Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Minnesota State Patrol
Training and Development Section
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Minnesota State Patrol Trooper

Law Enforcement Training Opportunity (LETO) Program: Trooper Trainee 1
Salary Range $38.06 - $52.06/hour or $79,469 - $108,701/year
Application will be accepted March 15, 2027 until 11:59 p.m. on April 11, 2027.

Law Enforcement Training Opportunity (LETO): Trooper Trainee 1

Applications for the Minnesota State Patrol LETO Program will be accepted from March 15, 2027 until 11:59 p.m. on April 11, 2027 at Minnesota State Patrol Careers | Become a State Trooper. This position leads to appointment as a State Patrol Trooper. The LETO Program is designed for candidates with no previous law enforcement experience, who have a two or four year degree in any discipline and want to become State Troopers. To qualify, the applicant must have an associate's or bachelor's degree in any discipline from a regionally accredited institution by June 8, 2027. Verify your school's accreditation by visiting U.S. Department of Education or with the registrar's office at your school.

Your School must be accredited by at least one of the following organizations:

- MSCHE – Middle States Commission on Higher Education
- NEASC – New England Association of Schools and Colleges
    - (NEASC-CIHE) Commission on Institutions of higher Education
    - (NEASC-CTCI) Commission on Technical and Career Institutions
- NWCCU – Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
- HLC – Higher Learning Commission (Formerly NCA-North Central Association of Colleges and Schools)
- SACS – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges
- WASC-ACCJC – Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
    - (WASC-ACSCU) – Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior colleges and Universities

The Minnesota State Patrol will provide LETO candidates with the educational requirements necessary to take the Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) exam, which is required to become a licensed peace officer. The POST certification training will begin the week of August 30, 2027 which consists of 22 weeks of classroom and practical training at Hennepin Technical College. Applicants must pass the POST exam to be eligible for employment. Upon completion of the LETO program, trooper trainees will attend the 14-week Minnesota State Patrol Trooper Training Academy at Camp Ripley along with all traditional applicant trooper trainees. The number of positions available is dependent upon funding.

The MSP is An Equal Opportunity Employer. In the selection process, preference will be given to protected group applicants, veterans, those who possess a Bachelor's Degree or higher, and individuals who are fluent in a second language (click link to see 100+ qualifying languages Language Proficiency Testing in 120+ Languages | LTI (languagetesting.com). An assessment of Advanced Low or higher on the American Council for Teaching Foreign

Languages scale is required for a person to qualify as fluent). Current and former Minnesota State Patrol employees as well as those who have successfully completed the Minnesota State Patrol Internship Program, Minnesota State Patrol Summer Academy, or Minnesota State Patrol Explorer Post (at least one full explorer season) AND are in good standing will also receive preference in the hiring process.

The ideal candidate's character will align with the State Patrol's core values of respect, integrity, courage, honor, and excellence. It is an important goal of the Minnesota State Patrol's to recruit and hire a diverse group of candidates to serve the citizens of the state of Minnesota through assistance, education, and enforcement.

Duties of a State Patrol Trooper

- Patrol state highways, promote safety, direct traffic, and investigate crashes.
- Enforce traffic laws, arrest offenders, and appear as a court witness.
- Provide routine and emergency assistance to the motoring public, including administering first aid to the injured.
- Cooperate with other law enforcement agencies in the pursuit and apprehension of violators of criminal laws.
- Uphold the MSP core values of Respect, Integrity, Courage and Honor.
- Uphold the Mission Statement of the State Patrol to protect and serve, provide support, and provide for the state.
- Uphold the MSP Vision – The MSP is a progressive law enforcement agency providing superior service to Minnesota's residents, visitors, and allied agency. The MSP strives for excellence in all that they do through the development of forward-thinking leadership, technology, innovation and a quality workforce.

State Patrol Troopers generally work either an eight or ten hour day, 40 hours per week, including Saturdays, Sundays, nights, and holidays as required.

Minimum Qualifications for Application

As required by the Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (POST) and the MSP, the applicant must meet the minimum selection standards for hiring as set forth in Minnesota Rules 6700.0700 to be eligible for the position of State Patrol Trooper. For information about Minnesota peace officer licensing, contact the POST Board at 651-643-3060 or visit Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training. Contact the POST Board with any licensing questions or questions regarding scheduling POST examinations.

The applicant must:

1. Not have been convicted of a felony in Minnesota or in any other state or federal jurisdiction, which would have been a felony if committed in Minnesota.
2. Not have been convicted of theft or any other crime listed in Minnesota Rule 6700.0700.
3. Be 21 years of age by April 28, 2028.
4. Be a citizen of the United States by June 8, 2027.
5. Possess a valid Minnesota driver's license or be eligible to obtain one by April 14 or 15, 2027 (PT test date).
6. Possess an associates' s or bachelor's degree in any discipline from a regionally accredited institution by June 8, 2027. Verify accreditation at U.S Department of Education or with your registrar's office at your school.
7. Sign a written agreement with the Minnesota State Patrol when final offer of employment is accepted committing to work for a minimum of two years.

