

Peace Officer Basic Academy – POBA

When does the next Peace Officer Basic Academy (POBA) start?

The next POBA is scheduled to begin October 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. and will finish Spring of 2023.

What do I need to do to attend?

To attend POBA, you must complete the following:

1. Take and pass 1 (or all 4 if necessary to pass) of the scheduled pre-academy PT test. This test is free.
2. Apply to become a student at Washington State Community College, this can be accomplished online at www.wsccl.edu. This is free.
3. Register for POBA. Registration opens April 18, 2023. To do so, you must see the Commander.
4. Arrange for financial aid at the Student One Stop, unless you are self-pay.
5. Go to any Ohio Sheriff's Office for a Web-Check Background check. This is free but you must have the OPOTC (Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission) form with you. The form or a copy must be returned to the Commander.
6. Get a medical physical from a qualified medical person. This is at your expense.
7. Get a drug screen test.
8. Complete the OPOTC packet which will be sent only after steps 1 through 7 are completed.

When is the Pre-Academy PT Test?

PT Test dates for 2023 are: June 3rd 9:00-11:00 a.m.; June 4th 5:00-7:00 p.m.; June 11th 5:00-7:00 p.m.; June 24th 9:00-11:00 a.m.; and July 8th 9:00-11:00 a.m. July 16th 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Is there a limit to how many times I can take the PT test?

No, you may take all 4 if necessary.

Is attendance mandatory?

Yes, cadets are required to be in attendance for every minute of the training.

What happens if I miss a session?

Any missed time is required to be made up within 14 days of the absence and prior to the last day of the academy in 1-hour increments at the cadet's expense of \$37.00 per hour.

What are the hours of the program?

We are only offering a Night Academy. Classes start at 5:00 p.m. and end on average at 9:30 p.m. There are several weekend days which will be 8:00 a.m. to on average 5:00 p.m.

Is the training accepted in WV or will students need additional training to take a position in WV?

POBA graduates must work 2 to 3 years as full time OH law enforcement to have their training considered by WV.

Do students need any special equipment or attire?

All students are required to purchase Black BTU 5.11 pants or similar style. Students must provide their own gym clothes with no logos for PT and Subject Control classes, ear and eye protection for firearms and rain gear for classes in the field is also a requirement. Students can opt to buy their own gun belt if desired otherwise, students may borrow one from the college.

What is the cost of POBA?

The total cost is \$5,640 for 26 semester hours and lab fees. These 26 semester hours can also be applied toward the Associate Degree in Criminal Justice at WSCC.

How can I pay for POBA?

There are several choices and some types of financial aid can be combined. For additional information, please see <https://www.wsccl.edu/current/financial-aid/> or email our Financial Aid Office at finaid@wsccl.edu.