

Cape Girardeau Police Explorers



Mission Statement

The mission of the Cape Girardeau Police Department is to protect life, property, and the rights of persons; to enforce ordinances and laws; and to preserve peace, order, and safety. In the pursuit of our mission, the Cape Girardeau Police Department will establish effective relationships with the community through community partnerships, community involvement, and by nurturing public trust. We will hold ourselves to the highest standards of performance and ethics. We will be constantly aware of the needs of our community and those we serve. We will consider innovative strategies to improve working conditions and policing programs in order to enhance our service. We will continually strive toward community problem solving and accountability. We will, through concerted efforts, improve the overall quality of life in our community.

Police Explorer provides area youth with the opportunity to learn the career of a Police Officer and to develop leaders within our community through this integral part of the Cape Girardeau Police Department. The Explorer Program is comprised of members 14 to 20 years of age interested in learning more law enforcement careers. Explorers are provided with opportunities to find out more about policing and their community while assisting the police department's various community events.

The Explorer Program is a year-round program. Explorer Post members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings which are primarily held every other week on Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Members receive basic instruction in various phases of law enforcement including criminal law, traffic law, criminal investigation, crime prevention, traffic control and direction, accident investigation, juvenile delinquency, and other related topics which are integral parts of law enforcement.

Explorers are required to participate in the numerous details performed by the Post, usually in the areas of traffic direction, security, and communications. Participation is also encouraged for Post activities including field trips (training, team building, etc.), multi-post multi-regional training seminars, and the ride-along program, etc.

Explorers are governed by an Explorer Handbook. Uniforms are required by all members with part of the uniform supplied by the Explorer Program and part purchased by the individual member after the Explorer completes an introductory period in the program.

Goals and objectives

- To serve as a recruitment tool for future men and women in law enforcement
- To serve a community relations effort in the region between police, youth and the community
- To be utilized as volunteers within the Cape Girardeau Police Department
- To develop and uphold the basic objectives of the Explorer Program as sponsored through the Exploring/Learning for Life Division of the Boy Scouts of America and through the contribution of the Police to the Explorer in three areas: character building, leadership development and an appreciation for community services and good citizenship

Requirements for membership

To be eligible for membership in the Cape Girardeau Explorer Program, a candidate must:

- Be between ages 14 to 20
- Have NO felony convictions
- Be a responsible citizen with a good reputation and good moral character
- Be willing to contribute a great deal of time to the Post
- Attend all Post meetings, details and events
- Maintain a "C" average in school
- Have transportation to and from meetings, details, events and/or any other Explorer functions
- Pass and provide a yearly sports physical to the Post.
- Pass an intensive background check completed by the Cape Girardeau Police Department

- Have parental consent, including signatures of the Explorers and their parents on a general liability release form. This includes successfully completing the application
- Applicants must be citizens of the United States at the time of their application

Upon completion of application procedures and acceptance into the Program, the new member is placed on a six (6) month probation period. Successful completion of the probationary period allows the member to advance towards full membership privileges within the program.

As an Explorer, members are:

- Required to spend at least 6 hours per month or more with “on the job training” within the Cape Girardeau Police Department, whether it is working in the Precincts, Bureaus, and or the community.
- Expected to maintain the highest level of integrity, both during the program and personal time. Explorers violating the guidelines set forth by the program will be handled accordingly.
- Expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings, held every other week on Tuesday at 6:00 p.m., (except for holidays or unless otherwise noted) and are required to participate in the numerous details performed by the Post, including traffic direction, security and communications. Participation is also encouraged for field trips (training, team building, etc.), multi-post multi-regional training seminars, the ride-along program and more.

HOW TO JOIN

Want to join the Cape Girardeau Police Explorers? We are always looking for those who want to join us!

If you are interested in joining or attending the meeting to find out further information, please contact bwhitlock@cityofcape.org or 573-335-6621 Ext. 4.

REASONS TO JOIN

Thinking about a career in Law Enforcement?

Here are some reasons to join Cape Girardeau Police Explorers!

- An entry on an employment resume saying you were involved in Exploring gives you an advantage over other job seekers
- Meetings are held every other week on Tuesday at 6:00 p.m., excluding holidays
- Post members are involved in a variety of activities in addition to Explorers including, football, cross country and track.
- People involved in the post benefit not only from the things they learn about a career, but also from leadership skills developed through their involvement
- In addition to meetings, members get the opportunity to ride-a-long with officers after receiving required training.
- Post members are given the opportunity to participate in bi-annual conferences out of state and bi-annual police explorer academies.
- Past members have gone on to careers in and out of police work and are better prepared should they seek a career in law enforcement.