# Basic Law Enforcement Training

Craven Community College's BLET program utilizes the topics and methods of instruction mandated by the state commission mandated by the N.C. Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the N.C. Sheriff's Education Training Standards Commission. Coursework includes, but is not limited to criminal, juvenile, civil, traffic, and alcohol beverage laws; investigative, patrol, custody, and court procedures; emergency responses; and ethics and community relations. Modifications may be made to in order to comply with accrediting agency rules and regulations. BLET students must meet mandated attendance requirements.

To receive the BLET certificate, students must successfully complete and pass all units of study, including the certification examination mandated by the N.C. Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the N.C. Sheriff's Education Training Standards Commission.

Successful graduates of this program may find employment opportunities in the following areas:

- Police Officer (Municipal Police Departments)
- Deputy Sheriff
- State Trooper
- Correctional Officer
- Company or Private Security
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A candidate for BLET admission must meet the following Commission Standards:

- Complete an interview with the BLET Director prior to registration.
- Complete and submit all required application and other appropriate forms.
- Be a citizen of the United States (You must provide a copy of your birth certificate or citizenship paperwork.)
- Be 20 years old. (Students who are 19 may begin the program, with approval, if they will turn 20 by their completion of the program.)
- Possess a minimum of a 10<sup>th</sup> grade reading level using an approved test.
- Have a High School Diploma or GED (Diplomas earned through correspondence enrollment are not recognized towards educational requirements. An applicant must supply his or her transcript/copy of high school diploma.)
- Have a valid driver's license.
- If applicable, provide documentation of a military background, i.e., DD 214.
- Provide a criminal/arrest history (Certified criminal record check for local and state records for the time period since the trainee has become an adult and from all locations where the trainee has resided since becoming an adult, in both married and maiden names (required). An Administrative Office of the Courts criminal record check or a comparable out-of-state criminal record check will satisfy this requirement.)
- Have a medical examination (medical examination report, properly completed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina, a physician's assistant or a nurse practitioner) to determine the individual's fitness to perform the essential job functions of a criminal justice officer.
- Must successfully pass a modified Police Officer Physical Ability Test (POPAT).

The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, established in 1971, sets forth minimum entrance standards, as well as mandatory basic training requirements, for all sworn law enforcement officers. To ensure a consistent level of competency and professionalism among law enforcement officials, the Criminal Justice Standards Division administers the Commission's mandatory certification and training programs. Those programs cover all sworn police officers, correctional officers, probation/parole officers, juvenile justice officers, and juvenile court counselors.

The North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission is responsible for the certification of all <u>justice officers</u>, including deputy sheriffs, detention officers and telecommunicators, who are employed in the 100 Sheriffs' Offices in this state pursuant to <u>N.C.G.S. 17E</u>. This Commission also oversees the establishment, maintenance and upgrading of acceptable training courses.

Resulting from the creation of the Commission, the Sheriffs' Standards Division was established as part of the Department of Justice. The primary objective of this Division is to act as staff to the Commission in carrying out its responsibilities, please visit the following websites for more information:

- <u>https://ncdoj.gov/law-enforcement-training/sheriffs/</u>
- <u>https://ncdoj.gov/law-enforcement-training/criminal-justice/officer-certification-programs/law-enforcement-certification-applicants/</u>
- <u>https://www.ncdps.gov/careers-matter/state-highway-patrol-careers</u>

If you are interested in serving as a police/peace and/or corrections officer in another state, visit the following websites for more information on out of state transfers on a state by state basis.

