Police Academy Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can I earn an Associate’s degree?**

  The Law Enforcement program is a pre-service police academy program that prepares students to become eligible to be a licensed Police Officer in Michigan. Police agencies in Michigan require a recruit to attend a Police Academy program and receive an Associate’s Degree or higher. By coming in as a new student, you will take the 10 prerequisite courses prior to the academy to have you eligible for your AAAS in Law Enforcement.

- **I already have a degree; do I still need to take CJ 164 Boot Camp?**

  Yes. By having an associate’s degree or higher, you would still have to take CJ 164 during the summer semester.

  The Boot Camp is required for all students. Not only will this help you physically, but you will get to know other students who are planning on applying to the academy as well.

- **What classes do I need to take if I am a brand new student?**

  You will have to take 10 prerequisite courses for the 2017 Police Academy. These include:

  - EN 100 or EN 101
  - EN 102
  - PS110
  - A Humanities elective
  - COM 131 or COM 135
  - CJ 110
  - CJ 111
  - CJ 122
  - CJ 164 (Summer Boot Camp—still required for those with a degree)
  - 1 Natural Science elective

- **How long does it take to complete the prerequisite courses?**

  Most students complete the prerequisite courses within 3 semesters.

- **How long is the Police Academy program?**

  The Police Academy begins in January each year. It is a 10 month program.

- **What are the times for the A squad and B squad?**

  A squad is our day squad. In the winter, classes typically run Monday-Thursday 5:30am-10:30am (depending the semester), with firearms and driving courses on the weekends (during summer semester).
B squad is our night squad. We are the only academy in the state of Michigan with a night academy. In the winter, classes typically run Monday-Thursday from 5:00pm-10:30pm (depending on the semester), with firearms and driving courses on the weekends. There are some daytime commitments for the night academy.

- **Will I have classes on the weekends?**

  You will have some classes on the weekends. Firearms and EVO (Emergency Vehicle Operations) take place a few weekends during the Summer semester. You will be notified ahead of time when these weekends will take place.

- **Can I hold a job while in the Police Academy?**

  Yes. Almost all of our recruits are working while in the Police Academy.

- **Can I switch squads once I start the program?**

  No, once you start in a squad, this is where you will be throughout the 10 month program.

- **Am I able to find a job after graduation?**

  Many of our recruits have been successful at obtaining a job after graduation. During the academy, your instructors are those who are working out in the field. Make connections with them. Networking is a crucial part when job searching.

- **What is the average age of a student?**

  Our recruits range anywhere from 19 to 45. There is no age limit to being in the Police Academy.

- **How does the application process work?**

  The application comes out at the beginning of July every year. You will want to download this from the Criminal Justice website as soon as the application comes out. The application will be taken down at the beginning of August. Be sure to complete the entire application honestly. Applications are due back to the Criminal Justice office in the middle of August (an exact due date will be on the application).

- **Will I have to interview for the program?**

  Yes. There is an interview process. Once you submit your application, the director of the Police Academy will go through each application and determine who will be invited to interview. If you are not offered an interview, you will receive a postcard in the mail. If you are invited to interview, you will receive a phone call from the department. Interviews tend to take place at the beginning of November.
What is the cost of the Program?

Here are the approximate amounts for the Police Academy, please note these may change.

Application Expenses
- Hearing, Vision and Physical Test- $50.00*
- MCOLES Agility Test- $45.00
- MCOLES Reading and Writing Test- $68.00
- ICHAT- $10.00
- Driving Record- $7.00
- Fingerprints- Live scan (Free at GRCC)

*These medical exams to be conducted if applicant is given conditional offer into the Police Academy

Tuition Cost for Police Academy
Based on 47 contact hours
- Resident- $4,982.00
- Non-Resident- $10,716.00

Tuition Cost for Prerequisites and Police Academy Program
- Resident- $8,268.00
- Non-Resident- $17,784.00

*Check www.grcc.edu/tuition for the most up-to-date fees and tuition rates.

Additional Expenses and Fees
- Books and Manuals- $575.00
- Uniforms- $750.00
- Record and Technology Fees- $50.00
- Course Fees- $810.00
- Licensing Exam Fee- $75.00