

SESSION 161

RECRUIT ORIENTATION LETTER

SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS POLICE ACADEMY

2300 West Main Street, Belleville, IL 62226 | (618) 222-5396

Important dates:

POWER Test & Orientation

DATE: December 1, 2026

Arrive 7:45 AM

Ends approximately 3:00 PM

Dormitory Check-In

DATE: January 3, 2027

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

First Day of Class

DATE: January 4, 2027

Be seated by 7:45 AM

Dear Recruit:

As an applicant for the Southwestern Illinois Police Academy, you will need to read and follow these 4 steps to prepare for your session.

1 POWER Test and Orientation: what to do first

Late arrivals cannot test.

The POWER Test begins promptly at 8:00 AM. Arrive by 7:45 AM.

Medical certificate required.

A completed ILETSB Medical Certificate must be on file or presented that morning.

- Park at the Dixon Center, Building 4 on attached map. Enter on the west side of the building.
- Do not bring a firearm onto campus unless requested or permitted by Academy staff or the range master.
- Be ready to remain through orientation. The day continues until approximately 3:00 PM.

Dress for the POWER Test

Wear for testing

- Short-sleeve athletic T-shirt
- Athletic shorts with knees clearly visible
- Athletic socks
- Running shoes

Bring for the weather

- Hooded sweatshirt and sweatpants, or other weather-appropriate clothing

Plan to run outside.

Facilities available to change if necessary.

Dormitory and meal information

Housing and meal costs are included in tuition. Building assignments are provided at orientation.

2 Know where and when to check in

Dormitory #2

100 S. 23rd Street, Belleville, Illinois

-OR-

Dormitory #3

2120 W. Main Street, Belleville, Illinois 62226

INITIAL CHECK-IN: DATE January 3, 2027 | **1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

Dormitory-style rooms include twin beds, desks, closets with gun lockers, communal restroom and shower facilities (depending on dorm), and access to washers and dryers. Two-Three recruits are generally assigned to each room. Room changes require prior Academy approval. All rooms are non-smoking. After the initial check and during regular academy weeks, recruits should check into the dormitories on Sundays after 3:00 PM, unless otherwise directed by Academy staff.

Remember: The Police Academy dormitory is student housing, not a hotel.

Pack by category

Required: recruit responsibility

- Pillow
- Blanket or comforter
- Hand towels, bath towels and washcloths Soap and soap container
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Shower shoes
- XL Twin Sheets (one set provided by Academy, upon request)

Optional

- Desk lamp
- Extra pillows
- Extra XL twin sheets and blankets
- Laundry detergent
- Alarm clock
- Shower caddy
- Fan

Understand the dormitory boundaries

Not permitted in rooms

- Items attached to walls
- Mini refrigerators
- Televisions
- Game consoles
- Alcohol
- Food

Weekly routine and meals

During regular academy weeks, recruits should check into the dormitories on Sundays after 3:00 PM and check out after class on Fridays. Weekend lodging is not normally provided.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included on weekdays (no dinner on Fridays). Snacks and drinks between meals are not included.

Uniform, duty equipment and department forms

Use these grouped lists to coordinate what the Academy provides, what you or your department must supply, and what should be submitted electronically.

3 Build the daily uniform

Provided by the Academy (issued at orientation)

- Two Police Academy BLE polos
- Two Police Academy PT shirts!
- Two Police Academy PT shorts!
- One Police Academy sweatshirt

Provided by department or recruit

- Two black 5.11 Tactical Pants, #74251 or similar, or black
- 5.11 TacLite Pro Pants, #74273 or similar
- Department-issued black shoes or boots
- Appropriate weather gear for outdoor training
- Civilian business attire
- Off-duty civilian clothing

Prepare duty and classroom equipment

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| ● Two black tactical pants | ● Handcuff case and handcuffs with key! |
| ● Duty belt | ● Police-style flashlight |
| ● Duty weapon holster | ● Body armor |
| ● Duty weapon | ● Laptop computer, recommended! |
| ● Two extra pistol magazines | ● Pocket-size notebook |
| ● Duty belt magazine case | ● PPE, if required |
| ● Eye and ear protection | |

Vehicle support: Department vehicle will be needed for Defensive Driving training. Exact dates will be provided with the recruit schedule.

Bring department forms (electronic)

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ● Notice to Appear form | ● Written Miranda form |
| ● Traffic citation form | ● Field sobriety report form |
| ● Misdemeanor complaint form | ● Domestic violence report |

FINAL REVIEW

Arrival, parking and the first day of class

Finish with the details that determine where to go, when to be seated and who to contact.

4 Park at Dormitory #2

Parking location

100 S. 23rd Street, Building 15

Use the Dormitory #2 parking lot. The Dixon Center is across the street.

Before leaving the vehicle

- Lock it
- Remove items of value
- Confirm Illinois Vehicle Code compliance - free of vehicle defects or IVC violations

10 Monitor health before campus

Follow current State of Illinois, ILETSB, public health and Academy instructions. Self-monitor for illness and contact the Academy before coming to campus when symptomatic.

