



# Policing

Want to put your  
Queensland Certificate  
of Education to work?

As an officer with the Queensland Police Service (QPS), you'll play a key role in keeping your community safe, tackling dynamic challenges and working alongside a supportive team.

## Becoming a police officer

Queensland school students can begin the recruit application process from the age of 17 and whilst in Year 12. By the time you start recruit training, you must be 18 and have obtained your successful Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

Once you have successfully completed the application process, your journey starts at our academies in Brisbane or Townsville, where recruits complete 36 weeks of theory and practical training.

After graduating as a First Year Constable, you'll continue learning on the job, experiencing endless opportunities to build a rewarding career that makes a genuine difference.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to become a Queensland police officer, you must be/have:

- Aged 17+ to start the application process and 18+ when recruit training begins,
- Completing Year 12 to start the application process AND have your QCE prior to starting at the academy with a pass in English and Maths,

- Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen or hold permanent residency status,
- High standard of past behaviour and conduct including traffic history and social media presence,
- Physically and mentally fit for policing duties.

## Incentives and training salary

The QPS supports applicants and recruits with several incentives, including a training salary:

- No application fees. QPS will pay for QPS Entrance Assessment (QPSea) testing, medical assessment and fitness testing,
- An additional \$183 fortnightly cost of living allowance for recruits – boosting the training salary to approximately \$55,200 per annum,
- Free accommodation and meals for eligible recruits living at police academies located in Brisbane and Townsville.

## Discover your future

From serving others to working on complex investigations, policing is a dynamic career that offers endless challenging and rewarding possibilities.

If you have the right skills, aptitude and attitude, and the drive to make a difference, visit [PoliceRecruit.qld.gov.au](https://PoliceRecruit.qld.gov.au) or scan the QR code to learn more and start your application today.



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[PoliceRecruit.qld.gov.au](https://PoliceRecruit.qld.gov.au)



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# Frequently Asked Questions

## FAQs for Students

### What subjects should I be doing at school?

You must receive your Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) with a pass in English and Maths prior to commencing at the QPS Academy. There is no requirement to receive an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

### When can I start my application?

You can start the application process from the age of 17 and while completing Year 12. Several application assessments can be completed whilst you are in school, including the ACER exam. Note, some assessment results expire after a period. Take this into consideration before starting your application to ensure all results are still valid by the time of commencing recruit training. Learn more at [policerecruit.qld.gov.au/recruitment-process](http://policerecruit.qld.gov.au/recruitment-process).

### I want to leave school before completing Year 12. What do I need to do to be eligible?

If you do not receive your QCE, you must complete 3 years of full-time employment, or part-time/casual equivalent. This equates to 5,250 hours and can include part-time employment completed during school and beyond.

### What can I do to increase my chances of a successful application?

You must confidently demonstrate the attributes required of a police officer. Whilst in school, we recommend pushing yourself outside your comfort zone, for example, volunteering, getting involved with local community and sporting groups or a part-time job. This will help build your confidence, communication, life skills and merit.

### How can I get more info? Can teens attend Recruiting events?

Yes, we encourage you to attend the many QPS Recruiting information sessions and events held across the state and online. Find them at [policerecruit.qld.gov.au/events](http://policerecruit.qld.gov.au/events).

## FAQs for Parents and Caregivers

### What training will my child receive to become a police officer?

Successful applicants will commence the 36-week Recruit Training Program (RTP) at a QPS Academy in Brisbane or Townsville. The RTP addresses the range of responsibilities and jobs police officers encounter. This is delivered in a practical and safe environment by officers with years of policing experience.

Recruits are paid while completing the RTP, and do not pay a fee to complete the training. After successfully completing the training and graduating as First Year Constables, officers receive further on-the-job training and development. This includes a significant increase in wages.

### Where will my child be posted?

QPS officers may be deployed anywhere across Queensland to keep communities safe. Allocations are subject to operational requirements and the majority of positions lie outside of Southeast Queensland. QPS will take extenuating circumstances of the officer into consideration but cannot guarantee preferences.

### What support networks are available to my child once they become a police officer?

The QPS has an extensive range of support options. This includes health and nutrition, health screening, psychological support, career coaching and spiritual support. The QPS has support networks including First Nations, Multicultural and LGBTIQ+.

## Explore more FAQs

Visit [policerecruit.qld.gov.au/frequently-asked-questions](http://policerecruit.qld.gov.au/frequently-asked-questions) to learn more.



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