



Belleville Police Department

Citizen Police Academy



The Belleville Police Department is proud to announce that we are accepting applications for the Citizen Police Academy. The Belleville Police Department would like to extend an invitation to those interested in learning about the duties of law-enforcement officers. Our vision is to provide an opportunity to gain a clearer insight into certain aspects of law enforcement while partaking in this learning environment.

The Belleville Citizen Police Academy gives our citizens an up-close look at how the police department operates, with hands-on experiences that will assist the public in understanding the 'how and why' as it applies to the many functions and duties of the Belleville Police Department.

The classes provide an in-depth view into various areas of law enforcement. The Citizen Police Academy is an educational and informative program that allows citizens the opportunity to learn about the issues that affect law enforcement efforts in the City of Belleville. More importantly, the Belleville Police Department aspires to strengthen a positive and long lasting partnership with the citizens they serve. This partnership is essential in developing lines of communication that will better aide the necessary collaboration between the Belleville Police Department and the community in working together to maintain a quality of life that the citizens of Belleville expect, and deserve.

The Academy is designed to give participants a realistic view of the day to day operations of police work by providing instruction, practical exercises, and education on numerous topics. Academy sessions will include a combination of presentations, tours, demonstrations, and practical exercises that will allow participants to experience life from a police officer's point of view and is intended to give the citizen a better understanding of modern policing in a local context.

The program will be taught by members of the Belleville Police Department and guest speakers from other agencies which consist of a series of classes and discussions. The Belleville Police Department will conduct **one** (1) academy session each year. This session runs eight (8) consecutive weeks in the spring.

- The spring session is held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings beginning on **April 11, 2018** (classes may end before or slightly after 8:30 pm due to curriculum and class participation projects). The session will conclude on **May 30th, 2018**.
- Times and dates for classes during either session are subject to change due to unforeseen events or scheduling conflicts. Participants will be notified in advance of any changes as soon as reasonably possible.

The Belleville Police Department's Citizen Police Academy is presented to adults, 18 and over. This academy is open to Belleville citizens who reside within the corporate city limits, or persons working within the City limits of Belleville and students currently attending Lindenwood University-Belleville or Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC).

Class size is limited to approximately 30 students. Priority will be given to Belleville residents (as mentioned above) on a first come, first serve basis of the first 30 qualified applicants.

There is \$25 admission fee. Checks/Money Orders can be made out to the City of Belleville. All proceeds will be donated to Backstoppers. Donations must be received before applications can be processed.

A **criminal background check** (via public records) is conducted prior to admittance. A background review will be conducted on each applicant and the Belleville Police Department reserves the right to deny entry to the Academy based on that background review.

Participants will be introduced to a variety of topics and hands-on training to include:

- Agency History and Structure
- PD Tour
- Patrol Operations
- Investigations
- Major Case Squad
- Crime scene investigation
- Use of force
- Special Operations Group
- Street Crimes Unit
- Code Enforcement
- Narcotics Investigations
- SWAT
- 4 Hour Ride-A-Long with an Officer



Each participant will also complete a **4 hour ride along** with a patrol officer, to be scheduled outside of the regular training.

The Department and staff will work to make reasonable accommodations to individuals with special needs. Please contact the police department in advance of the class if you require special accommodations.

The Belleville Civilian Police Academy is designed to be a learning environment that brings police officers and their community closer together by creating a greater understanding about the world of law enforcement. While questions are encouraged, and open discussion will be common, this venue is not intended to be used as a platform to vent frustrations and disputes with law enforcement. This venue is also not to be used to seek legal advice from the officers teaching the various topics of discussion.

If you would like to enroll in the City of Belleville Citizen Police Academy, please click on the link below to download the application. Please return the completed application to the Belleville Police Department no later than **April 4th, 2018**.