



## RIDE ALONG APPLICATION

Strict adherence to the following instructions is necessary in order to safeguard observers and to minimize the possibility of interference with normal department activities.

1. The ride along program is available to currently registered students of Grand Valley State University whose emphasis is Criminal Justice.
2. Observers must complete an application and waiver of liability form, as well as provide evidence of a state of Michigan driver's license or identification card at the scheduled ride along shift.
3. Observers are not employees of the Police Department or of the university, and thus are not entitled to any compensation of benefits from the university, including, but not limited to workers' compensation, medical insurance, or unemployment compensation.
4. A criminal records check will be performed on all applicants. Applicants with criminal convictions or pending charges will not be permitted to participate in a ride along.
5. Observers must be at least 18 years of age.
6. Priority for ride along will be given to those interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement.
7. Observers may only participate in a maximum of two rides per year. Each time that an observer participates, he/she must complete an application and waiver of liability form.
8. Observers shall not participate in any police activity unless requested to do so by the officer with whom the observer is riding.
9. Unless emergency situations exist, observers shall not leave the patrol car at the scene of any police activity without first obtaining the permission of the officer with whom the observer is riding. Observers shall also not converse with prisoners, suspects, witnesses, or other parties contacted on police business unless requested by the officer with whom the observer is riding.
10. Observers shall not interfere with the officer's activities at any time. Although observers are encouraged to ask questions regarding procedures and activities, it must be done at an appropriate time.
11. Observers shall dress appropriately. Inappropriate clothing which could be detrimental to the image of the police department will not be permitted. This includes, but is not limited to the following: tank or tube tops, shorts, concert shirts, or shirts with crude language or drawings.
12. Observers are not allowed to possess electronic devices (recorder, camera, cell phone) while conducting a ride along.
13. Observers shall not carry any type of weapon.
14. Observers shall not use tobacco products during a ride along.
15. Officers may stop at local eating places for lunch or a break. Observers are required to bring their own money and/or lunch for the term of the shift.
16. Observers shall arrive at the department office ten (10) minutes prior to the designated start time. Due to priority calls for service, the officer may be delayed in picking you up at the office at your scheduled start time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.
17. If you are unable to keep your appointment, notify the Dispatch Center at least twenty-four hours prior to your designated shift. The Dispatch Center is available twenty-four hours, seven days a week at 616-331-3255.
18. All information to which you are privy during your ride-along shall be considered confidential in nature. You may share the general details about an incident with others, but you may not disclose names and locations.
19. We will do our best to accommodate desired shift, date, time, and officer.

A confirmation call must be obtained from our office prior to riding. If you have not received a call within one week of submitting your application, please contact Sergeant Leah Heaton at 616-331-2687.

I have read and understand the above instructions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of observer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**Turn this signed form in when you submit your completed application and waiver of liability form.**



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The police department reserves the right to deny any application. False and/or misleading information will result in denial of your request.

PLEASE PRINT BELOW

FIRST NAME MIDDLE LAST

DATE OF BIRTH DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER

HOME ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

HOME TELEPHONE CELL PHONE

DAYS AND TIMES YOU WISH TO RIDE ALONG

OFFICER PREFERENCE

REASON YOU ARE REQUESTING A RIDE ALONG

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME? YES NO

ARE THERE ANY CHARGES PENDING AGAINST YOU? YES NO

SIGNATURE DATE

In consideration of my being permitted to ride in the motor vehicles of the Grand Valley State University Police Department, I hereby release and agree to hold harmless the GVSU Police Department, its officers, employees, and agents, from any and all liability for any losses, damages, expenses, personal injuries, psychological injuries, or death which might be suffered or sustained by me directly or indirectly as a result of participation in an university police ride along, from any cause whatsoever. This release of liability and agreement given to me shall apply to any right of action that might accrue to myself, my heirs, and my personal representative. Further, I am aware of the danger that may be involved in riding in a police vehicle and accompanying a police officer in the course of performing his/her assigned duties.

SIGNATURE (To be signed in the presence of police department personnel) DATE

***POLICE USE ONLY***		
CCH reviewed by: _____	Approved/Denied by: _____	
Scheduled Date/Time: _____	Officer Assigned _____	
Observer DID / DID NOT participate in a ride along on the above indicated time:		