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## Vantage Police Academy

Dear Prospective 2023-2024 Academy Student,

Thank you for expressing interest in the basic police training at the Vantage Police Academy. This academy will provide you with the training required to be a peace officer in the State of Ohio. Those who successfully complete the program will be eligible to sit for the Ohio Peace Officers Training Council (OPOTC) examination.

Our program consists of 741 hours of training with classes held at Vantage Career Center and other locations in Van Wert. Classes are held in the evening 6:00pm-10:00pm, Monday through Thursday and weekend days as schedule. The academy will begin August 2023 and will be completed by May 2024.

Tuition \$5,500 includes tuition fees, two academy shirts, and first OPOTC exam fee

Books/Supplies \$565

Students will incur additional out-of-pocket expense. A detailed list of required supplies is available on the 2023-2024 Cost and Information sheet. Dates and costs are subject to change.

Financial Aid is available for those who qualify through Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and Direct Loans. Veterans may also use their Educational Benefits for this program. Students wanting federal aid must complete the 2022-2023 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) to determine their eligibility. Vantage's federal school code is 030956 (needed on the FAFSA). Veterans who wish to apply for their benefits must contact the Financial Aid Coordinator.

To apply for the training you must complete an application, be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma from an accredited high school or GED and have a valid state operator's license from Ohio or any other state. You must also submit the following:

- A Physical Examination Form (SF114) is provided which must be completed by a physician (Chiropractors are not acceptable).
- A Background Check Form (SF-102) is provided which you must take to the Van Wert County Sheriff's Office to have an FBI and Ohio Bureau of Investigation (BCI) check completed. (There is no charge for this check if completed at the Van Wert County Sheriff's Office).
- A Driving Record secured through your local Bureau of Motor Vehicle (BMV) office and submit a printed copy to the school.

After submitting your application, schedule your WorkKeys test. Once the following items have been turned in, you can schedule an interview with the Commander.

- 1) Application with copy of Drivers Licenses and High School Transcript
- 2) Physical Examination
- 3) Background Check
- 4) Driving Record

Physical Condition Assessments will be conducted prior to admission into the program. As per new Ohio Peace Officer Commission admission rules, all Basic Peace Office Training participants are required to complete an assessment and perform to the 15<sup>th</sup> percentile of fitness based on your gender and age as defined by the New Cooper Standards for Law Enforcement Fitness (push-ups, sit ups, 1.5 mile run). To graduate from the program you will be required to perform in the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of fitness based on your gender and age. You will be notified by mail or phone of the date, time and place of your assessment. (See New Cooper Standard attachment)

Vantage Police Academy is limited to 20 students and placement is based on a first come, first served basis. I strongly encourage anyone who is interested in enrolling in the Police Academy program to begin the process of enrollment and working toward meeting the physical entrance requirements as soon as possible.

Vantage Police Academy has been serving Van Wert and surrounding communities since 1994.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Black,

Academy Commander