Basic 16-Week Police Academy
2020 Session
Informational Meeting Notes

Williamson N. Wallace, J.D.
Director, Criminal Justice Training
GVSU Website Links

www.gvsu.edu/cj/

www.gvsu.edu/cj/policeacademy
Over 40 years of law enforcement training excellence and tradition!

— A proven reputation for producing qualified and competent law enforcement candidates —

The Grand Valley State University Police Academy’s mission is to educate and train police recruits so that they graduate with the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to begin a successful career in law enforcement. Grand Valley’s academy goes above and beyond the minimum training requirements set by the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards to help graduates excel in a competitive market. Grand Valley is known as a leader in the state for police academy training and continually sets the bar for law enforcement education.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:
MCOLES Website Links

www.michigan.gov/mcoles

Standards & Training Tab

• Employment Standards
• Testing
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Comments and Proofs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prohibited Criminal Adjudications of Guilt</strong></td>
<td>An applicant may be denied a license if subjected to any of the following adjudications for the disqualifying offenses described in the accompanying comments: judgment of verdict of guilt; judgment or verdict of guilty but mentally ill; plea of guilty; plea of nolo contendere; an order delaying sentence; probation under the Holmes Youthful Truant Act; probation for first-time drug offenses under MCL 333.7411; and probation for first-time domestic violence offense under MCL 769.4a.</td>
<td>Disqualifying offenses include felony adjudications, felony expungement, or felony set aside under Michigan law or substantially corresponding laws of another jurisdiction. Disqualifying offenses also include adjudications of guilt for violations or attempted violations of any of the following under Michigan law or substantially corresponding laws of another jurisdiction: a penal law punishable by imprisonment of more than 1 year: MCL 257.625 (operating while intoxicated/drugged, 2nd offense within 7 years), MCL 333.7403(2)(c) (misdemeanor possession of drugs except marijuana), and MCL 333.7404(2)(a), (b), and (c) (misdemeanor use of drugs including 1yr use of marijuana); MCL 750.81(4) (2nd offense DV); MCL 750.81a (AdH 1 year, and first offense DV 1 year); and MCL 750.411b (misdemeanor stalking).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Character Fitness</strong></td>
<td>Possess good moral character as determined by a favorable comprehensive background investigation covering school and employment records, home environment, and personal traits and integrity.</td>
<td>Includes arrest and expunged convictions, all previous law violations and personal protection orders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Driver's License</td>
<td>Possess a valid operator's or chauffeur's license, (all 50 states, DC, territories of the US, and Canada)</td>
<td>May not be in a state of suspension or revocation</td>
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<td>Physical Ability</td>
<td>Be free from any physical defects or chronic diseases which may impair the performance of a law enforcement officer or which may endanger the lives of others or the law enforcement officer.</td>
<td>This includes, but is not limited to, diseases such as diabetes, seizures and narcolepsy. Each case shall be investigated to determine its extent and effect job performance. The evaluation should include the expert opinion of a licensed physician specializing in occupational medicine.</td>
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<td><strong>Hearing</strong></td>
<td>Initial audiometric testing involves pure tone air conduction thresholds for each ear. As shown on the pure tone audiogram, shall not exceed a hearing level of 25 decibels at any of the following frequencies: 500, 1000, 2000, 3000, and 45 decibels at 4000 Hertz.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Psychological Fitness</strong></td>
<td>Be free from mental or emotional instability which may impair the performance of essential job functions of a law enforcement officer or which may endanger the lives of others or the law enforcement officer.</td>
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<td><strong>Vision, Color</strong></td>
<td>Possess normal color vision without the assistance of color enhancing lenses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vision, Corrected</strong></td>
<td>Possess 20/20 corrected vision in each eye.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vision, Normal Functions</strong></td>
<td>Possess normal visual functions in each eye. Includes peripheral vision, depth perception, etc.</td>
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<td><strong>Reading and Writing (Academy enrollment)</strong></td>
<td>Pass the MCOLES reading and writing examination or an MCOLES approved agency equivalent examination. Does not apply to Recognition of Prior Training &amp; Experience Program students.</td>
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<td><strong>Physical Fitness (Academy enrollment)</strong></td>
<td>Pass the MCOLES physical fitness pre-enrollment examination. Does not apply to Recognition of Prior Training &amp; Experience Program students. Pre-enrollment testing is required for admittance to an approved training program, however this standard is fulfilled only upon successful completion of physical fitness training.</td>
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<td><strong>Training Requirement</strong></td>
<td>Successfully complete the MCOLES mandatory basic training curriculum.</td>
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<td><strong>Licensing Examination</strong></td>
<td>Pass the MCOLES licensing examination upon the completion of basic training. For reciprocity candidates, successfully complete the Recognition of Prior Training and Experience Program and licensing examination.</td>
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<td><strong>Fingerprinting</strong></td>
<td>Agencies must fingerprint the applicant with a search of state or federal fingerprint files to disclose criminal record. Academics require ICJAT criminal record checks to the academy director.</td>
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<td><strong>Oval Interview</strong></td>
<td>Conduct an oral interview to determine the applicant's acceptability for a law enforcement officer position position and to assess appearance, background and the ability to communicate.</td>
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<td><strong>Drug Testing</strong></td>
<td>Cause the applicant to be tested for the illicit use of controlled substance. Must use a Commission certified laboratory and comply with Commission procedures.</td>
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Testing

Reading and Writing Test
• GVSU is test site
• Fall test dates will be posted soon
• Register through PSI Website (MCOLES link)
• Take ID with you on test day