Disqualification Criteria

Please review the following information carefully. You must meet the minimum selection standards before being appointed to a peace officer position under 6700.0700.

Conviction under the following Minnesota Statutes (including juvenile convictions tried as an adult) will make you ineligible for licensing by the Minnesota POST Board or ineligible under Minnesota State Patrol selection standards. License eligibility is mandatory for this position.

No applicant may be appointed to the position of State Trooper who has been convicted of:

1. A felony in Minnesota or any other state or federal jurisdiction.
2. Assault in the Fifth Degree under Minnesota Statute §609.224 or relevant statute in any other state or federal jurisdiction.
3. Domestic Assault in the Fifth Degree under Minnesota Statute §609.2242
4. Crimes listed under Minnesota Statutes §609.23, 609.231, 609.2325, 609.233, 609.2335, 609.234, (Mistreatment, Crimes Against Vulnerable Adults and Related Statutes).
5. Prostitution related acts under Minnesota Statutes §609.322, 609.324.
6. Presenting False Claims to a Public Officer or Body under Minnesota Statute §609.465.
7. Medical Assistance Fraud under Minnesota Statute §609.466.
8. Theft under Minnesota Statute §609.52 (any dollar amount).
9. Disorderly Conduct as a caregiver under Minnesota Statute §609.72, Subd 3.
10. The applicant must not be required to register as a predatory offender under Minnesota Statutes §243.166 or §243.167.
11. Under any state or federal narcotics or controlled substance law irrespective of any proceeding under Minnesota Statute §152.18 (discharge or dismissal hearing) or other similar law of another state or federal law; or of any crimes listed in this item in another state or federal jurisdiction, or under a local ordinance that would be a conviction if committed in Minnesota.
12. Possession of burglary or theft tools under Minnesota Statute §609.59.
13. A crime for which the penalty was enhanced under Minnesota Statute §626.5531 (Bias Motivated).
14. Any Obstruction of the Legal Process, Arrest, or Firefighting under Minnesota Statute §609.50 within the previous 60 months.
15. Leaving the Scene of an Accident within the previous 60 months.*
16. Any No-Insurance conviction under Minnesota Statutes §169.792 or §65B.48 within the previous 12 months or two convictions within 60 months; or having a driver's license suspended twice for No Insurance within the previous 60 months.*
17. A Driver's License Suspension, Revocation, Cancellation or Withdrawal for No-Proof of Insurance twice within the previous 60 months.*
18. Driver's License Revocation under implied consent laws within the last 60 months.*
19. Misdemeanor or Gross Misdemeanor Driving Under the Influence, Careless or Reckless Driving within the last 60 months.*
20. Two traffic violations within the previous 12 months, three within the previous 36 months or four or more within the previous 60 months.* This includes: continued for dismissal and Dimler violations.
21. Driving after Suspension, Revocation, Cancellation or Withdrawal in the previous 60 months.*
22. Evidence that the applicant has failed to disclose, misinterpreted or falsified any information to the department.

***The date used to determine the time period for disqualification for previous offenses is March 15, 2027.**

Selection Process

The selection process consists of physical readiness test (2000 meter row), oral board interview, background investigation, medical examination, and psychological evaluation.

Physical Readiness Test

After you complete the online application, you will be given instructions on how to select the physical readiness testing dates and locations. The purpose of the physical readiness test is to determine if the applicant is physically able to safely participate in the training conducted at the Training Academy and perform the duties of a Minnesota State Patrol Trooper.

Applicants must bring a current state-issued driver's license to the physical fitness testing. We will accept an expired driver's license as long as it has been renewed and you provide your renewal paperwork (yellow papers). Photocopies will not be accepted.

The application process is very competitive. Testing is conducted on the Concept 2 Rower at the 60 percentile according to a person's age, gender and weight. Applicants must row 2000 meters, scoring at or above the minimum 60 percentile on their test in order to continue in the application process. The 2000 meter test takes place at the **level 5** or damper setting 5 on the flywheel. Those that do not pass the entrance physical readiness test on the Concept 2 Rower at the minimum requirement will not continue with the hiring process for the Minnesota State Patrol.

Concept2 Rower Demo
Fitness Requirement for Trooper Trainees and Recruits

Interview Board

Applicants who successfully complete the physical readiness test will select a time slot in which they will return for an oral board interview **that same day**. Applicants will be allotted time and access to shower facilities prior to going into their interview if needed. Applicants must change into business professional for the interview portion.

Background Investigation

An extensive background investigation will be conducted on selected applicants who pass the interview board. The background investigation information will be provided to applicants after they submit the application.

