

# Becoming a police officer or deputy in Mendocino County

Qualifications needed to become a peace officer in Mendocino County:

- Age 21 at time of hire (but candidates can enroll in police academy at age 18).
- High school diploma.
- Good physical condition.
- No felony criminal convictions.
- Good credit history.
- Pass drug test.
- Graduation from police academy.

**Financial Aid** from the Mendocino Public Safety Foundation may be available to cover police academy tuition, uniform, supplies, and travel. Aid takes the form of a loan which will be forgiven provided the candidate graduates from police academy, accepts any offer to serve as a city police officer or county deputy sheriff in Mendocino County, and works in that position for three years.

Candidates for the Foundation's aid must be nominated to us by a police chief or the sheriff. If you are interested, contact one of the following:

County sheriff: 463-4411

Ukiah police chief: 463-6262

Fort Bragg police chief: 961-2800

Willits police chief: 459-6122



Funding for police academy costs is available from the Mendocino Public Safety Foundation



**T**he best peace officers have strong ties to the community where they are employed. If officers or deputies come from Mendocino County, they are more likely to stay here and gain vital local knowledge and experience.

That's why the Mendocino Public Safety Foundation, a non-profit community group, is working with the sheriff and police chiefs to encourage local men and women to attend police academy and pursue careers here in law enforcement.

If a potential police academy candidate is nominated to the Foundation by the sheriff or a local police chief, the Foundation will make a loan to the candidate to cover police academy tuition, uniform and equipment, and travel expenses. The loan will be forgiven in full (with no repayment necessary) provided that the candidate completes police academy and accepts a job offer to serve as Mendocino County deputy or police officer in Ukiah, Fort Bragg or Willits.

**Santa Rosa Junior College** runs a Police Academy in Windsor. There are two programs, both leading to a POST certification that makes the graduate eligible for hire as a police officer or deputy sheriff.

**The intensive program** lasts 20 weeks, with classes Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Courses start three times each year, in January, April and July. For more information about the intensive program, visit <http://www.santarosa.edu/ps/police-academy-intensive.php>

**The modular program** lasts 11 months, with classes Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The course begins every January. For more information about the modular program, visit <http://www.santarosa.edu/ps/police-academy-modular.php>

**College of the Redwoods** in Eureka also has a police academy: 7351 Tompkins Hill Rd., Eureka, CA 95501, 1-800-641-0400

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Mendocino Public Safety Foundation  
A non-profit corporation  
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