

1. How long is the Tulsa Police Academy?

The Tulsa Police Department Apprentice Police Officer (APO) Academy lasts approximately 25 weeks. The Academy is located at 6066 East 66th St North in Tulsa. APOs normally report to training Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., although hours may vary due to training requirements.

2. What if I'm already a police officer? Do I still need to attend the Academy?

Yes. Since Tulsa does not have a lateral entry program, you must successfully complete the normal hiring process and academy training, as would any other police recruit.

3. Does prior experience in policing help my chances?

While having a prior work history is an asset to an applicant; having prior police experience does not make one candidate more favorable over another. In addition, all applicants must possess a 4-year degree from an accredited college or university and be a U.S. citizen.

4. Can I get hired even if I have a police record?

All applicants will undergo a police background check before being hired. Any person with a felony conviction or a conviction for a crime of moral turpitude is ineligible for employment with the Tulsa Police Department. Convictions for misdemeanor crimes other than those involving moral turpitude will not automatically eliminate you from the process. Considerations include: the crime(s) committed; when it occurred; your age at the time; the relationship between the crime and your position as a police officer.

Remember police records never go away, so be straightforward on your application. Examples of offenses which have been declared by the courts to involve moral turpitude are theft, burglary, tax evasion, forgery, perjury, bribery, sale of narcotics, etc. These will also be reviewed on a case-by-case basis using the above factors.

5. If hired, do I have to pay for the training?

No. The training is free. In fact, you receive a salary and benefits during your time in the Academy. Academy salary is \$39,767. The salary upon graduation is \$43,744. (Salary figures as of January 1, 2009 FOP Contract)

6. Is a clothing and an equipment allowance given?

Yes. The first clothing and equipment allowance provided to an employee after completion of the Tulsa Police Academy shall be \$675. Each subsequent year thereafter the clothing allowance shall be \$625. (Per FOP Contract)

7. What is the age requirement?

All applicants must be between 21 and 45 years old. The state pension board requires applicants begin the academy before their 46th birthday.

8. If I have a Master's Degree or higher level education, will I receive additional education incentive pay?

Yes. You will receive \$100 per month stipend for a Bachelor's Degree and \$150 per month stipend for a Master's Degree.

9. Will I receive a take-home car?

Take-home vehicles are allowed provided you reside within 25 miles of the center of the City of Tulsa. (Per FOP Contract)

10. Is there a fee to take the entry-level exam?

No. There is no cost to take the entry-level written exam.

11. When I test, will I take both the written and physical exam?

Yes. The physical exam will be administered first followed by the written. Study guides and test descriptions are located on our web site at www.joinTPD.com

12. How many questions are on the written exam and how long will the written exam take?

There are a total of 240 items on the written exam with a 2½-hour time limit for completion. In addition, other information and instructions will be distributed. Applicants should plan on being at the testing facility for at least four hours from the report time.

13. What shifts do patrol officers work?

Currently, officers work four (4) ten-hour shifts weekly. Specialty units and detectives may work five (5) eight-hour shifts, depending on their assignments.

14. If I do not pass the written exam, how soon may I re-test?

Any person who does not pass the written exam may re-test after six months.

15. Can I re-take the exam in order to get a higher score?

A person may re-take the written exam if they were passed over during an Academy selection process.

16. Do I have to re-take the written exam if I'm not hired?

No. Your written exam score is valid for two years.

17. How often can I interview for the Police Department?

Candidates will only be allowed to sit for the structured oral interview once every 6 (six) months.

18. How many people will be hired in the next academy?

The size and frequency of the academy classes are determined by the City of Tulsa's annual budget.

19. What do I need to do to take the written exam?

You can call the recruiters (see www.joinTPD.com for phone numbers) or apply on line. A recruiter will call you once your online application is processed.