



General Information and Academy
Entry Requirements
2021



Authorized by the

Ohio Peace Officer Training
Council



Thank-you for your interest in becoming a police officer and attending the Lakeland Community College Basic Police Academy. The following information will provide you with an overview of the requirements for attending our Academy.

Under Ohio law, peace officers must complete a program of basic training before being certified. No person may work as a peace officer without possessing a valid OPOTC certificate.

To obtain certification, an individual may attend training at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (London, Ohio), attend a large municipal academy (Cleveland, Columbus, etc.), or a regional academy like the one offered at Lakeland Community College.

The peace officer training function is administered on a state-wide basis by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council (OPOTC). The current basic police curriculum (recently revised and updated) consists of a minimum of 737 hours of mandated training (including 40 hours of physical training). Academies may mandate additional hours to supplement the training you receive. Each basic police program must be administered by a qualified Academy Commander certified by OPOTC. The Lakeland Community College Regional Basic Police Academy is commanded by Chief Ronald J. Morenz of the Lakeland Community College Police Department. Basic police training has been conducted on the Lakeland campus since 1971.

In addition to the local commander, a state Field Agent is assigned by OPOTC to inspect local programs. State law, state agency regulations and local sponsor-agency regulations are used as guidelines for control purposes. Application forms, proposed training calendar, instructor certifications, attendance records, facilities calendars, etc., are coordinated by the Commander through the assigned Field Agent. The state monitors the program continuously for compliance.

Instructors are chosen from local police and justice agencies to teach topics of special expertise. Certain 'blocks' of instruction that require special facilities have been assigned to individual instructors with current expertise in the topic area. Judges and lawyers teach many of the legal topics. This approach guarantees maximum participation by local qualified personnel in Lakeland's program.

If you have been convicted of:

- any felony or drug related offense;
- any motor vehicle crime;
- any serious misdemeanor, or
- arrested for any offense of violence (including domestic violence or any related offense).

you are ineligible to enroll in the program. Please read the Basic Police Academy Prerequisites included in this packet.

**Basic Police Academy
Requirements and Prerequisites**

- Lakeland Community College Police Academy will automatically disqualify an applicant/cadet for any of the following: Falsifying, omitting, or failing to report true information, or misrepresenting any information by any form or means anytime during the application process or Academy session. This includes providing false information by any form or means to the Academy, Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission, Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, in telecommunications, social media, and/or to other Academy cadets
- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Must be 20 years of age by the start of the Academy.
- Must be a high school graduate or GED equivalent.
- Must possess a valid Ohio driver's license.
- Must complete and submit a Basic Police Academy application by **January 22, 2021**.
- Must pass our Psychological exam prior to acceptance into the Academy.
- Must pass the OPOTC Physical Fitness Assessment evaluation prior to acceptance into the Academy.
- Must pass a drug screen test prior to acceptance into the Academy.
- Must not have ANY felony convictions or serious misdemeanors.
- Sealed or expunged felony convictions as an adult and/or juvenile **may exclude** applicant from entering the police academy.
- Must not have a conviction of any domestic violence offense as defined in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 2919.25.
- Must not have more than one (1) OVI conviction within the past three (3) years. OVI convictions greatly reduce your potential to be hired by a police department.
- Must not have ANY misdemeanor convictions within the past two (2) years of the start of the application process (minor misdemeanors excluded*).
- Must not have ANY convictions for a sex offense as defined in Ohio Revised Code 2907.
- Must not have ANY convictions for any offense of violence as defined in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 2901.01(A)(9).

***Minor Misdemeanors:** On February 19, 2010, the Court of Appeals for the First Appellate District of Ohio in *State v. Robinson*, 2010-Ohio-543, determined that a minor-misdemeanor violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 2925.11 (possession of a drug of abuse, to include marijuana) creates a disability prohibiting the possession of a firearm by state standards, unless the person convicted has been relieved from disability. Accordingly, Peace Officer Basic Training candidates who have previously been convicted of minor-misdemeanor possession will be barred from participating in the Academy, unless the disability is relieved by court order.

- To maintain a safe and quality learning environment, the size of an Academy class will not exceed 30 cadets.

Dear Prospective Basic Police Academy Cadet:

Thank you for your interest in attending the regional Basic Police Academy (BPA) at Lakeland Community College. The BPA is required by Ohio Law if you want to become a peace officer. Successful completion of this program will prepare you for your law enforcement career.

**** Class size is limited to 30 enrollees meeting entry requirements of the Academy. ****

Timeline for Lakeland's Basic Police Academy 2021

- **December 1, 2020**, enrollment packages will be available online at <http://www.lakelandcc.edu/bpa> (Please read the instructions carefully as this is a multi-step process)
- **November 23, 2020** - Medical examinations can be completed after this date. Exams prior to this date are not acceptable.
- **December 1, 2020** – Fingerprinting and Drug Screening can be completed after this date.
- **January 22, 2021 @ 1500** – deadline for returning all completed program application materials and application fee (\$250.00) paid in full at the Cashier's Office, A-1004. Application materials must be turned in to Chief Morenz. Please contact him to schedule a date/time.
- **February 6, 2021** – Psychological Examination at Lakeland Community College at 0900 in room to be announced (TBA). Bring your Ohio Drivers License.
- **February 6, 2021** – Physical Assessment at Lakeland Community College at 1200 in the lobby of the Athletic and Fitness Center (AFC). Bring your Ohio Drivers License.
- **March 1 through 15, 2021** – Eligible cadets can pay their tuition fee (in-county student tuition is: \$4,850 and out-of-county student tuition is: \$5,250) and confirm their enrollment in the Academy. Will need a confirmation letter to pay fee. **Applicants will be taken on a first-come-first-served basis. Only thirty applicants will be accepted.**

- **April 24, 2021** – Mandatory orientation from 0800-1700, Room TBA.
- **April 26, 2021** – Basic Police Academy classes begin @ 0800. Room TBA.

Tuition and Fees:

Title	Dates / Times	Fees
BPA Application fee	Due by 1/22/2021	\$250 (non-refundable)
Uranalysis Check Lake Health Services Cardinal Clinic on Market Street	Must be done between 12/1/2020 – 1/22/2021	\$39.00
BPA Tuition fee	Prior to March 15, 2021 <i>You can register for this once you receive your letter of eligibility.</i>	In-county: \$4,850 Out-of-county: \$5,250