Training Academy

The Training Academy consists of 16 weeks of residential, modified-stress training at Camp Ripley. It is a college-style paramilitary setting.

While attending the Training Academy, cadets are compensated at 70 percent of the base trooper salary. Candidates who successfully complete the Academy are appointed State Patrol Troopers. They must then complete 13 weeks of field training and additional classroom instruction.

Trooper Testimonials

“I knew the Minnesota State Patrol would allow me to utilize the knowledge and leadership I’d learned during my 10 years in the service.”

U.S. Air Force
Trooper Allen Thill, SP 162

“The level of professionalism that is unmatched by other agencies, the work ethic of the agency, the support from the leadership and the positive image of the agency.”


“I joined the Minnesota State Patrol because I had a friend in the army who said they were flexible with your drill schedules, your fellow troopers are great to work with and are a lot like the people you would have served with in the army, and overall an easy job to transition into for a person who is coming from a structured military life style.”

34th Infantry Division, 1st BCT, 1-194 AR (CAB), Captain Trooper Kyle Koeberl, SP 172

The Minnesota State Patrol does not discriminate on age, race, gender, creed, or sexual orientation. Every applicant is judged on individual merit.

Contact the State Patrol Training and Development Center at patrol.recruiter@state.mn.us.
Respect, Integrity, Courage, Honor and Excellence

The Minnesota State Patrol offers a perfect transition to civilian life for military members seeking the discipline and leadership opportunities they experienced in military service. A paramilitary organization, the State Patrol is actively seeking leaders from the military ranks. Regardless of your rank or military specialty, the State Patrol is looking for you!

State Patrol Tradition

The Minnesota State Patrol is an outstanding law enforcement agency providing superior service to Minnesota residents, visitors and allied agencies. Troopers strive for excellence through forward thinking, leadership development, technological advancement and constant innovation.

Since 1929, the State Patrol has protected Minnesota roads and motorists. The State Highway Patrol, as it was then called, began with nine men. The following year 35 men graduated the first training academy. Today, nearly 600 troopers help keep Minnesotans safe.

While the agency has gone through significant advancements throughout the Patrol’s history, the original mission has remained the same — assisting motorists and enforcing traffic laws.

A State Patrol Trooper works with the public in several different roles, including education, enforcement and crisis response. Troopers investigate and reconstruct serious crashes, conduct flight patrols and search-and-rescue missions, assist other law enforcement agencies. They are also a vital component of Minnesota’s homeland security efforts.

Troopers’ performance and safety on the job are enhanced by advanced training and sophisticated technology. Every trooper is provided with a fully equipped squad car, weapons, and uniforms for all seasons. This combination of training, equipment and technology has earned the Minnesota State Patrol a reputation as one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the U.S.

Life as a Trooper

The Minnesota State Patrol offers competitive wages. For the current salary schedule, contact the State Patrol Training and Development Center at patrol.recruiter@state.mn.us.

Quality of life and standard of living in Minnesota is renowned throughout the United States, and the State Patrol is committed to helping troopers maintain balance between career and personal life. Troopers’ contributions to the safety of our roadways are rewarded with respect for their commitments to their families and communities.

Becoming a State Trooper

The road to becoming a trooper is challenging and rewarding. Potential troopers must meet state standards for peace officers, which are determined by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (POST).

For more information on POST, visit www.dps.mn.gov.

Upon completing and submitting an application, candidates for the Minnesota State Patrol will be required to pass the following:

- Written examination
- Physical fitness testing
- Interview panel
- Background investigation
- Medical examination
- Psychological testing

The number of trooper cadets hired will be determined by legislative funding and budgetary constraints.

Benefits

As full-time, permanent employees of the State of Minnesota, troopers are eligible to participate in the state’s group insurance program with single or family coverage. There are a variety of health and dental plans providing comprehensive coverage for most illnesses and injuries. The state offers basic and optional life insurance for employees, spouses and children. Troopers begin their service accruing four hours of vacation per two-week pay period.