-YARD SPEED DRILL

- 1 Place your target 5 yards downrange. Repeat the steps you already executed from 3 yards.
- 2 Clear the firearm and return it to the table.

### 7-YARD SPEED DRILL

- 1 Place your target 7 yards downrange. Repeat the steps you already executed from 5 yards.
- 2 Clear the firearm and return it to the table.

*First time through: Warmup*

*Second time through: Qualification*

## REQUIRED TIMES FOR DRILL SET 1:

*3-Yard Speed Drill:* 100% hits in 2 seconds

*5-Yard Speed Drill:* 100% hits in 3 seconds

*7-Yard Speed Drill:* 100% hits in 5 seconds

## DRILL SET 2: PRECISION-FOCUSED

*There is no time limit. You must hit each numbered circle in numerical order before moving to the next numbered circle, and you must successfully complete this task at the 3-yard line before moving to the 5-yard line.*

### 3-YARD DRILL

- 1** Load one magazine with six rounds.
- 2** Place your target 3 yards downrange.
- 3** While facing your target, assume the high compressed ready position, with the barrel of your firearm pointing downrange at your target.
- 4** Insert your magazine and chamber a round.
- 5** Start the drill.
- 6** Fire one round into each numbered circle in numerical order.
- 7** Come back to the high compressed ready position between each shot.
- 8** Only proceed to the next number after you have hit the one before it.
- 9** Any miss ends the drill at that point. You do not pass that qualification attempt and must start over from the beginning.
- 10** Clear the firearm and return it to the table.

### 5-YARD DRILL

- 1** Load one magazine with six rounds.
- 2** Repeat the previous drill but with your target placed at 5 yards downrange.
- 3** Clear the firearm and return it to the table.

**ASSESSMENT:** If you successfully placed 100% of your shots into the high-center-chest square of your target at both distances in the allotted times in Drill Set 1 (speed-focused) **and** if you hit all six numbered circles on your target at both distances without a miss in Drill Set 2 (precision-focused), you have completed your Level 03 USCCA Qualification.