

**PLANNING FOR A CAREER?
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER?
DO YOU PLAN TO OBTAIN YOUR DEGREE?**

If you answered yes to the above questions, the COLLEGIATE OFFICER PROGRAM may help you to achieve your goals.

Program Description

The Collegiate Officer Program provides one way for obtaining the education and training needed to become a certified peace or police officer in the state of Oklahoma.

A bachelor degree is a requirement for completion of the Collegiate Officer Program at Northeastern State University.

Career Opportunities

Students completing the Collegiate Officer Program may have an advantage when competing for employment in the law enforcement field because they will have already completed the peace officer training mandates which are established in Oklahoma State Statutes, Title 70, § 3311.

Students should be aware that other opportunities for peace officer employment and certification do exist. For example, certification may be obtained at no cost to a student by securing employment as a full-time peace officer with any municipal, county or state law enforcement agency and then attending a Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) basic academy, or an academy approved by CLEET.

Enrollment Information

Students are admitted for enrollment into the Collegiate Officer Program after academic advisement from the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies.

Students who have a record of a felony conviction or conviction for a crime involving moral turpitude should not enroll in the Collegiate Officer Program because such convictions will preclude their completion of the program.

Educational Requirements

Collegiate Officer Program students are required to meet certain course prerequisites and other program conditions.

The Collegiate Officer Program criminal law courses are prerequisites for all other Collegiate Officer Program courses.

Certain Collegiate Officer Program skills courses are only offered from 8:00a.m. until 5:00p.m., Monday through Friday.

Skills training courses require 100 percent attendance.

First Aid courses, or units, require a minimum unit or course score of 80 percent.

Statutory and Rule Requirements

In addition to certain educational and training requirements, Title 70, § 3311 of Oklahoma State Statutes prescribes that peace officers have the following:

- " a high school diploma or a GED certificate;
- " a psychological examination, such as the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) or its equivalent. The examination must be evaluated by a state licensed psychologist and the evaluation must indicate that the applicant is suitable to serve as a peace officer;
- " no record of convictions for felonies or crimes involving moral turpitude.

Rules governing the Council state that persons:

... hired after January 1, 1987, shall be twenty-one(21) years of age prior to completion of basic certification training.

Employment Information

Students completing the Collegiate Officer Program must meet other requirements before they are issued their peace officer certification. These requirements include, but depending on the hiring agency, may not be limited to the items listed below.

- " Students must pass a comprehensive examination over all their Collegiate Officer Program course work. This examination is known as the Council's qualification examination. A minimum score of **70** percent is required to pass the examination.
- " After COP course work is complete, students must be hired by a city, county, or state entity of government as a full-time peace officer before they will receive their Oklahoma peace officer certification.
- " Hiring agencies may require in-depth background investigations of prospective employees, including Collegiate Officer Program graduates.

For more information contact the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies or the Criminal Justice academic advisor.

