

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your inquiry about the Basic Peace Officer Training Academy at the University of Akron. The enclosed package of information contains all documents necessary to enroll in our upcoming class.

In 1991, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (O.P.O.T.C.) began the Open Enrollment Student Program for those individuals who wish to become peace officers in the State of Ohio. This replaced the previous rule of having to be commissioned by a police agency before you could attend a basic training program. The University of Akron now accepts both types of students under O.P.O.T.C. guidelines. The University of Akron Basic Police Academy provides the necessary training required to be certified as an Ohio Peace Officer through O.P.O.T.C.. We do not provide job placement nor do we offer any form of employment once you have completed training. We do receive regular requests from police departments to notify our students of their intent to give examinations for the purpose of hiring additional officers for their respective communities. All requests are posted on a bulletin board located in the Police Academy classroom. After you have completed the course and passed the State Examination, you will have two years to secure a commission as a sworn officer. If after one year, but prior to the expiration of two years, you secure a commission, you will have to complete a refresher course and pass another examination in order to receive a certificate from the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council.

Tuition for the Basic Police Academy is \$3,600, which includes everything except a pair of blue pants, black shoes, black belt, and tennis shoes for physical conditioning training. In addition to training, we provide or loan all the necessary books and materials needed to complete the training course. A non-refundable \$200.00 application fee is due when the completed application packet is returned, which covers the costs of fingerprints, background check, and application processing. Class size for the Police Academy may be limited to a maximum of thirty (30) students and a minimum class size of twenty (20). In order to reserve a spot in the Academy, you must submit your completed application and application fee by the Basic Police Academy deadline. A cancellation of any course will result in a full refund of the application fee.

Since the Police Academy is not a degree-granting program, students cannot use University of Akron financial aid, Stafford Loans, or any other type of government aid.

If you are planning on pursuing a Criminal Justice degree at The University of Akron at the same time as the Basic Police Academy and are eligible for financial aid, please contact our office. The Basic Police Academy is V.A. approved, so eligible students can use their Montgomery G.I. Bill. Please provide a copy of your DD214 Form with your completed application packet.

The attached application **must be filled out completely and returned in person** to:

The University of Akron Police Academy  
225 South Main Street  
Polsky Building, Room 304 & 307  
Akron, Ohio 44325-4308



If there are any questions regarding the Basic Police Academy, please contact:

Vanessa Ozarchuk – Program Assistant  
Telephone: (330) 972-8856  
E-mail: [vji1@uakron.edu](mailto:vji1@uakron.edu)

or

David Van Pelt – Commander  
Telephone: (330) 972-2655