

LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORING RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

Reference is made to the Law Enforcement Exploring Program Guidelines, Section 3.0, for important information regarding the Ride-Along Program and certification process. The following checklist may be used as a guide to ensure the sponsoring agency's Law Enforcement Exploring Ride-Along program policy and standard operating procedures, at a minimum, includes language that addresses the following criteria. The sponsoring agency may wish to refer to the sample Justice Police Department Ride-Along program policy and standard operating procedures for guidance. As a reminder, a Ride-Along application will not be approved if the agency's policy and standard operating procedures do not address the below outlined criteria.

- ✓ Purpose and objectives statement.
- ✓ Hold harmless and release form for the participating agency and Learning for Life executed by the parents or legal guardian and/or the Explorer if of legal age to sign such a form.
- ✓ Medical release form permitting participating agency representatives to authorize emergency medical treatment for Explorers.
- ✓ Prohibition of Explorers under 18 years of age participating in the program between 12 midnight and 6 AM.
- ✓ Prerequisite training for Explorers and adults (to include Youth Protection: Personal Safety Awareness training for Explorers and Youth Protection Training for adults) participating in the Ride-Along program. Posts that permit Ride-Alongs in/on authorized special police conveyances must include training requirements and protocols for each conveyance.
- ✓ Police actions and calls for service that Explorers are permitted to be present while participating in the Ride-Along program.
- ✓ Advanced notice police actions and calls for service which Explorers are excluded from being present while participating in the Ride-Along program.
- ✓ Spontaneous emergency protocols and standard operating procedures for Officers and Explorers.
- ✓ Adherence to Law Enforcement Exploring policy on driving police vehicles, bloodborne pathogens, Hepatitis B declination, covert activities and all other applicable policies.
- ✓ Authorized uniform and equipment for Explorer along with recommendation that, if available, a protective vest be worn by the Explorer while participating on a Ride-Along. Explorers on a Ride-Along where authorized special police conveyances are used must wear the same safety equipment (i.e., helmet for bike patrol, personal flotation device for marine patrol, etc.) required for law enforcement officers.

Each participating agency is responsible for ensuring their Law Enforcement Exploring program policy and standard operating procedures are in compliance with any future Learning for Life/Law Enforcement Exploring policy additions or modifications. Please contact the national office for Law Enforcement Exploring, via e-mail at www.nleec2@lflmail.org, if you have any questions or require any assistance. Thank you for your commitment to and support of the Law Enforcement Exploring program.