

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

**What is a Law Enforcement Explorer Post?** An Explorer Post is registered through Learning for Life, a subsidiary of the Boy Scouts of America. We teach youth interested in law enforcement about different aspects of the job and opportunities within the career field.

**What are the minimum requirements to join?** Applicants interested in joining must be enrolled in high school or college and between the ages of 14 and 20. Applicants must reside in or attend school in Sangamon County and hold a minimum GPA of 2.5, and submit to a background investigation.

**How big is the program?** The program is limited to 20 participants. If more than 20 eligible youth apply for the program, a wait list will be established on a first-come, first-served basis.

**How much does it cost to join the Explorer Program?** Sangamon County is offering this opportunity at no cost to participants! Youth participating in this program will be provided a uniform shirt, a pair of uniform pants, and a jacket. The county will provide the equipment required for training.

**What kind of training does the program offer?** We pride ourselves on offering real-world, hands-on training to jumpstart a career in law enforcement. We conduct training on several topics, including: firearm safety, building searches, traffic stops, crime scene processing, criminal investigations, ballistic shield operations, mechanical breaching, dignitary protection, K-9 handling, and drone operations to name a few.

**How long is the program?** Once accepted, membership is indefinite until the youth ages out of the program or no longer meets eligibility requirements.

**How often does the Post meet?** The Post meets twice a month, August through May. Special events or volunteer opportunities may allow youth to participate in explorer events more frequently.

**Where are meetings held?** We have partnered with The Dream Center Sangamon County for a meeting venue. The Dream Center is a local non-profit organization that provides unique, hands-on, learning opportunities for young people and adults. Once accepted into the post, additional information will be provided on the meeting location.

**How do I join?** Verify you meet the program requirements and submit an application. Once we receive your application, we'll confirm receipt of the application via e-mail. Our staff will complete the background investigation and schedule an interview. **Please note:** If you are placed on a wait list, your interview may not be scheduled until an opening becomes available for the post.

**Have additional questions about the program?** Contact Deputy Matt Marass at [matthew.marass@sangamonil.gov](mailto:matthew.marass@sangamonil.gov)