

McLennan Community College



Law Enforcement Academy Enrollment Process

February 2023

Academy Enrollment Process

APPLY TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

Academy Contact Information

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Costs and Fees

Course Tuition: \$1,695.00

Additional Expenses: \$800.00

Estimate includes:

Cadet Uniforms, physical training shoes, duty belt and components,
handgun and ammunition

All financial aid applications must be submitted to the Financial Aid office at least 90 days prior to the beginning of the academy

Classroom Hours:

Primarily 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

“A” Academy January to June

“B” Academy July to November

Payment: Payment in full is due at registration. MCC accepts cash, checks, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or approved MCC Financial Aid.

Acceptance into the Academy is a competitive process with a limited number of available spots. Officers hired by local law enforcement agencies and sent to the academy are always given first priority for acceptance. We encourage all applicants to seek employment with an agency to facilitate a more expeditious path for attendance. The academy has a maximum of 22 cadets and minimum of 12.

Independent Applicants

To apply as an independent candidate, you must:

- Complete MCC Application.
- Complete MCC Law Enforcement Academy Application
- Complete Personal History Statement www.mclennan.edu/law/
 - This document is used to determine if you meet minimum requirements for attendance, including requisites mandated by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.
- Fast Pass. Applicant must be fingerprinted for a criminal history check.
- Form L-2; Declaration of Medical Condition (physical and drug screen), completed by a licensed physician.
- Form L-3: Declaration of Psychological and Emotional Health. Complete after tentative acceptance into the Academy)
- Certified copy of birth certificate (you must be age 21 by completion of the BPOC)
- Copy of valid driver license and driver record
[Licensee Driver Records](#)
- DD form 214 (if applies)
- High school transcript or G.E.D. If you have a G.E.D., you must show proof of 12 college hours, or two years of military service.
- Sealed original certified copy of your college transcript.
- A-TSIA2 Reading score of 950 or higher.(Note: Applicants with an Associates or higher degree, need not meet this requirement)

Completion of these documents does not guarantee selection, as seats are limited and acceptance is competitive.

Documents submitted for attendance (including the personal history statement, criminal records checks, driver's license checks, physical, and psychological examination) are only valid for 6 months from the time of submission. If you are not accepted to a class within that time frame, it will be necessary to complete those documents again to continue in our process.

Admission Requirements

You **must**:

- Be 21 years of age before completion of the 779-hour academy. See [TCOLE Statutes and Rules Handbook](#) for more information.
- Must meet the standards from Texas Administrative Code Chapter 217, Enrollment, Licensing, Appointment, and Separation, subsection 217.1: Minimum Standards for Enrollment and Initial licensure. [TCOLE](#) link.

• Texas Administrative Code

TITLE 37	PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS
PART 7	TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT
CHAPTER 217	ENROLLMENT, LICENSING, APPOINTMENT, AND SEPARATION
RULE §217.1	Minimum Standards for Enrollment and Initial Licensure

- (a) In order for an individual to enroll in any basic licensing course the provider must have on file documentation, acceptable to the Commission, that the individual meets eligibility for licensure.
- (b) The commission shall issue a license to an applicant who meets the following standards:
- (1) minimum age requirement:
 - (A) for peace officers and public security officers, is 21 years of age; or 18 years of age if the applicant has received:
 - (i) an associate's degree; or 60 semester hours of credit from an accredited college or university; or
 - (ii) has received an honorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States after at least two years of active service;
 - (B) for jailers and telecommunicators is 18 years of age;
 - (2) minimum educational requirements:
 - (A) has passed a general educational development (GED) test indicating high school graduation level;
 - (B) holds a high school diploma; or
 - (C) for enrollment purposes in a basic peace officer academy only, has an honorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States after at least 24 months of active duty service.
 - (3) is fingerprinted and is subjected to a search of local, state and U.S. national records and fingerprint files to disclose any criminal record;
 - (4) has never been on court-ordered community supervision or probation for any criminal offense above the grade of Class B misdemeanor or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years from the date of the court order;
 - (5) is not currently charged with any criminal offense for which conviction would be a bar to licensure;
 - (6) has never been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B misdemeanor or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years;
 - (7) has never been convicted or placed on community supervision in any court of an offense involving family violence as defined under Chapter 71, Texas Family Code;
 - (8) for peace officers, is not prohibited by state or federal law from operating a motor vehicle;
 - (9) for peace officers, is not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition;

(10) has been subjected to a background investigation completed by the enrolling or appointing entity into the applicant's personal history. A background investigation shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(A) An enrolling entity shall:

- (i) require completion of the Commission-approved personal history statement; and
- (ii) verify that the applicant meets each individual requirement for licensure under this rule based on the personal history statement and any other information known to the enrolling entity; and
- (iii) contact all previous enrolling entities.

