



MLEAP

MAINE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

CREDIBILITY PROFESSIONALISM TRANSPARENCY EXCELLENCE

Do you want a more professional police agency?

Accreditation is proof that a law enforcement agency is meeting & maintaining the highest standards of professional excellence & accountability.

MLEAP SETS THE STANDARD FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT IN MAINE:

- ★ State-of-the-art standards
- ★ Training for accreditation managers and on-site assessors
- ★ Triennial on-site assessment
- ★ Accreditation award

“Our accreditation distinguishes our agency as being among the top in the nation.” ~Patrol Sergeant

CREDIBILITY is the most significant and tangible benefit of accreditation. Show that your agency is transparent, above reproach, and among the very best in law enforcement.

CONFIDENCE. Elected officials and city management can support a department that demonstrates professional excellence.

REDUCED RISK & LIABILITY exposure is another very real benefit of accreditation. Police departments represent significant exposure in terms of insurance claims, liability, and civil litigation. Accredited agencies are better able to defend themselves, often seeing fewer legal actions taken against them.

Accreditation sends a message to all citizens of Maine that we are committed to our communities and our profession, and that Maine law enforcement agencies are among the best in the country.

MLEAP is governed by the
Maine Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA).

“Accreditation is a powerful management tool. It is so deeply embedded in our agency’s culture, it is simply the way we do business.” ~Chief of Accredited Agency

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Accreditation standards are designed to be attainable by all agencies, regardless of size, with minimal fiscal impact.

Standards are designed to reflect the best professional practices in each area of law enforcement: administration, operations, and training. They reflect what should be done, but do not specify the manner in which the agency is to accomplish the requirement, leaving implementation to the agency.

Agencies must comply with all standards addressing life, health, and safety issues, legal matters, and controlling legislation. Standards that address functions for which the agency is not responsible or does not perform are “Not Applicable.”

Compliance with standards may be demonstrated in a number of ways. Commonly accepted methods include written directives, written documentation, observations, and interviews.



STATE ACCREDITATION IS:

...accessible and affordable to any Maine law enforcement agency

...a proven method of providing the tools necessary for agencies to evaluate and improve their overall performance that is reasonable and cost effective

...available to MCOPA member agencies and has a three year cycle

THE PROCESS:

- ★ Identify Accreditation Manager
- ★ Begin self-assessment
[assistance is available to member agencies and training is available for accreditation managers]
- ★ Apply for accreditation
- ★ Mock assessment (optional)
- ★ On-site assessment
- ★ Review & approval by the Accreditation Committee
- ★ Presentation at a Fall or Winter MCOPA Conference

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