



## LAPD Transit Group Offers Explorer Post Training Academy to MTA Youth

By Gayle Anderson, Associate Editor

(Jan. 5) Does your son or daughter want to be a police officer when he or she grows up? Here's a fun and exciting way they can learn about law enforcement and acquire some of the skills that will serve them a lifetime.

The LAPD Transit Group Explorer Post will offer a 12-week academy training program in law enforcement and community policing to youths - both boys and girls - between the ages of 14 and 21. The academy begins on Feb. 3 and will meet at the Los Angeles Police Academy in Elysian Park on Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Uniforms and material are supplied by the LAPD Transit Group; attendance is free to participants. To enroll or for more information, contact Officer Candice Hensley at (213) 922-3772.

"The program is particularly good for children or young relatives of MTA employees who display an interest in the field of law enforcement," said Officer Hensley. "Youths who already know something of the profession from their family experience will have an opportunity to broaden their understanding and firsthand knowledge of the challenges and job skills that make up their community's police service."

Graduates of the 12-week academy will be certified as Explorers and eligible to continue in the Explorer program.

Explorer is a co-educational, young-adult program developed and supervised by local community organizations. The LAPD Transit Group provides an effective law enforcement and police procedure program for young adults through six experience areas:

- **Career training** in the law enforcement area: patrol procedures; first aid, laws of arrest; leadership; field rides with patrol officers; annual Explorer academy and local, regional, and national competition.
- **Social activities:** out-of-state trips and attending sports events.
- **Community services:** direct off-street traffic parking, crowd control at parades, administrative duties at briefing stations, neighborhood clean up and crime fairs.
- **Leadership training:** gain a sense of pride in our community and country and teach individual responsibilities.
- **Personal fitness training:** weight lifting, academy obstacle course and running.
- **Outdoor activities:** backpacking, hiking adventures and camping.

The LAPD Transit Group Explorer Post provides an opportunity for youth to interact with the members of the Transit Police Group. The goal is to create a positive relationship between the Transit Police, the communities they serve and Explorer youths.

Members of the Explorer Post meet once a week and receive training in the various functions of law enforcement. The education an Explorer receives provides valuable insights into the daily operation of a law enforcement agency. Members also participate in state and national Explorer Scout competitions.

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