(B) In addition to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, a law enforcement agency or law enforcement agency academy shall:

- (i) require completion of the Commission-approved personal history statement; and
- (ii) meet all requirements enacted in Occupations Code 1701.451, including submission to the Commission of a form confirming all requirements have been met. An in-person review of personnel records is acceptable in lieu of making the personnel records available electronically if a hiring agency and a previous employing law enforcement agency mutually agree to the in-person review.

(11) examined by a physician, selected by the appointing or employing agency, who is licensed by the Texas Medical Board. The physician must be familiar with the duties appropriate to the type of license sought and appointment to be made. The appointee must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, within 180 days before the date of appointment by the agency to be:

- (A) physically sound and free from any defect which may adversely affect the performance of duty appropriate to the type of license sought;
- (B) show no trace of drug dependency or illegal drug use after a blood test or other medical test; and
- (C) for the purpose of meeting the requirements for initial licensure, an individual's satisfactory medical exam that is conducted as a requirement of a basic licensing course may remain valid for 180 days from the individual's date of graduation from that academy, if accepted by the appointing agency;

(12) examined by a psychologist, selected by the appointing, employing agency, or the academy, who is licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. This examination may also be conducted by a psychiatrist licensed by the Texas Medical Board. The psychologist or psychiatrist must be familiar with the duties appropriate to the type of license sought. The individual must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, to be in satisfactory psychological and emotional health to serve as the type of officer for which the license is sought. The examination must be conducted pursuant to professionally recognized standards and methods. The examination process must consist of a review of a job description for the position sought; review of any personal history statements; review of any background documents; at least two instruments, one which measures personality traits and one which measures psychopathology; and a face to face interview conducted after the instruments have been scored. The appointee must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, within 180 days before the date of the appointment by the agency;

(A) the commission may allow for exceptional circumstances where a licensed physician performs the evaluation of psychological and emotional health. This requires the appointing agency to request in writing and receive approval from the commission, prior to the evaluation being completed; or

(B) the examination may be conducted by qualified persons identified by Texas Occupations Code § 501.004. This requires the appointing agency to request in writing and receive approval from the commission, prior to the evaluation being completed; and

(C) for the purpose of meeting the requirements for initial licensure, an individual's satisfactory psychological exam that is conducted as a requirement of a basic licensing course may remain valid for 180 days from the individual's date of graduation from that academy, if accepted by the appointing agency;

(13) has never received a dishonorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States;

(14) has not had a commission license denied by final order or revoked;

(15) is not currently on suspension, or does not have a surrender of license currently in effect;

(16) meets the minimum training standards and passes the commission licensing examination for each license sought;

(17) is a U.S. citizen.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the commission will construe any court-ordered community supervision, probation or conviction for a criminal offense to be its closest equivalent under the Texas Penal Code classification of offenses if the offense arose from:

- (1) another penal provision of Texas law; or
- (2) a penal provision of any other state, federal, military or foreign jurisdiction.

(d) A classification of an offense as a felony at the time of conviction will never be changed because Texas law has changed or because the offense would not be a felony under current Texas laws.

(e) A person must meet the training and examination requirements:

(1) training for the peace officer license consists of:

- (A) the current basic peace officer course(s);
- (B) a commission recognized, POST developed, basic law enforcement training course, to include:
 - (i) out of state licensure or certification; and
 - (ii) submission of the current eligibility application and fee; or
- (C) a commission approved academic alternative program, taken through a licensed academic alternative provider and at least an associate's degree.

(2) training for the jailer license consists of the current basic county corrections course(s) or training recognized under Texas Occupations Code §1701.310;

(3) training for the public security officer license consists of the current basic peace officer course(s);

(4) training for telecommunicator license consists of telecommunicator course; and

(5) passing any examination required for the license sought while the exam approval remains valid.

(f) The commission may issue a provisional license, consistent with Texas Occupations Code §1701.311, to an agency for a person to be appointed by that agency. An agency must submit all required applications currently prescribed by the commission and all required fees before the individual is appointed. Upon the approval of the application, the commission will issue a provisional license. A provisional license is issued in the name of the applicant; however, it is issued to and shall remain in the possession of the agency. Such a license may neither be transferred by the applicant to another agency, nor transferred by the agency to another applicant. A provisional license may not be reissued and expires:

- (1) 12 months from the original appointment date;
- (2) on leaving the appointing agency; or
- (3) on failure to comply with the terms stipulated in the provisional license approval.

