

To Prospective BLEET Students:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your decision to pursue a career in Law Enforcement. It is a career that will take you places you would otherwise never see or experience in your life. It can be personally rewarding and challenging and will expose you to both the best and worst in our society.

Please do not take this lightly. The academy is six months long and will be a huge commitment in both, your time, your stamina and your tenacity. You will take 36 separate blocks of instruction, all of which will have a written test and many of which will have practical exercises that you must successfully complete in order to be eligible to take the State Exam at the end.

In addition to the academic portions of the course, you will be required to participate in a rigorous physical fitness program. The physical fitness program is designed to have you in physical condition to pass the final physical fitness test, the POPAT (Police Officers Physical Agility Test). You must successfully complete this test before being eligible to take the State Exam. I urge you to begin physical conditioning even before the academy begins, even if all you do is start a walking program. Running, sit ups and pushups would also be helpful. If you are out of shape, start slow and build up.

The POPAT course is designed to differentiate between those individuals who can and those who cannot perform the physical functions of the police officer's job at an adequate level of proficiency. The POPAT course is a timed course and consists of running short sprints, broad jumps, climbing over a four-foot fence, pushups, a roll drill, step test and a rescue-dummy drag. The final POPAT test will be given after approximately 12 weeks of physical fitness training, but you need to start preparing for this now.

Please look over this packet carefully. There is information included to assist you in preparing the packet. Read over it before you begin. You must submit all of the required documentation prior to the first night of the academy. You should try to have all the required paperwork completed at least two weeks before the academy begins. You must be physically present the first night of the academy. Failure to turn in all required paperwork or failure to be present the first night will bar you from participation in the academy.

In the application packet, you received information on the North Carolina Residency Determination Service (RDS). You must have a Residency Certification Number (RCN) in order to enroll in the BLEET on November 10th.

If you require any assistance or clarification on any admission requirement, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office is in Building 4 and my office telephone number is 910-879-5656. I can also be reached via email at jtodd@bladencc.edu.

There will be a required meeting of all prospective students on Tuesday night November 10th at 6:00pm. Please be present and bring any information you have not already turned in. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure you have all necessary paperwork turned in prior to the first night of class, the meeting will be held in Building 4, Law Enforcement Building on the main campus of Bladen Community College. This building is located at the rear of the campus near the auditorium. Please be prepared to take a required TABE Reading test on this night. The meeting, including the reading test will last approximately four hours.

Again, welcome to the beginning of your new career.

The faculty and staff of Bladen Community College are committed to helping you achieve your goal.

Sincerely;

Joey Todd

BLET School Director.