

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Citizens Police Academy? The Citizen Police Academy is a police program designed to give citizens a greater understanding of law enforcement. This program provides insight into the philosophy and operations of the department. During the 10-week academy, citizens have the opportunity to interact with officers, ask questions and exchange perspectives. The primary goal is to foster a positive association between the community and the police department. The Citizen Police Academy is fun, very informative and a perfect way to see life on the other side of the badge.

Who is eligible to attend? You may apply if you are at least 18 years old and live, work or volunteer in the city of Newark. To ensure the integrity of the class as a whole, a background check will be done on each applicant. No convicted felons or people with convictions for offenses of violence will be accepted.

How much does it cost? There is no fee to attend. The course is funded through private donations from area businesses.

When is the Citizen Police Academy offered? The academy is offered two times per year; in the Spring and in the Fall. Visit this web site often to find out when the next class will begin.

Where are the classes held? The academy session will meet weekly on Thursday evenings from 6 – 9:30pm at the Newark Police Station, 39 S. Fourth Street. Participants will also be given an opportunity to ride along with a police officer during the officer's regular shift if they choose to do so.

Do I have to be in good physical shape? There are no physical or athletic requirements. Your level of participation is up to you at all times.

What is the curriculum at the Citizens Police Academy? Many topics are covered throughout the academy including traffic enforcement, defensive tactics; search and seizure; criminal investigations; crime scene; canine; narcotics; Special Operations (SWAT); community-oriented policing; and much more.

What if I can't attend every class? We understand that those who attend the academy are people with busy schedules. Each participant is allowed two absences before being withdrawn from the class. The attendance policy helps to ensure that each participant gets the most benefit from the academy.

Is there any homework or minimum grades? No homework given and no grades kept.

Is there a commitment after the Citizens Police Academy? While it is our hope that Citizen Police Academy graduates will continue their association with the police department through the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association, there is absolutely no obligation upon completion of the academy.

Is there an opportunity after graduation for me to become a volunteer? Graduates may join the Alumni Association. The association exists to continue the CPA education and to provide volunteer assistance to the police department when requested.

How do I apply? The easiest way is to obtain an application online at www.newarkpd.com. You also can pick up an application at the front desk of the Newark Police Department. Space is limited to 20 people so get your application in early.