



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

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Pat McCrory, Governor

Frank L. Perry, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

To: Chairs of the House Appropriations Committee
Chairs of the Senate Appropriations/Base Budget Committee
Chairs of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety
Chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety

From: Frank L. Perry, Secretary, NC DPS
Gregory K. Baker, Commissioner of Law Enforcement, NC DPS
William Grey, Commander, NC State Highway Patrol

SUBJECT: SHP Experience Credit for Salaries

Date: February 1, 2015

Pursuant to Section 35.11A of the Session Law 2014-100, the State Highway Patrol was tasked to respond to three issues regarding the Study Granting Experience and Educational Credits to Prospective State Highway Patrol Members with Prior Law Enforcement or Military Experience. These three issues, along with the responses, are as follows:

1. An analysis of potential costs and benefits of granting experience and educational credits to prospective members of the State Highway Patrol who have prior law enforcement or military police experience.

The Highway Patrol does not anticipate any additional costs associated with the granting of experience and educational credits to prospective members with prior law enforcement and military police experience as the Patrol currently grants experience and educational credits to prior law enforcement. These credits allow for a currently sworn law enforcement officer or an applicant that has successfully completed BLET to attend the "Fast Track" 16-week program in lieu of the 29-week BLET basic school. Additionally, Training and Standards has recently approved an abbreviated BLET course for members of the Military that have military police experience.

A benefit to Training and Standards approving the shortened BLET is a potential increase in Fast Track applicants. There is a cost and time benefit for the Patrol when a cadet attends a Fast Track versus a BLET school. The agency spends \$112,215 per student in a Fast Track program, which includes completing the Field Training Officer (FTO) program compared to \$135,507 per student in a BLET academy and subsequent FTO program.

MAILING ADDRESS:
4233 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4233

Telephone: (919) 733-4060
Fax: (919) 733-8002



OFFICE LOCATION:
430 N. Salisbury Street
Suite 2056
Raleigh, NC 27603-5926
www.ncdps.gov

Additionally, the Highway Patrol will award all veterans that apply 10 preference points to their overall total applicant screening score (T-score). These points will be awarded not only for prior military police veterans but to all qualifying veterans.

2. Identification of additional resources that may be needed to facilitate the granting of credit under these circumstances.

No additional resources are anticipated in granting credit under these circumstances.

3. Identification of obstacles that may need to be addressed before a program of granting credit under these circumstances can be implemented.

There are no identified obstacles to implementing this program.