



“Challenging People to Shape a Better Future Now”

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Looking for a Future?

Every year we at The Skanner News put together a Careers Special Edition highlighting useful job trends we hope will actually improve our readers' lives. We are looking at employment opportunities that offer family wages, not just any old job.

This year our focus is more controversial than usual: emergency services, including law-enforcement. For years the police accountability movement has called for more enforcement personnel hired locally, to patrol their own neighborhoods — and there has never been a better time for young people to aspire to do exactly that.

Jobs in emergency services, from medical technicians to emergency room nurses, firefighters, sheriffs and police, are set to skyrocket over the next decade as more and more workers retire.

Within these pages, we have interviewed a wide array of professionals, all with the goal of giving you the information you need to plan better lives for yourself and your family.

At The Skanner News, our goal is challenging people to make a better future now. Even though the economy remains unstable, we are convinced opportunities exist for those who care to seek them out.

Lisa Loving, *The Skanner News*



Families came together last year at National Night Out at Portland Community College, Cascade Campus.

If You're Thinking about a Career in Law Enforcement, Learn about the DPSST

The Department of Public Safety Standards & Training sets standards and operate the Basic Academy courses for the public safety agencies in Oregon that it serves. Based on Oregon law, anyone attending the academy for training must first be employed by an Oregon police, corrections, parole & probation agency, or a public safety dispatch center.

All public safety employees undergo an extensive background investigation, psychological and physical exams. Each agency has different hiring requirements. For more information regarding hiring practices, please contact the agency you would like to work with. You will find links to most Oregon Public Safety agencies at: www.oregon.gov/DPSST/RelatedSites.shtml

Once you become employed as a police

Having an Associate or Bachelor's degree will help you stand out from other applicants for an available position

officer, corrections officer, parole and probation officer, or 911 dispatcher, you must complete the basic academy training at the Department of Public Safety Standards & Training (DPSST).

Once you complete the hiring process, the hiring authority will submit an application for training on your behalf to DPSST. Keep in mind, there are no self-sponsored basic law enforcement or dispatch classes offered in the state of Oregon.

In additions to the requirements above, Basic Police students must meet specific and measurable standards with respect to physical conditioning during their Basic Police Course: You can review these standards at:



Once you become employed as a police officer, corrections officer, parole and probation officer, or 911 dispatcher, you must complete the basic academy training at the Department of Public Safety Standards & Training.

<http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/AT/ORPAT.shtml>

To enhance your employability for a career in law enforcement, consider approaching your local police department, county sheriff's office, community corrections facility, or 911 dispatch centers about volunteer opportunities. If you're attracted to police work, you may wish to become a reserve police officer and attend a reserve academy hosted by a local agency. This is a good way to see the job first-hand and experience, on a smaller scale, what the academy is like. Many agencies offer citizens academies which develop citizen awareness and understanding of the role of law enforcement in the community.

Having an Associate or Bachelor's degree will help you stand out from other applicants

for an available position. Many agencies require a two or four-year degree to apply or promote once on the job. Common criminal justice career degrees are Criminal Justice, Sociology, Criminology, Psychology, and Communications. Any degree will enhance your chances for employment and will demonstrate your willingness to work hard and put in the time to learn new things.

Again, thank you for your interest in the Department of Public Safety Training & Standards. We wish you success in your career and look forward to seeing you at an academy training in the future.

If you have further questions, call 503-378-2353 or visit www.oregon.gov/DPSST.



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