

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 9 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 9 prerequisite courses for the Police Academy. These include:

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

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

Most students complete the prerequisite courses within 3 semesters (full-time status).

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

The Police Academy begins in the fall semester of each year runs through fall and winter semester (August-April).

- **What are the times for the A squad and B squad? (*Times subject change*)**

A squad is our day squad:

Fall Schedule

Monday - 7:00am - 11:30am

Tuesday - 7:00am - 12:30pm

Wednesday - 7:00am - 12:30pm

Thursday - 7:00am - 12:30pm

*You would have weekend courses (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and we would let you know those weekend times and days in advance.

Winter Schedule

Monday - 7:00am - 1:45pm

Tuesday - 7:00am - 12:30pm

Wednesday - 7:00am - 12:30pm

Thursday - 7:00am - 12:30pm

*You would have weekend courses (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and we would let you know those weekend times and days in advance.

B squad is our night squad:

Fall Schedule

Monday - 3:30pm - 8:00pm

Tuesday - 3:30pm - 9:00pm

Wednesday - 3:30pm - 9:00pm

Thursday - 3:30pm - 9:00pm

*You would have weekend courses (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and we would let you know those weekend times and days in advance.

Winter Schedule

Monday - 3:30pm - 10:15pm

Tuesday - 3:30pm - 9:00pm

Wednesday - 3:30pm - 9:00pm

Thursday - 3:30pm - 9:00pm

*You would have weekend courses (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and we would let you know those weekend times and days in advance.

There are some daytime commitments for the night academy but we notify you of these in advance.

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

You will have some classes on the weekends. Tactical First Aid, Firearms and EVO (Emergency Vehicle Operations) take place a few weekends during the academy. 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 2-semester 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 May 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 June. Be sure to complete the entire application honestly. Applications are due back to the Criminal Justice office at the beginning of June (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 in the middle of July.

- **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- \$79.00*
- MCOLES Agility Test- \$45.00
- MCOLES Reading and Writing Test- \$68.00
- ICHAT- \$10.00
- Driving Record- \$12.00

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

Tuition Cost for Police Academy

Check grcc.edu/tuition for up-to-date tuition rates, and for the tuition rate for those who reside outside of Michigan.

Based on 48 contact hours

- Tuition for Kent County Residents - \$5,472.00
- Tuition for Non-Residents- \$11,712.00

Additional Expenses and Fees

- Books and Manuals- \$575.00
- Uniform estimate- \$750.00
- College fee estimate- \$885.00*
- Licensing Exam Fee- \$75.00

*Other college fees will be applied as well, please visit grcc.edu/tuition to review.