



KENTWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

BRYAN LITWIN | CHIEF OF POLICE

PRESS RELEASE

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High School Students Invited to Apply for Kentwood Police Department Youth Academy by June 1

July Program Will Offer Hands-on Experience in Police Training and Operations

Kentwood, Michigan, May 9, 2023 – The Kentwood Police Department is inviting high school students to apply for its [youth academy](#) set for July 24-27.

The academy is open to all graduating seniors and students who will be a sophomore, junior or senior in the 2023-24 school year. The program is designed to show young people who are interested in a career in law enforcement what it's like to be a police officer. Participants do not need to live or attend school in Kentwood.

“Our youth academy allows us to connect with young people in our community and show them first-hand what a career in law enforcement is like,” said Chief Bryan Litwin. “Our officers are looking forward to sharing more about their career path, building relationships with students and helping answer questions they have about the profession.”

The youth academy is free for participants and runs 10 a.m.-4 p.m. each day at the Kentwood Police Department, 4742 Walma Ave. SE. Each participant is provided a uniform and daily lunch.

The program gives students hands-on experience in police training and operations. Participants receive instruction in various aspects of policing and participate in training scenarios, including:

- Drunken driving enforcement
- Building searches
- Handcuffing
- Special Response Team

Eligible participants must pass a background check and be interviewed before being accepted into the program. Participants also are required to attend an informational meeting with a parent or guardian before the academy begins.

The youth academy application is available at kentwood.us/YouthAcademy. Applications are due by June 1 and can be submitted online, by email to wierengat@kentwood.us, in person at the Police Department or by mail to Sgt. Tim Wierenga at 4742 Walma Ave. SE, Kentwood, MI 49512.

More information is available at kentwood.us/YouthAcademy. Interested applicants who have questions should contact Sgt. Wierenga at wierengat@kentwood.us or 616.656.6561.

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