

Certificate

Program Description:

The Police Science Degree is offered in cooperation with the West Virginia State Police and is located at the State Police Academy in Institute, West Virginia. This program is not designed for regular full-time or part-time students. Admission to this program is restricted to those accepted into the West Virginia State Police Cadet training corps. The State Police Academy currently serves the state of West Virginia as the only law enforcement training facility that has been approved by the Governor's Committee on Crime, Delinquency, and Correction to provide mandatory entry-level police training.

- The prospective student must be 21 years of age and meet the requirements of the State Police Academy.
- State police personnel complete a 30-week residential program in which all degree coursework, with the exception of the internship, is completed.
- A field internship must be completed during the employee's probationary employment period before the degree is awarded.

Career Outlook:

The opportunity for public service through law enforcement work is attractive to many because the job is challenging and involves much personal responsibility. Furthermore, law enforcement officers in many agencies may retire with a pension after 25 or 30 years of service, allowing them to pursue a second career while still in their 40s or 50s. Because of relatively attractive salaries and benefits, the number of qualified candidates exceeds the number of job openings in Federal law enforcement agencies and in most state police departments—resulting in increased hiring standards and selectivity by employers. Competition should remain keen for higher paying jobs with state and federal agencies and police departments in more affluent areas. Opportunities will be better in local and special police departments, especially in departments that offer relatively low salaries, or in urban communities where the crime rate is relatively high. Applicants with college training in police science, military police experience, or both should have the best opportunities.

Salary Forecast:

West Virginia State Police Officers are set by rank and time in service. The current salary ranges are below:

Rank	Minimum	Maximum
Trooper.....	\$28,122	\$46,494
Senior Trooper	\$38,482	\$46,882
Trooper First Class	\$39,070	\$47,470
Corporal.....	\$39,658	\$48,058
Sergeant.....	\$43,834	\$52,234
First Sergeant.....	\$45,922	\$54,322
2nd Lieutenant.....	\$48,010	\$56,410
1st Lieutenant.....	\$50,098	\$58,498
Captain.....	\$52,186	\$60,586
Major.....	\$54,274	\$62,674
Lieutenant Colonel	\$56,362	\$64,762

Program Admission Requirements:

The college adheres to an open admissions policy which means applicants with a high school diploma or a GED are eligible for admission. Applicants with neither a high school diploma nor a GED may be admitted on a conditional basis.

Major Code – CP60

FIRST YEAR	
First Semester^{1,2}	Second Semester
ENL 111 Written Communication3	MAT 139 Mathematics for Police..... 5
PST 111 Law Enforcement Orientation3	IT 101 Fundamentals of Computer Technology (EDGE) 3
PST 231 Fundamentals of Criminal Law3	PST 242 Police Community Relations 3
PST 233 Fundamentals of Criminal.....3	PST 244 Introduction to Criminalistics 4
PST 239 Criminal Evidence and Procedure3	PST 248 Traffic Administration & Enforcement 3
TOTAL CREDITS15	TOTAL CREDITS..... 18
HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 33	

Employment Opportunities:

- West Virginia State Police
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Federal Marshal

Contact Information:

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1. Student must be accepted as a Cadet at West Virginia State Police Academy for program enrollment. Contact Personnel Director of West Virginia State Police at (304) 746-2117 or local State Police Detachment for program application information.
 2. Course work may be applied toward A.A.S. in Police Science