(g) The commission may issue a temporary jailer license, consistent with Texas Occupations Code §1701.310. A jailer appointed on a temporary basis shall be enrolled in a basic jailer licensing course on or before the 90th day after their temporary appointment. An agency must submit all required applications currently prescribed by the commission and all required fees before the individual is appointed. Upon the approval of the application, the commission will issue a temporary jailer license. A temporary jailer license may not be renewed and expires:

- (1) 12 months from the original appointment date; or
- (2) on completion of training and passing of the jailer licensing examination.

(h) The commission may issue a temporary telecommunicator license, consistent with Texas Occupations Code §1701.405. An agency must submit all required applications currently prescribed by the commission and all required fees before the individual is appointed. Upon the approval of the application, the commission will issue a temporary telecommunicator license. A temporary telecommunicator license expires:

- (1) 12 months from the original appointment date; or
- (2) on completion of training and passing of the telecommunicator licensing examination. On expiration of a temporary license, a person is not eligible for a new temporary telecommunicator license for one year.

(i) A person who fails to comply with the standards set forth in this section shall not accept the issuance of a license and shall not accept any appointment. If an application for licensure is found to be false or untrue, it is subject to cancellation or recall.

(j) The effective date of this section is June 1, 2022.

- **Required notification:**

Notification to program enrollees and applicants must include:

(h) The potential ineligibility of an individual who has been convicted of an offense for issuance of an occupational license on completion of the educational program;

(i) The current guidelines issued by the applicable licensing authority (See, Texas Occupations Code, Sec. 53.025). In particular, the licensing authority's guidelines must state the reasons a particular crime is considered to relate to a particular license and any other criterion that affects the decisions of the licensing authority.

A "licensing authority" is a state agency or political subdivision that issues an occupational license;

3. Any other state or local restriction or guideline used by the licensing authority to determine the eligibility of an individual who has been convicted of an offense for an occupational license issued by the licensing authority; and

4. The right of an individual to request a criminal history evaluation letter (See, Texas Occupations Code, Sec. 53.102).

An individual may request a licensing authority to issue a criminal history evaluation letter regarding the person's eligibility for a license issued by that authority if the person:

(1) is enrolled or planning to enroll in an educational program that prepares a person for an initial license or is planning to take an examination for an initial license; and

(2) has reason to believe that the person is ineligible for the license due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense.

The request must state the basis for the person's potential ineligibility.

- Complete the application packet from the Law Enforcement Academy.(Packets for employed cadets are sent to agencies only.)
- Pass a complete medical and psychological exam.
- Be able to perform strenuous physical activities
- Show proof of [Bacterial Meningitis](#) vaccination if under the age of 22

Interview process for Independent Applicants

Process:

- Your application packet must be complete.
- The Academy Director will conduct a comprehensive background investigation from the information you provide.
- Those who have successfully completed the documents and received an acceptable review from the background investigation will be invited to an ORAL INTERVIEW with a panel of law enforcement officials and public members from the community. The interview process examines the applicant's background for employment purposes. Success is granted to those who meet or exceed the expectations of the review board.

PROCESS FOR THOSE HIRED BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

On department letter head, a letter indicating that the agency has met the requirements of the Texas Administrative Code Chapter 217, Enrollment, Licensing, Appointment, and Separation, subsection 217.1: Minimum Standards for Enrollment and Initial licensure.

INDEPENDENT CADET JOB DESCRIPTION

A person who has been accepted to attend the MCCLEA has successfully completed the same process of any person who applies for any law enforcement agency in Texas. During the academy, cadets are expected to complete all of the requirements of the academy as set forth by Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) and to pass the state licensing examination. Training covers a variety of academic and investigative subjects lasting approximately 21 weeks. Written and practical exercise exams are regularly administered during the training process. Cadets must be able to pass the exams and maintain a required grade point average. Failure to do so can result in separation from the academy. A cadet is a person in the initial training phase of becoming a Texas Peace Officer. Graduates should be immediately ready to begin a field training program.

L-2 and L-3 MEDICAL PROVIDER SELECTION PROCESS.

The McLennan Community College Law Enforcement Academy shall select medical professionals who meet the rules from the Texas Administrative Code Chapter 217.1 (b) (11) and (12).

L-2: The physician will be provided with the L-2 document and copy of the job description for each applicant.

The L-2 physician shall be selected from the Waco McLennan County area and one that is used by the local law enforcement agencies.

L-3: The psychologist will be provided with the L-3 document, copy of the job description for each applicant, and a copy of the applicant's personal history statement document.

The L-3 psychologist shall be selected from the Waco McLennan County area and one that is used by the local law enforcement agencies.