Medical Examination and Psychological Evaluation

Applicants who receive a conditional offer of employment or are listed as an alternate will be required to pass a psychological evaluation and medical examination before receiving a final offer of employment. The purpose of the medical examination is to detect any physical condition that might adversely affect the applicant's ability to perform the duties of a State Patrol Trooper. Applicants with questions regarding possible disqualifying physical conditions should contact the Application Coordinator at patrol.applicant@state.mn.us or by telephone at 651-757-1902 or 651-757-1900.

As part of the medical evaluation, vision will be tested. The State Patrol visual acuity requirements are 20-100 uncorrected, correctable to 20-20 with glasses, hard contacts or soft contacts. If an applicant tests with uncorrected vision in excess of 20-100 they then must use soft contacts with vision correctable to 20-20. Individuals must have worn soft contacts a minimum of six months. Written verification from the applicant's optometrist must be provided at the time of the medical examination. Color blindness and peripheral vision will also be evaluated; applicants must pass these evaluations. Any applicant having vision correction surgery must have had surgery a minimum of six months prior to the medical examination, and must provide written medical verification and documentation at the time of the examination that no complications exist.

Hearing assessment by an Audiogram is required as part of the medical evaluation. Any applicants requiring or using hearing aids will need to bring in documentation from a licensed audiologist showing corrected hearing meets requirements of: not have more than a 35db loss in either ear when averaging the loss at 500, 1000, 2000 and 3000hz.

A licensed psychologist will conduct the psychological evaluation. The purpose of this evaluation is to determine whether any condition exists that might adversely affect the applicant's ability to perform the duties of a Minnesota State Patrol Trooper.

Placement

When you apply, you will list the district that you would like to work in. In most cases, when you receive your official offer of employment, you will choose from the available district and station assignments. The Minnesota State Patrol will consider an applicant's preferences along with agency needs.

LETO Program

LETO Program consists of an academic learning environment combined with a physical skills training program. Candidates will be required to pass all these areas prior to the completion of the school. LETO training will take place at Hennepin Technical College.

An applicant who accepts a final offer of employment with the MSP and participate in the LETO program shall be required to sign a two year written agreement. This agreement requires a two year work commitment with the MSP. While participating in the LETO portion of the program, candidates are not compensated for meals and lodging, but are paid an hourly wage.

Training Academy

The State Patrol Training Academy will take place at the Camp Ripley military base located at 15008 State Highway 115, Little Falls, Minnesota 56345 from Sunday night through Friday evening, during the residential portion of their training. Candidates will be furnished meals and lodging while attending training at Camp Ripley. Candidates are required to pass all areas of training.

Compensation

Tuition for successful candidate's attendance at the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Education Center where LETO is held will be paid for by the Minnesota State Patrol. Trooper Trainees will be paid 80% of the base salary of a State Trooper (based on step 1 of the Trooper salary range). Tuition for successful candidate's attendance at the subsequent Training Academy will be paid for by the Minnesota State Patrol. Trooper Trainees will be paid 100% of the base salary of a State Trooper (based on step 1 of the Trooper salary range) during the Trooper Training Academy. Upon completion of training and appointment as State Patrol Trooper, Probationary Troopers will receive Trooper base pay of $79,469/year or $38.06/hour (plus any applicable contract adjustments). Top trooper pay of $108,701/year or $52.06/hour is reached after 8 years. The starting and maximum pay listed does not include freeway pay if assigned to the Twin Cities metropolitan area (about 2.6%) or an anticipated cost of living increase starting July 1, 2022 (about 5%). There is an additional three to 13 percent added to the base salary for special assignments such as air wing, commercial vehicle enforcement, investigations, public information trooper, etc. Employees hired into the Trooper classification shall serve a minimum of 12 weeks field training and a probationary period of 12 months. The Chief of the State Patrol may grant a new employee credit for previous full-time employment as a peace officer (up to top Trooper Pay (Step 8)), as defined by Sec. 626.05 MN Statutes, subdivision 2, or similar law of another state. Such credit shall determine only the new employee's initial placement on the salary grid. Regardless of whether a new employee is given such credit, their seniority shall be determined from their appointment to the classification of Trooper.

Proposed Timetable for the Minnesota State Patrol Trooper Selection Process

Table 1: LETO Timeline

Applications Accepted	**March 15, 2027**
Physical Fitness Testing/Interview Boards	April 14 – 15, 2027
Background Investigations	**April 21 – June 15, 2027**
Conditional Offers	July 1, 2027
Medical Exams and Psychological Evaluations	**July 7 – July 30, 2027**
Final Offers	August 6, 2027
Fingerprinting and Orientation	**August 23, 2027**
LETO Starts	August 30, 2027
Trooper Training Academy	**January 17, 2028**

All questions should be directed to the Application Coordinator at the Minnesota State Patrol Training & Development Section.

- Email: Patrol.Applicant@state.mn.us
- Call: 651-757-1902