



PUBLIC SAFETY CADETS - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are Public Safety Cadets?

Public Safety Cadets (PSC) is a totally new, non-profit organization dedicated to fill an increasing gap in communities across our nation. PSC was founded and is managed by active or retired law enforcement officers and public safety industry leaders to prepare young adults for careers and leadership in the public safety profession while creating a recruiting pipeline for agency partners.

Public Safety Cadets was established to assist public safety agencies to mentor young adults ages 14 – 20 to serve their communities by providing knowledge, skills and practical experiences through education and training delivered by public safety professionals that build character, physical fitness, and respect for the rule of law and human and civil rights.

Although Public Safety Cadets helps to prepare young adults for careers in the public safety profession, the program's goal is to foster good citizenship and a greater understanding between youth and the public safety agencies in their communities.

What do you do?

PSC establishes partnerships with local, county, state, and federal law enforcement and other public safety agencies to form one or more PSC Units. PSC assists these agencies to provide training, best practices, as well as national programs and events to better prepare young adults to be good citizens and make an informed decision about a career in the public safety sector. The partner agency provides the unique opportunity for Cadets to interact with public safety career professionals in the workplace to gain practical vocational experiences that better prepare them to be good citizens.

How do you get started?

The PSC registration process commences with the completion of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the agency/organization head (Chief/Sheriff) and Public Safety Cadets. The MOU also contains the name of the agency designated Point of Contact, Lead Mentor and other designated Mentors as applicable.

Once an MOU is signed by the head of the agency/organization and accepted by PSC, Mentor and Cadet registrations may be provided via the website to complete affiliation.

Agencies/Organizations may review the MOU template on our website: www.PublicSafetyCadets.org. You may also contact us via email at info@PublicSafetyCadets.org to receive a copy of the PSC Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and additional information on how to start a Public Safety Cadet Unit.

How much does it cost?

Individual registration is \$15 per year for either youth or adult participants. Annual Unit registration is \$20 for each PSC Unit established by the partnering agency or organization.

Renewal fees for established Units and Individual registrations are due by December 31st of each year. Newly established units and first-time individual fees are due upon approval of the MOU and registration of participants on the PSC website. Fees will not be prorated during the activity year (January – December).



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Each registered participant will also receive a Public Safety Cadets embroidered emblem suitable for use on uniform shirts, jackets and blouses. Additional patches or custom made fully embroidered quality emblems are available at very reasonable pricing.

Does Public Safety Cadets provide general liability and supplemental accident insurance?

Yes, \$1M Liability Insurance as well as Supplemental Accident Insurance is provided by the Cincinnati Specialty Underwriters Insurance Company and the Philadelphia Insurance Companies to all Public Safety Cadets registered participants.

As a benefit to partnering with Public Safety Cadets, events that PSC Units may hold with other PSC Units will not incur additional insurance costs for up to 500 PSC participants. This is determined by submitting the agenda, duration, location of event and number attending to the PSC national office for review and consultation with the insurance providers in advance. Events organized/sponsored by PSC units that include participants from other youth organizations may be held by obtaining specific insurance that covers the single event for a minimal additional cost to those external participants.

PSC's insurance provider may also offer general liability and supplemental accident insurance for state and regional associations at competitive pricing.

Will there be a Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention Training Program?

We recognize that a Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention Training program is necessary to provide participants with expectations and legal requirements when mentoring youth in accordance with due diligence. PSC worked with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and other subject matter experts to develop content specifically tailored for previously vetted public safety professionals and cohort adult volunteers. PSC will deliver this training during the first quarter of 2021 via on-line learning tools. It is anticipated that biennial training will provide adult participants with the knowledge to successfully interact and mentor youth in a proper manner without excessive repetition. The participating agency will be required to ensure their adult participants complete this training to provide transparency of timely compliance and emphasize its importance for their Mentors and program volunteers.

How do I obtain Public Safety Cadets emblems, insignia, ballcaps, polo & T-shirts?

Public Safety Cadets will provide a PSC Seal embroidered emblem at no cost to each youth and adult at the time of initial registration. PSC can provide additional embroidered emblems from stock or custom patches from your design direct from the manufacturer for your uniform; either shoulder, breast or back patches at very reasonable, competitive pricing. There are also pins, challenge coins, flags, training guns and badges available with custom PSC Seal or Crest logos with your custom design.

Will State and Regional Associations be allowed?

Absolutely! Public Safety Cadets recognizes the critical value of engagement with and support contributed by state and regional associations that have formed to foster education, communication and mentoring of public safety education to young adults. PSC looks forward to leveraging this valuable experience and outreach to strengthen other PSC units throughout the nation. PSC intends to collaborate with these established associations to construct the certification criteria. PSC does not intend to require a



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participation fee from these associations. Adult Mentors that are the president or chair of a PSC certified state or regional association will be ex-officio members of the PSC National Committee.

Who will comprise the Law Enforcement Sector-National Committee within Public Safety Cadets?

The PSC Law Enforcement Sector-National Committee was the first committee established within this new nonprofit organization. Other sectors, such as Fire-Rescue, Emergency Medical Services, and Corrections will follow. Distinguished leaders, public safety executives and experienced Mentors provide hands-on leadership and strategic planning. Public Safety Cadets looks forward to appointing adult volunteers from successful units in the field to serve on vital sub-committees of the National Committee to provide planning and coordination of national events, training initiatives and program operating procedures and certification.

