



How To Become a **PEACE OFFICER**



in Ohio

To become a peace officer in Ohio, applicants must complete a Peace Officer Basic Training Academy that is approved by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) or apply for a reciprocal Occupational certificate.

A list of such academies in Ohio, arranged by county, can be found online at: www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/PeaceOfficerBasicTrainingSchools.

To apply for a Reciprocal Occupational Certificate, the application is available online, under the Agency Resources tab at: www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Law-Enforcement/Ohio-Peace-Officer-Training-Academy/OPOTC-Resources

Closed and Open Enrollment Academies

Some basic academies are “closed,” requiring recruits to be appointed by a law enforcement agency. Larger agencies usually train under this model, with cadets becoming peace officers for that department upon successful completion of the academy and state certification exam. Prospective students should talk to a specific agency to find out more about its application process. Some of these academies charge no fees, and some departments even pay cadet salaries during the training.

Other academies have “open enrollment,” meaning that anyone who meets the qualifications can join the academy before obtaining employment with a law enforcement agency. These academies set their own fees. Also, academies run by a college or university may accept the GI Bill or offer grants, scholarships or other financial aid. Prospective students should talk to a specific academy about this training and potential financial aid.

Academy Requirements

Applicants must pass a criminal background check, physical fitness test and drug screening to qualify for an academy. To become eligible to be certified, applicants must pass the physical fitness skill assessment and a written examination. The curriculum requires a minimum of 740 hours of training, although local academies may mandate additional hours. Some academies run on a weekday schedule, some offer evening and/or weekend training, and some are college-based and on a semester calendar.

Transferring Law Enforcement Credentials to Ohio

An officer moving to Ohio from another state who has local, state or select federal law enforcement experience may be eligible to receive credit for prior training and experience that is equivalent to Ohio's policing standards. To be eligible for approval for prior equivalency:

1. Submit a request for a reciprocal occupational certificate and a copy of your previous training and proof of work experience.
2. Await the commission staff's review of the documentation. Applicants will receive a letter confirming their eligibility to take the state exam without being required to attend an academy.
3. Upon Passing the state certification exam you will be eligible to receive a commission from a local or county agency in Ohio.



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For more information or assistance, call 740-845-2700

Physical fitness benchmarks required at the **START** and the **END** of peace officer basic training – **BASIC = 75% of End STANDARD**

MALES (≤29)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	32	38 (-2)	40
Pushups (1 min.)	19	30 (-3)	33
1.5-mile run	14:34	12:37 (+39)	11:58

MALES (30-39)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	28	34 (-2)	36
Pushups (1 min.)	15	24 (-3)	27
1.5-mile run	15:13	13:07 (+42)	12:25

MALES (40-49)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	22	29 (-2)	31
Pushups (1 min.)	10	19 (-2)	21
1.5-mile run	15:58	13:52 (+41)	13:11

MALES (50-59)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	17	24 (-2)	26
Pushups (1 min.)	7	13 (-2)	15
1.5-mile run	17:38	15:06 (+50)	14:16

MALES (60+)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	13	19 (-1)	20
Pushups (1 min.)	5	13 (-2)	15
1.5-mile run	20:12	17:00 (+64)	15:56

FEMALES (≤29)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	23	32 (-3)	35
Pushups (1 min.)	9	16 (-2)	18
1.5-mile run	17:49	15:02 (+55)	14:07

FEMALES (30-39)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	18	25 (-2)	27
Pushups (1 min.)	7	13 (-1)	14
1.5-mile run	18:37	15:34 (+60)	14:34

FEMALES (40-49)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	13	20 (-2)	22
Pushups (1 min.)	5	10 (-1)	11
1.5-mile run	19:32	16:26 (+62)	15:24

FEMALES (50-59)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	7	15 (-2)	17
Pushups (1 min.)	4*	11 (-2)	13*
1.5-mile run	21:31	18:17 (+64)	17:13

FEMALES (60+)			
EXERCISE	START	BASIC	END
Situps (1 min.)	2	7 (-1)	8
Pushups (1 min.)	1*	7 (-1)	8*
1.5-mile run	23:32	20:02 (+70)	18:52