- Alabama: <u>https://www.apostc.alabama.gov/</u>
- Alaska: <u>https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/fa15beff-d9d2-4084-b1b3-74dd56f67359/2018-</u> website-Reciprocity.pdf;.aspx
- Arizona: <u>https://post.az.gov/certification-process/waiver-process</u>
- Arkansas: <u>https://www.clest.org/rules</u>
- California: <u>https://post.ca.gov/basic-course-waiver-process</u>
- Colorado: <u>https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/post/provisional-certification</u>
- Connecticut: <u>https://portal.ct.gov/POST/BasicTraining-Division/Entry-Certification--Renewal-</u>
  <u>Requirements</u>
- Delaware: https://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title1/800/801.shtml
- Florida: <u>https://www.fdle.state.fl.us/CJSTC/Officer-Requirements/Equivalency-of-Training.aspx</u>
- Georgia: <u>https://www.gapost.org/pdf\_file/eot\_procedure.pdf</u>
- Hawaii: (as there is no state police force, recruitment is done at municipal level; Counties of Hawai'I, Maui, and Kaua'i, and City of Honolulu)
- Idaho: <u>https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/2001/11/1101.pdf</u>
- Illinois: <u>https://www.ptb.illinois.gov/training/out-of-state-trained-reciprocity-process/</u>

- Indiana: <u>https://www.in.gov/ilea/2330.htm#another%20state</u>
- Iowa: <u>https://ileatraining.org/default.aspx/MenuItemID/239/MenuGroup/Home.htm</u>
- Kansas: <u>https://kletc.org/basic-training</u>
- Kentucky: <u>https://klecs.ky.gov/reciprocity</u>
- Louisiana: <u>http://www.lcle.la.gov/programs/post.asp</u>
- Maine: <u>https://www.maine.gov/dps/mcja/faq/index.shtml</u>
- Maryland: <u>https://mdle.net/</u>
- Massachusetts: <u>https://www.mass.gov/how-to/request-an-exemption-or-temporary-waiver</u>
- Michigan: https://www.michigan.gov/mcoles/0,4607,7-229--148071--,00.html
- Minnesota: <u>https://dps.mn.gov/entity/post/exams/Pages/reciprocity-exam.aspx</u>
- Missouri: <u>https://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/post/</u>
- Mississippi: <u>https://www.sos.ms.gov/ACProposed/00013666b.pdf</u>
- Montana: <u>https://dojmt.gov/post/applicant-new/guidelines-for-out-of-state-officers-seeking-employment-in-montana/</u>
- Nebraska: <u>https://nletc.nebraska.gov/reciprocity.html</u>
- Nevada: <u>http://post.nv.gov/Training/Reciprocity/</u>
- New Hampshire: <u>https://www.pstc.nh.gov/</u>
- New Jersey: <u>https://www.state.nj.us/lps/dcj/njptc/waivers.htm</u>
- New Mexico: <u>https://www.lea.nm.gov/cert-by-waiver</u>
- New York: <u>https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/ops/training/bcpo/bcpo03.htm</u>
- North Dakota: <u>http://www.post.nd.gov/FAQ/index.html</u>
- Ohio: <u>https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/How-to-Become-a-Peace-Officer-in-Ohio</u>
- Oklahoma: <u>https://www.ok.gov/cleet/Peace\_Officers/Reciprocity/index.html</u>
- Oregon: <u>https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=822</u>
- Pennsylvania: <u>https://mpoetc.psp.pa.gov/certification/Pages/Out-of-State-Applicants.aspx</u>
- Rhode Island: <u>https://rimpa.ri.gov/post/index.php</u>
- South Carolina: <u>https://sccja.sc.gov/training-support/out-state-transfers</u>
- South Dakota: <u>https://atg.sd.gov/LawEnforcement/Training/Certification/reciprocity.aspx</u>
- Tennessee: <u>https://www.tn.gov/commerce/post.html</u>
- Texas: <u>https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/out-state-peace-officers</u>

- Utah: https://post.utah.gov/waiverreactivation-process/
- Vermont: <u>https://vcjtc.vermont.gov/resources/faq</u>
- Virginia: <u>https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/law-enforcement/certification-process-and-mandated-</u> service-requirements-le-officer
- Washington: <u>https://www.cjtc.wa.gov/training-education/basic-law-enforcement-equivalency-academy</u>
- West Virginia: <u>https://djcs.wv.gov/law-enforcement-professional-</u> standards/Documents/West%20Virginia%20Reciprocity.pdf
- Wisconsin: <u>https://wilenet.org/html/career/index.html</u>
- Wyoming: <u>https://post.wyo.gov/</u>