Physical Fitness
• GVSU is NOT test site
• Contact test site directly (GRCC is the closest site)
• Take ID & Health Screening Form with you on test day
• Know the minimum required standards

http://www.michigan.gov/mcoles/0,4607,7-229-41624---,00.html
Reading & Writing Test

• Cost is $68.00 *(subject to change)*
Physical Fitness Test

- Cost is $45.00 (subject to change)
- Must be completed within 180 days of start of Academy - do not take prior to Oct 30, 2019
ENTRANCE Physical Fitness Test Standards

To view information regarding the physical fitness pre-enrollment test, including advice for preparing for the test, use the links below:

- MCOLES Physical Fitness Pre-Enrollment Test
- MCOLES Pre-Enrollment Physical Fitness Test Performance Standards
- Preparing for the Test
- Event #1 - Vertical Jump
- Event #2 - Sit-Ups
- Event #3 - Push-Ups
- Event #4 - 1/2 Mile Shuttle Run

Please watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3a2SMVxxAqc&feature=youtu.be
Cost

Tuition (15 credit hours) = approximately $6,554.00*
- Based on University catalog in effect at the time of enrollment
- There may be additional fees (registration, etc.)

Student Fee = approximately $1,700*
- This fee is non-refundable
- Due at the Orientation Meeting in March
- Fee is used to purchase items not covered by tuition (weapons, ammunition, first aid supplies, and other training supplies)

*Note: Eligible for VA Educational benefits (contact the VA Benefits Coordinator in the Registrar's Office)
Cost (continued)

Uniforms = approximately $312
- Actual cost depends on the number of uniforms that each recruit purchases
- Uniform requirements will be discussed at the Orientation Meeting and are purchased at Nye Uniform

Housing
- University Housing (approx. $1200 - $1600 depending on 1, 2, or 4 bedroom – Contact Housing Office for exact amount, advise you are in the 16-week Police Academy)
- Recruits may stay on campus but are not required to
- Housing Office: (616) 331-2010 / http://www.gvsu.edu/housing/
GVSU Veterans Network

http://www.gvsu.edu/veterans/

• Support Services Tab

Registrar's Office / GI BILL Certification
Kim Paruch
(616) 331-3327

Financial Aid
Detwann Johnson
(616) 331-3234

Admissions
Melanie Retberg (new) or Bonnie Ulmer-Graves (transfer)
(616) 331-2025
Application Process

Police Academy Informational Meetings (September)

Application Packets Available Online

Applications Due (January 15)
*NOTE: Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Background Investigations (February & March)

Oral Board Interviews & Director Interviews (February)

Application Review (January – February)

Basic Academy Orientation Meeting (March)

Basic Academy Session (May – August)

Basic Academy Session (May – August)
Application Process

• Applications available on or before October 15, 2019
• Applications **due** on **January 15, 2020** *(Late applications will not be accepted)*
• Make a **copy** of your final application prior to submitting and retain for your records
• **Read** all application instructions first & **ask** if you do not understand
• Type or print all responses
• Provide all requested documents (*Transcripts, Copy of license, Driving History, etc.*)
Deliberately making false statements, committing fraud, or failing to disclose requested information are grounds for denying your enrollment into or dismissing you from the training program, including the Recognition of Prior Training and Experience program. Further sanctions by the Commission may be imposed including a two-year ineligibility from applying for enrollment in any training program, or permanently denying your application. Subsequent license revocation may also be imposed for making a material false statement or committing fraud in the application process. (R 28.14602 – 28.14609)
Application Process (continued)

• Include **copies of all police reports** in which you were personally (in your personal capacity) a – suspect, victim, or witness

  **NOTE:** If you work(ed) for a law enforcement agency or held a security position and your name appears in multiple reports as a reporting person or witness, submit a memo on company letter head stating that fact and your dates of employment

• Subsequent to receiving a “conditional offer of acceptance,” you will be required to obtain **medical evaluations** for vision, hearing, and general physical condition by a **Certified Occupational Medical Doctor** (specific instructions will be provided in application packet)
Review and Acceptance

Complete application packet?
(All requested information, documents, and signatures)
- Yes
- No → Not Reviewed

MCOLES minimum standards met?
- Yes
- No → Eliminated

Oral Board Interview
- Recommendation for admittance
- Yes
- No → Eliminated

Background Investigation
- Application and interview information verified
- Moral character investigation (traffic violations, misdemeanor arrests, citizenship, etc.)
- Reference verification
- Academic performance inquiry

Recruit selection based on an evaluation of the following:
- Oral board results / recommendation
- Background investigation results
- Moral character – traffic violations, misdemeanor arrests, citizenship, etc.
- Academic performance

- Favorable → Admitted
- Not Favorable
Training Session

• Academy training schedule
  • Five to six day training week (*Monday – Friday & some Saturdays*)
  • Eight to ten hours of training per day (*Basic Academy – normally 0600 to 1800 most days (however occasional 1100 – 2200*)
  • Schedule is demanding and subject to change

• Academy is mentally and academically challenging

• Recruits are required to perform with respect, dedication, integrity and attention to detail
CPR / AED for Professional Rescuers

• Applicants **must have** proof of **Basic First Aid, CPR, & AED Certification** prior to the start of the academy and it must remain valid during the course of the academy
• **Different vendors** - American Red Cross, American Heart Association, etc.
Why GVSU?
GVSU Police Academy
HISTORICAL DATA COMPARISON

- **Applied**
- **Enrolled**
- **Graduated**
GVSU Police Academy
STATE LICENSING EXAM % PASS RATE

100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 98

GVSU Police Academy
EMPLOYMENT DATA

% Employed within 12 months
Total % Employed


53 74 63 90 97 85 96 97 97 95
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