The National Committee will develop and maintain a Standard Operating Procedure and Policy Manual, and any related procedure and/or protocol documents, necessary for the safe, effective, and efficient operation of the program. The National Committee is responsible for developing, planning, and executing activities and events in support of the program. The National Committee Chair, or a designee, will prepare and deliver a written "State of the Career Sector" document at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors, and verbally summarize its contents at the meeting. The document will detail programs, activities, and national events conducted during the previous year, outline future objectives, discuss any problems or issues and recommendations for resolution, and any information that should be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors.

When an agency joins PSC are they going to be required to carry the name Cadets in their youth program name? Is there a naming alternative?

Some of our member agencies have an established 'Cadet' position and also have Public Safety Cadets. In some cases, they have distinguished them by uniform and emblem differences that have served to adequately differentiate them within the department to avoid confusion. Should your agency desire an alternate naming convention, other than 'Public Safety Cadet' or 'Cadet' for the PSC youth participant, a request to use another title may be designated in coordination with the Public Safety Cadets national office. Should another naming convention be designated, it is recommended that any distinctive identifying shoulder emblem or breast patch include the Public Safety Cadets seal, crest, or the letters, "PSC" in 1/8" font in the design to reflect affiliation with the Public Safety Cadets program. *(Note: Custom embroidered emblems are available through the PSC Store online)*

Will Public Safety Cadets require certification of the partnering agency Ride-Along activity and associated requirements for PSC Units in regards to their Standard Operating Procedure's?

Yes. A key element to a beneficial career preparation program for Public Safety Cadets is to provide qualified Cadets the opportunity to observe and gain practical experience with regard to the methods and techniques used in policing operations and patrol activities. The Ride-Along experience augments classroom training in patrol operations and related police services. The Ride-Along activity also provides Cadets with a greater appreciation for the challenges and benefits of patrol operations and a better understanding of the importance of public safety services within the community.

Each partnering agency/organization that seeks certification for its Ride-Along program must include in its policy and standard operating procedures for Cadets that adhere to the Public Safety Cadets Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) regarding Section 3. RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM.



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In order to obtain PSC certification of its Ride-Along program, the partnering agency must address compartment to the following requirements of the PSC SOP:

- Completion of the Youth Safety and Abuse Prevention training
- Prerequisite Ride-Along Program Training for Mentors and Cadets
- Ride-Along Scope of Activities and Responsibilities
- Ride-Along Log/Records and Limitations on Participation
- Development of Emergency Protocols for Ride-Along

Due to the potential risks involved with Cadets participating in a Ride-Along program, each partnering agency/organization must, at a minimum, adhere to the parameters set forth in the PSC SOP Section 3.7 RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM CERTIFICATION and MUST include them in their Unit's written policy and operating procedures.

Would PSC be open to hosting a dual event or competition with other career oriented youth programs?

Absolutely, PSC was formed with a primary goal of providing outstanding programs and training opportunities to better prepare young adults to enter the public safety profession. Leveraging partnerships with multiple agencies/organizations only serves to enhance the quality of program and number of young adults to be served. In addition, cost efficiencies for venue acquisition, general liability and supplemental accident insurance may be achieved through affiliation and partnership with Public Safety Cadets.

PSC is focused on providing program and support to units at minimal cost by leveraging our participant numbers, national presence, and ability to seek funding from both public, private and philanthropic sources and direct their use to offset your costs.

PSC intends to create events and bring them to your region. Replicating successful events, seminars and competitions through use of government and public venues around the country to achieve significant cost savings to you and the youth you serve while broadening participation.

PSC conducted two events open to national participation during 2019.

National Leadership Academy – Theme: *Failures of Leadership*

Hosted by the Fairfax County Police Department and George Mason University Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy (CEBCP)

- In-residence week-long academy
- Cadets competitively selected from Units across the United States
- Leadership workshops
- Top experts in Criminology and Law Enforcement Executives
- Tours of Washington, D.C. and FBI Academy that complemented the theme of the academy

National Marksmanship Championship & Response to Resistance Symposium

Hosted in partnership with the Polk County Sheriff's Office and Des Moines, Iowa Police Department

- Camp Dodge, Des Moines, IA
- Lodging and meals provided on site
- Cadets and Explorers from across the United States



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- National Pistol Championship (9mm, safe-action, semi-automatic)
- Response to Resistance & Critical Incident Management Seminars
- Less Than Lethal Applications Laboratories (Hands-on learning)
- Air Pistol Marksmanship Instruction
- Career Fair
- Trophies, medals and prizes
- Leaders from law enforcement, public safety and the military

Unfortunately, plans to hold another National Leadership Academy and Mentor Training Conference in 2020 were cancelled due to the public health concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

PSC will host the “Summer Showdown” National Competitive Training Conference in Gatlinburg, TN July 19 – 22, 2021 with competitions, seminars, demonstrations, Mentor training and lots of fun for all participants.

Does Public Safety Cadets allow partnering agencies/organizations to hold dual memberships with other similar youth career programs such as Learning For Life/Exploring, Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Civil Air Patrol, et al?

Yes, PSC does not discriminate regarding membership with other youth career mentoring programs that focus on building character, leadership, physical fitness and good citizenship. Participation by other youth organizations in specific PSC events may be allowed with the payment of associated costs to cover their general liability and supplemental accident insurance.

Please contact us at: info@PublicSafetyCadets.org with any questions, comments or suggestions.