

San Marcos Police Department Citizen Police Academy

San Marcos Police Department
Citizen Police Academy
2300 IH 35 South
San Marcos, TX 78666

What is the Citizen Police Academy?

The Citizen Police Academy is a unique learning experience conducted by the police department and designed to give citizens a better understanding of the mission and operations of their police department.

The 12-week course consists of one three hour session per week.

Participants will be apprised of basic information that all police officers need to perform their jobs. Topics include patrol tactics, criminal and narcotics investigations, use of force, communications, officer training, DWI procedures, family violence, juvenile law, as well as many others.

The Academy allows citizens and police officers to interact and see the police department from different points of view. Citizens and officers learn from each other, and both strive for "excellence through cooperative understanding."



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**“Excellence
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What is the purpose?

The San Marcos Citizen Police Academy was created to bring a closer working relationship between the San Marcos Police Department and the citizens of San Marcos. The program allows local residents to learn the inner workings of the Department while officers discover more about the community, its citizens and what the community's expectations are in regard to law enforcement.



Who may attend?

The class is comprised of a cross-section of citizens from the San Marcos community. While each class is different, it's not unusual to find doctors, architects, homemakers, laborers, students and many others enrolled in the Academy.

The minimum age for enrollment is 18 and you must live in the San Marcos area to be eligible to attend.

What is the cost of the Academy?

There is no fee for attending the Police Academy. However, each student will be invited to a banquet dinner at the completion of the Academy. The student

is responsible for his/her own meal expense, as well as for anyone the student invites to the banquet. Attendance at the banquet is not mandatory but is encouraged.

When and where do the Academy classes meet?

All classes will be held at the police department on Tuesdays during each spring session and on Thursdays during each fall session. Classes will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m.

Two optional six hour "hands on" sessions will be held on two Saturdays.

As part of the training, each student will ride once for three hours with an on-duty police officer. Scheduling will be discussed further at the first Academy session.



Attendance requirements

If students have a conflict with a meeting date/time, up to three sessions can be missed and the student will still graduate. However, if a student misses more than three sessions, the student will not be allowed to graduate, but may still

attend all other sessions until the end of the Academy.

Who are the instructors?

Officers and civilian employees of the police department are chosen for their expertise in the topic being taught. Some of the instructors have no formal training but often are better able to teach the course than any teacher could.



What do I do to apply for the Academy?

Simply pick up an application at the San Marcos Police Department and return it to the Citizen Police Academy Coordinator.

Since space is often limited, applicants should return their applications as soon as possible. Anyone not selected to attend the Academy due to space unavailability will be placed on a waiting list for future Academy classes on a first come, first service basis.

For further information on the Citizen Police Academy, please contact the Citizen Police Academy Coordinator at (512) 754-2270