

Summer camps provide kids exposure to law enforcement

For 40 years, Indiana State Police (ISP) has offered young people an exciting, up-close look at law enforcement and the criminal justice system through its youth camps. The camps help students gain respect for themselves and others through programs, which demonstrate the rewards of hard work and dedication.

Camps are held at universities around the state and offer campers a unique glimpse of campus life. Each program includes well-balanced meals and comfortable sleeping facilities. Camp staffs are hand-picked, responsible law enforcement personnel, who have committed themselves to preparing today's youth for their futures. Scholarships are available for would-be campers.

This summer tradition is made possible through the support of the Association of Indiana Troopers, Indiana District Optimists, Indiana State Police Alliance, Jaycees, Kiwanis International, Lions Clubs of Indiana and the Pacers Foundation.

The camps include:

Respect for Law Camps

These three-day camps are an exciting look at law enforcement for students entering 5th and 6th grades. Police officers staff the co-ed camps and programs include spectacular demonstrations by Emergency Response Team members, Bomb Squads, Underwater Search and Rescue Teams and police dogs. Campers participate in recreational activities, make new friends and go home with a new respect for themselves and others.

Law Camps

Law Camps give students entering the 7th and 8th grades a behind-the-scenes look at the criminal justice system. The four-day co-ed camps offer a more advanced look at law enforcement through field trips, exciting demonstrations and motivating programs. Campers meet peers from around the state, participate in recreational activities and leave with a greater understanding of the police field.

These leadership camps are co-sponsored by the Lions Clubs of Indiana and scholarships are available.

Career Camps

Similar to the Indiana State Police Academy, Career Camps give high school students an in-depth look at law enforcement. Campers conduct their own crime scene investigations, hear from defense attorneys, judges and other experts in the criminal justice field and watch exciting police demonstrations during the weeklong camps.

Camps, one for boys and another for girls, allow students to make friends from around the state, participate in recreational activities and experience what the police academy is like.

Junior Pioneer Campouts

Unlike the leadership camps, the Junior Pioneer Campouts are designed specifically for students between the ages of 11 and 14 who need a structured program with close supervision. For this camp, campers must be recommended by group homes, welfare departments, law enforcement agencies, probation departments or school counselors. These co-ed campouts are held at state parks and allow campers to prepare their own meals, set up campsites and explore the outdoors. Additionally, campers receive one-on-one time with law enforcement officers, who help them develop a more positive outlook for their futures.

Applications are now being accepted. For further information or questions, contact Sgt. Ray Poole at the Indiana State Police Public Information Office, 317-895-5138. Or, download more information here:

- [2011 Camp Application](#)
- [Camp Brochure](#)

