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November 1st, 2019

EQM 106 – Career Profile

**Mounted Police**

Interpretation of the poster:

In preparation to be a mounted police officer, both high school diploma and the completion of police academy are required. The addition of a bachelor's degree increases the chances of a higher starting salary. Most units prefer prior years of experience in the field specifically on motorcycles. The training to be a mounted officer is a 10 to 12-week program on natural horsemanship that includes being paired with one horse for all the training, general care of the horses, riding, and learn to overcome many obstacles they could be faced with. The job includes everything that of a normal police officer, but a little more. Mounted police are the primary department to control crowds during large events such as speeches, elections, parades, and other special events. These units also provide demonstrations and barn tours to the public.

**Tips for obtaining the job:**

* Research what the job entails as an actual police officer.
* Train yourself and get physically fit.
* Understand horses and that they are not always perfect nor are they just fun (even though only 20% of the trained horses get to be on the force, they are very sturdy and work hard)
* Be yourself, they are looking for committed people willing to put in the work
* Prepare as much as you can academically

**Places offering positions:**

As it is a government employed job, there are not any wanted advertisements as people pass the academy to be stationed somewhere. Mounted police is considered a special unit and it is important to note that not all police stations include a mounted unit. There is a Lexington mounted unit that also partners to patrol the horse park.

**Longevity of position:**

 This position is taken as a full career with benefits and a retirement plan. The duties of a police officer are stressful and tolling on the body alone without the addition of being on horseback. As I was trying to do the research to answer this part, I was not successful in getting any type of estimated number. It really depends on how old you are going in and how rigorous your duties are based on what unit you are working with.