



Policy 508

Subject

LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORING PROGRAM

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By Order of the Police Commissioner

POLICY

1. **Service and Experience.** The Baltimore Police Department's (BPD) Law Enforcement Exploring Program provides young adults who may be interested in a career in law enforcement with a comprehensive program of training, competition, service and practical experiences.
2. **Character and Physical Development.** Character development, physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism are integral components of the overall program. Through their involvement in the program, Explorers develop an awareness of the purpose, mission and objectives of the BPD.
3. **Pillars.** The Law Enforcement Exploring Program has six pillars: career education, character development, community service, diversity, leadership, and violence prevention.

GENERAL

1. Explorers are organized into "Posts" corresponding with the nine BPD police districts.
2. Explorers receive training and actively participate in community service and non-hazardous law enforcement activities. The rationale is to provide, through actual experience, a means by which young men and women may determine if they would like to pursue a career in law enforcement.
3. The *Law Enforcement Exploring (LEE) Program Guidelines*¹ and BPD policy shall serve as the guiding documents setting forth the requirements for participation in and administration of the BPD Law Enforcement Exploring Program.
4. The Law Enforcement Exploring Program operates as an extra-curricular and career and technical education (CTE) pathway in high schools.

REQUIRED ACTION

Explorer

Explorers must:

1. Have at least a "C" average in high school.

¹ Law Enforcement Exploring (LEE) Program Guidelines, published by Learning For Life, a non-scouting subsidiary of the Boy Scouts of America – dated 11 March 2012.

2. Be between the ages of 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age.
3. Be of good moral character. Explorers must not have a prior conviction for a criminal offense or serious traffic offense.
4. Have body weight in proportion to height and maintain a high level of physical fitness.
5. Pass an oral interview with the Post Advisor, in which the Post Advisor describes the Law Enforcement Exploring Program and the applicant expresses an interest to participate.
6. Submit a Personal Health and Medical Record (need not be signed by a physician) for such events as field days, day hikes, academies and the like, where medical staff is readily available.
7. Submit a Personal Health and Medical Record (signed by a physician) for any outing such as resident camping, boating and extended outings, where medical staff is not readily available.
8. Provide a medical release form, permitting authorized BPD representatives to approve medical treatment.
9. Present a “hold harmless and release” for the BPD and Learning for Life, executed by the parents or legal guardian.
10. Live in the area policed by the Post they wish to join.
11. Become an active participant in Post meetings and activities.

BPD Post Advisors / Associate Advisors

Upon appointment by the Community Collaboration Unit (CCU) sergeants:

1. Attend established Boy Scouts of America training.
2. Recruit Explorer candidates from eligible youth from within your District’s patrolled area.
3. Provide the necessary leadership and direction to maintain an effective Law Enforcement Exploring Program, consistent with the guidelines provided in the Explorer Leader Handbook.
4. Attend Post meetings and BPD approved training, recreational, educational and community service events. Adjust your work schedules with the approval of the CCU sergeant to accommodate such Explorer activities.
5. Assure adequate adult supervision, consistent with the current Law Enforcement Exploring Program requirements, is provided for all BPD approved Explorer activities.
6. Attend quarterly scheduled meetings, conducted by the CCD Youth Coordinator.
7. Prepare and submit reports, as established by the CCD Youth Coordinator, and required by LEE guidelines.
8. Adhere to all BPD policies and regulations and LEE guidelines.

Chief of Community Collaboration Division

1. Ensure Post activities are coordinated with the Youth Coordinator.

CCD Youth Coordinator

1. Maintain active Explorer Posts.
2. Establish and maintain the BPD Law Enforcement Exploring Program in accordance with LEE guidelines.
3. Serve as BPD CCD liaison with the Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and high schools.

Community Collaboration Unit Sergeants

1. Appoint Post Advisor and Associate Advisors and maintain an accurate account of their hours worked.
2. Ensure that adequate male and female supervision is available to the Post and its activities when there is a mix of male and female membership and/or participation.

Fiscal Services

Ensure an annual audit of CCU Explorer Post fiscal accounts are conducted by an independent party. The audit will be completed no later than February 1st of each year.

RESCISSION

Remove and destroy/recycle General Order E-8, *Law Enforcement Explorer Program*, dated 27 August 2010.

COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

This Policy is effective on the date listed herein. Each employee is responsible for complying with the contents of this policy.