



**INFORMATION FOR ADMISSION TO**

**WESTERN COLORADO PEACE OFFICERS ACADEMY**

**WESTERN COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
A BRANCH OF MESA STATE COLLEGE**

Thank you for your interest in the Western Colorado Peace Officers Academy (WCPOA). We provide an academy atmosphere that supports and rewards mutually respectful behavior, teamwork, and an openness to learning new and challenging ideas. Within this context, we provide the skills necessary for an entry level peace officer in the State of Colorado.

**ACADEMY APPLICANTS MUST:**

1. BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE
2. BE A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR HAVE A GED EQUIVALENT DIPLOMA
3. HOLD A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE
4. HAVE NO PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS
5. HAVE NO CONVICTION OF ANY CRIME INVOLVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. A MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION MAY PROHIBIT A PERSON FROM BECOMING CERTIFIED IN COLORADO. IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN, PLEASE CONTACT THE DIRECTOR OF THE ACADEMY TO CLEAR UP ANY CONCERNS PRIOR TO REGISTERING FOR THE ACADEMY – SEE LAWS EFFECTING CERTIFICATION.

**Colorado Revised Statute 24-31-304 states:**

**1) Each training academy, college, or university that has established a training program approved by the P.O.S.T. Board shall provide written notice to each applicant that:**

**(a) No person who has been convicted of a felony OR certain misdemeanor offenses may be certified to serve as a peace officer or reserve peace officer in the state of Colorado;**

**And**

**(b) It is each applicant's responsibility to determine their eligibility for certification prior to enrolling in any training program.**

**2) Each training academy, college, or university shall take reasonable steps to exclude those applicants who have been convicted of a felony OR certain misdemeanors from such training program.**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION!**

A **CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND** and **C.B.I. FINGERPRINT CHECK** must be provided to P.O.S.T. before students may register for academy courses. Fingerprints must be submitted to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation before final acceptance into the academy can be determined. Staff at the Mesa County Consortium (MCC) will provide students with the P.O.S.T. approved fingerprint card. Fingerprints, along with a drug screen, must be completed by students not sponsored by a law enforcement agency at MCC, which is located at **1236 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St.** **Fingerprints must be taken as soon as you make the decision to apply to the program!** The cost for these services is as follows: 1) Fingerprints, \$55.00, and 2) Drug screening, \$35.00. Payment for these services is the responsibility of the student and should be made directly to MCC. Students not sponsored by a law enforcement agency will also be interviewed prior to being accepted into WCPOA.

Enclosed you will find general information concerning you and the academy as well as an academy application. Once accepted to the academy, applicants must apply for admission to the college. The application can be obtained online at [www.mesastate.edu](http://www.mesastate.edu) or through Mesa State's admissions office (248-1875). It will be forwarded to the registrar along with your academy application. You must provide all information on the enclosed application forms. Any omissions on any of the forms will cause a delay in processing and approving your application. The application must be complete, truthful and neat.

**In order for us to process your application, you must submit the following with your WCPOA application:**

- 1. A photocopy of your High School diploma/GED or College degree(s) or unofficial transcripts.**
- 2. A photocopy of your valid driver's license.**

If you decide to apply and you meet our standards for admission, we will do everything possible to make the academy a positive and fulfilling experience for you. Our goal is to provide a comprehensive, fundamental educational framework with which you can enter the law enforcement field. Everything we do will be in support of that goal.

This application is straightforward. We ask only what we need to know in order to make an informed decision about your suitability for this program. Please help us by answering honestly and completely.

Sincerely,

John Reece, Director