Graduates can also pursue careers as state law enforcement officials, such as state troopers and highway patrol. In the United States, **state police** (also called **state troopers** or **highway patrol**) are a police body unique to each U.S. state, having statewide authority to conduct law enforcement activities and criminal investigations. In general, they perform functions outside the jurisdiction of the county sheriff, such as enforcing traffic laws on state highways and interstate expressways, overseeing the security of the state capitol complex, protecting the governor, training new officers for local police forces too small to operate an academy, providing technological and scientific services, supporting local police and helping to coordinate multi-jurisdictional task force activity in serious or complicated cases in those states that grant full police powers statewide. These agencies are typically under a state Department of Public Safety, although in some states, they may serve under different state departments such as the Highway Patrol under the state Department of Transportation and the Marine patrol under the state Department of Natural Resources.

State troopers are uniformed and sworn law enforcement officers. The minimum requirement for a position with the state police includes being at least 21 years of age and the possession of a high school diploma or GED, but many states recommend that candidates for trooper school have an <u>associate's</u> <u>degree</u> or higher. To become a state trooper, you can expect to undergo a process similar to the following:

- 1. Attend a degree program and/or gain experience in a related field. \*
- 2. Apply for an open position with the state police.
- 3. Be interviewed for the position.
- 4. Complete a physical examination, drug test, polygraph exam, and background investigation.
- 5. Complete a state trooper training academy.
- 6. Be hired as a state trooper.
- 7. Continue on-the-job training once hired.

Twenty-two U.S. states use the term "State Police," fifteen use the term "Highway Patrol," seven use the term "State Patrol," and three use the term "State Highway Patrol." In Alaska, the agency is called the "Division of Alaska State Troopers." Hawaii does not have a statewide police agency. The term "highway patrol" tends to be more common in the southeast and mountain west States.

For more information about each state's educational licensure/certification requirements, please visit the appropriate state's law enforcement department link below.

Alabama Highway Patrol Alaska State Troopers Arizona Highway Patrol Arkansas State Police Arkansas Highway Police California Highway Patrol Colorado State Patrol Connecticut State Police **Delaware State Police** Florida Highway Patrol Georgia State Patrol Guam Police Department Hawaii (does not have statewide police agency) Idaho State Police Illinois State Police Indiana State Police Iowa State Patrol Kansas Highway Patrol Kentucky State Police

Louisiana State Police Maine State Police Maryland State Police Massachusetts State Police Michigan State Police Minnesota State Patrol Mississippi Highway Patrol <u>Missouri State</u> Highway Patrol Montana Highway Patrol Nebraska State Patrol Nevada Highway Patrol New Hampshire State Police New Jersey State Police New Mexico State Police New York State Police North Carolina State Highway Patrol North Dakota Highway Patrol Ohio State Highway Patrol

Oklahoma Highway Patrol Oregon State Police Pennsylvania State Police Puerto Rico Police Department Rhode Island State Police South Carolina Highway Patrol South Dakota Highway Patrol Tennessee Highway Patrol Texas Highway Patrol U.S. Virgin Islands Police Department Utah Highway Patrol Vermont State Police Virginia State Police Washington State Patrol West Virginia State Police Wisconsin State Patrol Wyoming Highway Patrol

# Additional Resources

- <u>National Association of Police Organizations</u>: A national coalition of police associations and police units, dedicated to education, advocacy, and political action.
- <u>International Union of Police Associations</u>: A professional organization dedicated to assisting police officers and state troopers with education, communication, and earning better pay.
- <u>National Troopers Coalition</u>: A nonprofit organization for state troopers across the United States, assists state trooper associations with helping their members get the best salaries, benefits, and working conditions.
- <u>The American Association of State Troopers</u>: A national fraternal organization for state troopers.

# State Boards of Law Enforcement Contacts

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