The term "police" has been defined as a governmental entity, whether city, county, state, or national that is relied upon to maintain order, keep the peace, detect and prevent crime, respond to and provide emergency services, and enforce criminal law. The North Idaho College (NIC) Law Enforcement program provides professionalism through training to newly hired officers of law enforcement agencies and students seeking employment in law enforcement. The Basic Patrol Academy is designed in a police academy format, accredited by the Idaho Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T) Council. The academy meets five days per week, approximately eight hours per day for one semester. Approximately 45 local law enforcement experts teach more than 60 law enforcement topics, sharing a wide array of experience and knowledge with students in the classroom, in the mat room, in the field skills training, and through scenario-based training.

North Idaho College offers three levels of certification in Law Enforcement from which the student may choose: the Basic Technical Certificate, which is awarded upon completion of the Basic Patrol Academy, the Intermediate Technical Certificate, or the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree.

Please see the specific program requirements for each certificate or the AAS degree. To successfully complete the Basic Patrol Academy, students will be required to pass all P.O.S.T. requirements for physical fitness, marksmanship, and P.O.S.T. written, field skills, and certification tests. Upon successful completion of the Basic Patrol Academy, students are eligible to take the P.O.S.T. Challenge Exam for Peace Officer Certification in Idaho.

The North Idaho College Basic Patrol Academy is accredited by the Idaho Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (P.O.S.T.) . Therefore, as a selective admissions program, there are several admission requirements, which include an oral interview, entrance assessment, background check (to include fingerprint submittal, polygraph examination, psychological evaluation), and medical, vision, and hearing examinations. Fees for these tests are the student's responsibility. In addition to the NIC Basic Patrol Academy application, P.O.S.T. also requires an application which is submitted online for P.O.S.T. approval to attend. Upon acceptance into the Basic Patrol Academy, students will be required to purchase and wear NIC Basic Patrol Academy and physical fitness uniforms while in class.

This is a selective-entry program. For program specific requirements, please refer to the program website.

**CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS**

Students who successfully complete the Basic Patrol Academy will be given credit for LAWE-161, LAWE-162, AND LAWE-163.

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**Program Requirements**

**Course Requirements**

- **Semester 1**
  - CJ-103: Introduction to Criminal Justice 3
  - POLS-101: American National Government 3
  - PSYC-101: Introduction to Psychology 3
  - ENGL-101: English Composition 3
  - Credits: 12

- **Semester 2**
  - COMM-101: Introduction to Speech Communication 3
  - ENGL-202: Technical Writing 3
  - PE-288: First Aid 3
  - POLS-275: State and Local Government 3
  - A.A.S. Institutionally Designated 3
  - Credits: 15

- **Semester 3**
  - PHIL-103: Ethics 3
  - GEM 3 - A.A.S. Mathematical Ways of Knowing 3
  - Select one of the following:
    - PSYC-205: Developmental Psychology 3
    - PSYC-211: Abnormal Psychology 3
    - PE-226: Stress Management 3
  - Credits: 12-14

- **Semester 4**
  - LAWE-161: Basic Police Law and Professional Orientation 7
  - LAWE-162: Police Procedures and Investigations 8
  - LAWE-163: Enforcement and Field Skills for Patrol Officers 7
  - Credits: 22

**Total Credits**: 61-63

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**Course Key**

- GEM
- WCHE
- AAS
- Institutionally Designated
- Gateway
- Milestone

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**Program Outcomes**

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Analyze and understand the history, development, philosophy, and ethics of the American criminal justice system.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the national and state constitutional guidelines and terminology of the criminal justice system.
- Identify and describe the structure and functions of the main components of the criminal justice system: law enforcement, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice.
• Exhibit an understanding of how human elements can affect causes of crime, treatment, and response to the criminal justice system.
• Communicate effectively, in both written and oral forms, to varied audiences to serve diverse purposes as part of their studies at NIC and beyond.
• Think quantitatively, evaluate data, and draw conclusions using sound mathematical principles and practices.
• Use social science reasoning to inquire, critically consume relevant information, and develop insights on individual, social, community and world problems and questions.

In addition to the program outcomes, students will meet the following North Idaho College General Education (GEM) Requirements: Written and Oral Communication; Mathematical Ways of Knowing; Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing; and an additional program-designated or selected course from any of the GEM requirements.