

Exploring is a program designed specifically for youths between 14 ½ to 21 years old who want to begin to learn hands on in a specific career field. Explorer posts vary in the type of career field but by far the most popular revolve around police and fire services.

Explorer programs are sponsored and run by varying agencies. Those agencies set up the ground rules and training for the individual programs, but are over seen by a Division of the Boy Scouts know as Learning for Life which is the foundation for the program and also provides insurance. On a typical basis our program has very little involvement with traditional scouting, but the main philosophies apply.

For more information about Learning for Life please visit: <u>WWW.LEARNINGFORLIFE.ORG</u>

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Explorer Program meets year round on Tuesday nights. Business meetings are conducted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month, and training meetings take place on the other Tuesdays, but only during specific times of the year. We would suggest that your 1<sup>st</sup> meeting be either the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month, unless you are instructed otherwise.

The meetings are typically held at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Headquarters located at 11021 Hamilton Ave. Cincinnati Ohio 45231. It is within a half mile of the I-275 Hamilton Ave / Mt. Healthy Exit. The meeting location inside Headquarters can also vary, but the on station Patrol Clerks who work in the main office can always assist you in locating the explorer meeting. The meetings begin promptly at 6:30pm and depending on the volume of business and/or training will typically last till 9pm.



For more information about the Sheriff's Program visit: <u>WWW.HCSO.ORG</u>

The explorers train hands on in a number of law enforcement related areas to both assist in knowledge of police work and to train for yearly competitions. Every May, over 20 agencies in the area who sponsor explorer posts meet to compete in a local competition where explorers are put in real life policing scenarios.



The Hamilton County Explorer Post is typically a top contender and has won 1<sup>st</sup> place honors in the competition a number of times including most recently in 1999, 2000, 2009 and 2011.

While at the competition the explorers compete in scenarios in events including: Traffic Stops, Domestic Violence, Stop and Frisk, Arrest Search and Seizure, Crime Scene Investigation, Bomb Search, First Aid, Auto Accident Investigation, Crisis Negotiation, and Burglary in Progress. There are also other individual events like Personal Fitness, Practice Police Examinations, Bike Patrol Obstacle Course, and a Fire Arms Training Simulator.

Besides attending our own local competition the explorers occasionally are invited to other areas for their policing competitions. In the past we have competed at the Villa Hills Northern Kentucky Area Competition and the Wood County Sheriff's Explorer Competition at Bowling Green University.



The Hamilton County Explorer Post also has competed in a bi-annual national competition since 1998. The Explorers and Training Deputies have attended competitions in Washington DC, Atlanta GA, Fort Collins, CO, and Flag Staff, AZ.

During the Summer of 2012 the Explorer Post is planning on attending the national event in Fort Collins, CO. This is a weeklong event full of training, exposure to local and federal police agencies, leadership development, competitions and networking with other youths from across the nation who will be the future of law enforcement.



Besides the competitions and training, one of the most rewarding parts of the program is the Ride-Along program, where the explorers are permitted to ride along with Deputies on their typical duty shifts.

After 8 hours of safety training, familiarization with the dispatchers and passing a proficiency exam, the explorers are permitted to ride along with any patrol officer in any area the Sheriff's Office Patrols. The explorers see hands on the real life situations officers are presented with, from auto accidents, to domestic disturbances, to nuisance complaints, to traffic stops.

The Explorers will also be required to work special events for the Sheriff's Office, along with fundraising events for the program and be available to assist the Sheriff's Office in times of natural disasters and other emergencies.

All explorers are expected to maintain passing grades in school to participate, have reliable transportation and not have any negative contact with law enforcement. The participants are held to a very high moral and ethical standard.

The explorer program is a great opportunity to supplement any high school or college studies. The program will help at an early age to assist you knowing if you want to pursue a career in local law enforcement, federal law enforcement, the military or just be a civilian with an experienced view of policing.

I encourage you to share this email with your family and review the attached application. If you or your family have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me by email or phone (provided below). Also bring a friend with you or another family member who also is interested in learning more about law enforcement.

Regardless of what you go on to do with the rest of your life, this is an experience that will last a life time and help you see the world you live in from the eyes of a police officer.



MORE INFORMATION CALL 513.400.4276