

DRAFT (11/07/2024)

An Act to Allow the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to Develop A Non-residential Basic Law Enforcement Training Program

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2804-C, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2005, c. 331, § 22, 23 is further amended to read:

4. Courses. The board shall:

- A. Provide a training course, the successful completion of which meets the basic training requirements;
- B. Provide a structured residential and a non-residential program that balances the goals of professional policing with public services emphasis; and
- C. Incorporate a community policing philosophy in its training program.
- D. [Repealed]

Fiscal Note

	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
Net Cost (Savings)	\$0	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$260,000

Summary

This bill directs the board of Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) to review and develop an alternate non-residential program to increase recruitment of candidates who may perceive a residential program as being a barrier to serving as a law enforcement officer. The bill adds a non-residential program to existing statute and provides the additional staffing resources necessary to allow the MCJA board to evaluate and develop additional curriculum for an alternative delivery of basic law enforcement training program that is not restricted to an overnight residential model. This will ensure that standards for training outcomes are maintained, board led, and in consultation with the communities they serve.