



What Is Exploring?

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 to 20 years old. Adults are selected by the participating organization for involvement in the program. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, or citizenship is not criteria for participation.

Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Explorers are ready to investigate the meaning of interdependence in their personal relationships and communities.

Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. Departments or agencies initiate an Explorer post by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.



Everyone Wins With Exploring

Exploring will be one of the best opportunities you offer your department/ agency, your employees, and the youth of your community.

Department/Agency Benefits

- Impact on the education process of youth
- Team-building attitude within the department/agency
- Opportunity to interpret adult occupational roles for youth
- Preparing young adults for transition into the workforce
- Creating a "safe haven" for the healthy development of adolescents
- Developing future responsible and caring adults
- Ensuring that young people see how your department/agency relates to the free-enterprise system
- Helping young adults gain insight into the ethics and ideals of law enforcement
- Visible commitment to the welfare of your community

Employee Benefits

- Greater job awareness
- Developing leadership and problemsolving skills
- Re-evaluating ethical and moral values



- Opportunity for greater community involvement
- Respect from youth and community
- Identification as appropriate adult role models
- Enhancing communication, planning, and program development skills
- Greater commitment to service
- Developing interpersonal skills used in the workplace and elsewhere

Youth Benefits

- Stimulated interest in continual education
- Career information; insight into future vocation
- Positive alternative to negative youth activities, such as drug abuse and involvement with gangs
- Sense of acceptance and belonging to the "right" group
- Safe environment for adultlike activities
- Opportunities to participate in practical, real, and meaningful hands-on experiences
- New career and personal skills
- Opportunities to try leadership roles and develop skills
- Cooperative relationship between adults and youth
- Service to others





Exploring's Five Areas of Emphasis





Career Opportunities

- Developing potential contacts that may broaden employment options
- Boosting self-confidence and experiencing success at school and work







Leadership Experience

- Developing leadership skills to fulfill our responsibilities in society
- · Providing exposure to different leadership traits



Character Education

- Helping make ethical choices
- Fulfilling one's responsibility to society as a whole



Citizenship

- Encouraging the skill and desire to help others
- Gaining a keen respect for the basic rights of others



Life Skills

- Developing physical and mental fitness
- Experiencing positive social interaction

Contact Information

Web site: Go to www.learningforlife.org/exploring and type your zip code in the locator box. Your local office's address and phone number will be displayed.

Click on the "Law Enforcement" selection at the top of the first Exploring page to view national activities, academies, scholarships, and much more.

Or

Call 972-580-2241 to find your local office and get information.

Law Enforcement Exploring . .



"... helps to develop young adults into responsible and caring adults." —Ralph Basham, commissioner U.S. Customs and Border Patrol



"... is a consistent recruiting tool for new officers."

—David V. Aguilar, chief U.S. Border Patrol



"... develops the character traits that will help our young people become leaders in their community." —Karen Tandy, administrator Drug Enforcement Administration



 " . . . brings law enforcement to life for teens."
—Dan Rosenblatt, executive director International Association of Police Chiefs



"... helps to mold future law enforcement leaders by instilling professional ethics and teamwork." —*Michael Sullivan, director Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives*



 " . . . builds character and provides invaluable learning experiences for young adults."
—Thomas N. Faust, executive director National Sheriffs' Association



"... helps young adults gain insight into the ethics and ideals of law enforcement."

—John Clark, director U.S. Marshals Service



"... provides excellent support to our community-based programs." —Mark Sullivan, director U.S. Secret Service

Scholarship Opportunities

- ATF Special Agents' Law Enforcement Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship (one awarded)
- Capt. James T. Regan Memorial Law Enforcement Explorer \$500 Scholarship (two awarded)
- DEA Drug Abuse Prevention Service Award, \$1,000 Recognition
- National Young American Award \$7,500 Grant
- Sheryl A. Horak Memorial Law Enforcement Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship
- U.S. Federal Investigators Law Enforcement Explorer \$500 Scholarship



MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Learning for Life to enable young people to become responsible individuals by teaching positive character traits, career development, leadership, and life skills so they can make ethical choices and achieve their full potential.

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