

Ways to join the Police Force

Name _____ Date _____

Source: <https://www.joiningthepolice.co.uk/application-process/ways-in-to-policing>



Why join? Supporting diversity Training & Progression Is policing right for me? Application process

WHO'S RECRUITING?

[Home](#) / [Application process](#) / Ways in to policing

What's the best route for me?

Choose an option below for more detail on your entry route options:

Don't currently have a degree?

The three-year Apprenticeship lets you earn while you learn. Some forces are still offering 'Traditional Entry' too.

[Apprenticeship and Traditional Entry programmes](#)

Already have a degree?

The two-year work-based Degree Holder and Detective Degree Holder Entry programmes both see you end up with a graduate diploma in Professional Policing Practice when you complete your probation. You could also apply to the Police Now graduate programme.

[Degree Holder and Detective Degree Holder Entry programme](#)

Are you a former officer?

You can rejoin at your existing rank or potentially at a higher rank based on experience you've gained outside policing.

[More about rejoining](#)

APPRENTICESHIP AND TRADITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAMMES

You don't need a degree to join. With a Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA) you can earn and learn on the job, and you'll end up with a degree in Professional Policing Practice at the end of the programme. Many forces are recruiting officers in this way right now - you can apply through your chosen force.

For some forces you can still apply via the traditional entry route – following the Initial Police Learning and Development Programme (IPLDP) and a two-year probation period.

Or if you want to get a degree before you join, some universities offer a specific pre-joining degree. If you wish to become a police officer through this route, you should search for a university offering the Professional Policing Degree. You can then apply to one or more forces as your degree is coming to an end.

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DEGREE HOLDER & DETECTIVE ENTRY PROGRAMMES

Degree Holder Programme

If you already have a degree (in any subject), there's the option of a two-year work-based training programme supported by off-the-job learning. As part of the programme, you'll focus on a specialist area of study from either Investigation, Intelligence, Community, Roads or Response policing. You'll earn a Level 6 - Post-Graduate diploma in Professional Policing Practice once you've completed your probation.

Alternatively, Police Now offers [two-year national leadership development programmes](#), specifically designed for graduates.

Detective Degree Holder Entry Programme

This two-year programme also sees you achieve a Level 6 Post-Graduate Diploma in Professional Policing Practice but, as you'd expect, learning is biased towards an investigative perspective. It's a more intense programme, as you also need to successfully complete the National Investigators Examination and meet PIP2 assessment criteria in order to become a Professionalising Investigation Programme Level 2 (PIP2) accredited detective.

Some forces offer 'Fast Track Detective Pathways' where candidates spend a period of time in uniform before they start their investigator pathway. Other forces offer a 'Direct Entry Detective Pathway' where candidates start in an investigation role. Speak to the force you're looking to apply to directly to find out what's on offer.

Police Now also offers a two-year [National Detective Programme](#), which starts off with 12 weeks of Detective Academy training before an eight-week stint in uniform with your chosen police force. You'll then move into a series of CID placements. Throughout your training, you'll be guided and supported by a Police Now Leadership Development Officer, as well as your force line manager.

Some forces are also still offering the Traditional (IPLDP) entry route, which can be accessed by graduates and non-graduates. It's being phased out but if your chosen force is still offering it for now, it might still be the best route for you.

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Reading questions

1a) What is the main purpose of the text?

_____ L1.16, L2.14. 1 mark

1b) Give two examples from the text to support your answer.

_____ L1.12, L1.16, L2.14. 2 marks

2) Do you need a degree to become a police officer?

Support your answer with a quotation from text.

_____ L1.9. 2 marks

3) If you have a policing degree, how many police forces can you apply to?

Support your answer with a quotation from text.

_____ L1.9, L2.11. 2 marks

4) If you already have a degree, what are you able to do to join a police force?

Support your answer with a quotation from text.

_____ L1.9, L2.11R. 2 marks

5) How long does it take to complete the 'National Detective' programme?

_____ L1.9R, 1 mark

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6) Name as many organisational features as you can and say why they have been used.

L1.14, L2.16. 10 marks

7) What does **work-based training** and **off-the-job training** mean?

You may use other reference sources to help answer this question.

L1.13, L2.15. 2 marks

8) Give 3 examples of specialist language / vocabulary and give the meaning of each.

You may use a dictionary for this question.

L1.17, L2.17. 6 marks

9) Which words mean the same as **pathway**?

course of action

route

journey

destination

overall

results

L1.13, L1.17. 2 marks

10) Make a list of words you are not sure of. Use a dictionary to find their meanings.

L1.13

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Writing task

Using the information in the text, on a separate piece of paper, create your own leaflet to **persuade** and **inform** people to join the police force.

Use at least **3 persuasive language techniques** and include as much useful information as you can. Also, remember the layout of a leaflet and to include some organisational features.

Use this space to plan your leaflet.

Before you start your plan, read the guide on page 6 for ideas on how to set out your leaflet.

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How to create a leaflet – a basic guide

Source: adapted from an image at BBC Bitesize <https://images.app.goo.gl/Wp3xXrGDFiMDbfUr8>

Title	Image	Image
Sample text		
Sub Heading	Sample text	
Paragraph		Useful Information / Contact details

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