



The Los Angeles Police Academy Magnet Schools (LAPAMS)

In 1996 an educational partnership began between the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District, thanks to former school board member and president, Roberta Weintraub. The collaboration forged the creation of unique and innovative secondary law enforcement schools known as Los Angeles Police Academy Magnet Schools (LAPAMS).

With “Preparing to Serve” as their motto, the Los Angeles Police Academy Magnet Schools offer an academically and physically rigorous career pathway education for young men and women interested in law enforcement. These officer-led schools provide a better understanding of law enforcement and a high quality recruiting resource for the Los Angeles Police Department.

The Los Angeles Police Academy Magnet School curriculum goes beyond basic high school course requirements, affording students specialized coursework, training, mentoring, work and volunteer opportunities. The programs include instruction in:

- Communication skills, with emphasis on listening, reading, speaking, writing and thinking as it relates to law enforcement
- Basic concepts of criminal law, principles of law enforcement, constitutional law, the criminal justice system and other law related topics intertwined throughout all core courses
- Health training, including mental and physical health
- Physical Training in accordance with LAPD standards
- Computer science, particularly programs which relate to law enforcement such as Compstat and E Crime
- Community service, to develop good citizenship and ongoing community involvement

Another important aspect the Los Angeles Police Academy Magnet Programs is that they simulate the LAPD’s recruit academy in many facets. Students have to stand at attention when an adult enters the room, address adults as “Ma’am” or “Sir,” adhere to specific grooming standards, and wear a uniform once a week for an officer-led inspection. There are also student leadership, color guard, and drill team opportunities. Because these programs are “schools within a school,” the student can also participate in the host school’s extra-curricular offerings.

Each Police Academy Magnet School has a full time LAPD officer assigned to the program who teaches the physical training class, incorporating LAPD organizational information, criminal justice lectures, guest speakers, and basic drilling into the curriculum. To further expose these students to the many facets of police work, the students also go on field trips to LAPD’s Bomb Squad, Mounted Unit, LAPD Historical Museum, LAPD Crime Lab, and various training facilities.

There are currently four Police Academy High Schools and two Jr Police Academy Middle schools serving approximately 900 students annually within the Los Angeles Unified School District. For more information on the specific LAPPAMS schools, please see the alphabetized coordinator reference list below:

Sandy Alvarenga
LAPAMS High School Coordinator
San Pedro Police Academy Magnet
<http://www.sanpedrohs.org/pam.jsp>
(310) 519-6500

Alise Cayen
LAPAMS High School Coordinator & LAPAMS Program Chair
Reseda High School Police Academy Magnet
www.resedapoliceacademymagnet.com
(818) 758-3739

Paul Graber
LAPAMS High School Coordinator
James Monroe High School Police Academy Magnet
www.police.monroehs.org
(818) 830-4200

Robert Gonzalez
LAPAMS Middle School Coordinator
Luther Burbank Middle School Junior Police Academy Magnet
www.burbankmagnet.weebly.com/police-academy
(323) 340-4414

Florence Semerjian
LAPAMS Middle School Coordinator
Mulholland Junior Police Academy Magnet
www.mulhollandms-laUSD-ca.schoolloop.com/
(818) 609-2587

Brendan Wagner
LAPAMS High School Coordinator
Wilson High School Police Academy Magnet
www.ibwilsonmules.com/#!/police-academy/cylh
(323) 276-1717