11 Be ready for class

LOCATION

Room DC103

Dixon Center

BE SEATED

7:45 AM

CLASS BEGINS

8:00 AM

12 One last check before you arrive

POWER Test day

- Arrive by 7:45 AM
- Medical certificate complete
- Correct athletic clothing
- No firearm unless permitted

Academy start

- Housing supplies packed!
- Uniform and equipment ready!!
- Room DC103 by 7:45 AM

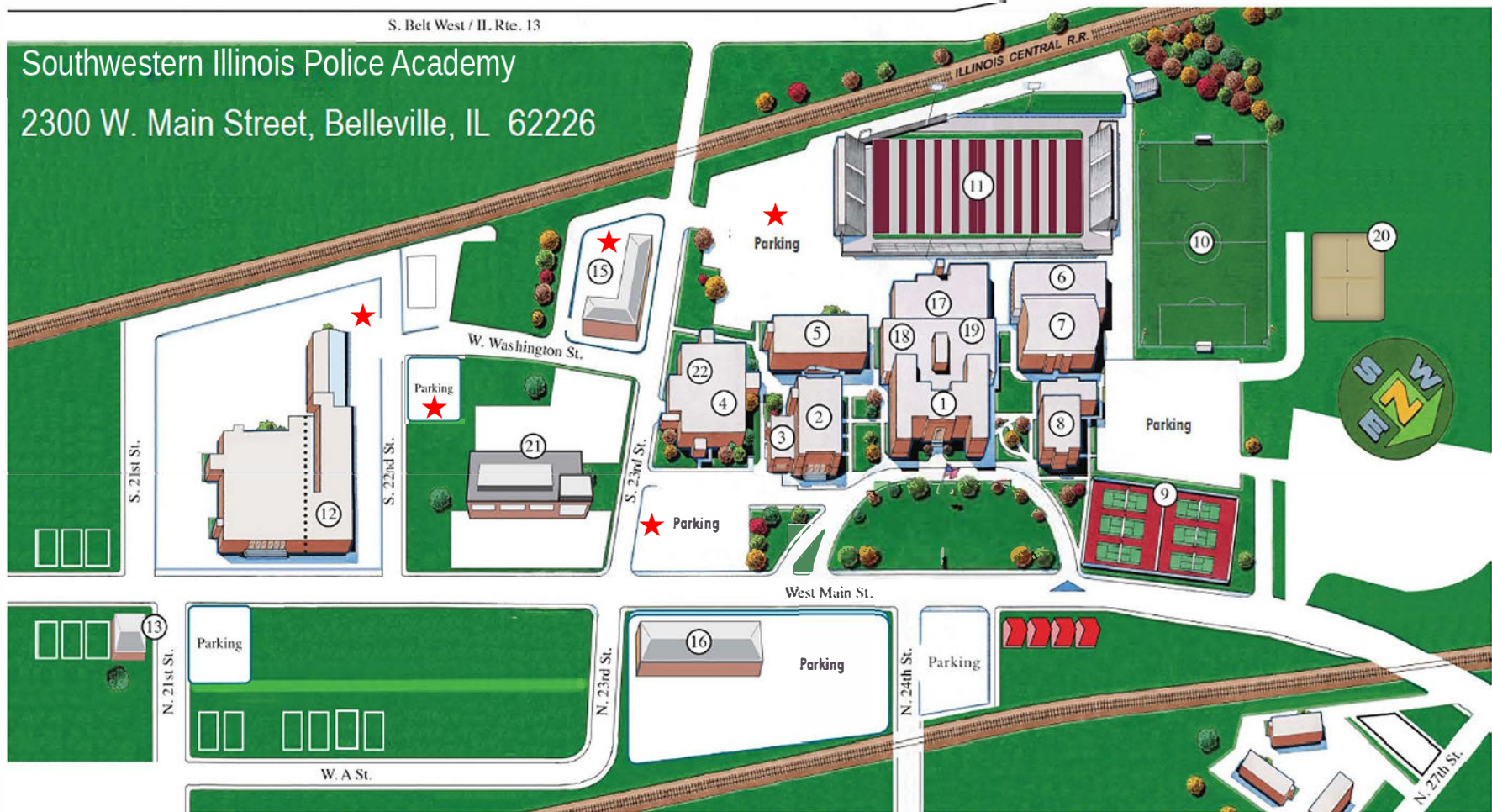
QUESTIONS? Call the Academy office at (618) 222-5396.

Sincerely,
Eric Danford, Director
Southwestern Illinois Police Academy

S. Belt West / IL Rte. 13

Southwestern Illinois Police Academy

2300 W. Main Street, Belleville, IL 62226



1. Main Hall
2. Auditorium
3. Welcome Center
4. SWIC Police Academy
5. Classroom Hall
8. Fitness And Training Center

9. Tennis Complex
10. Athletic Field
11. Stadium
12. Dormitory # 3
15. Dormitory #2
16. Dormitory #1

20. Sand Volleyball Courts
21. Illinois State Police Metro-East
Forensic Science Laboratory
22. SILEC

★ = Academy Recruit Parking

For more information, contact:
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