



For More Information

New Mexico Municipal League
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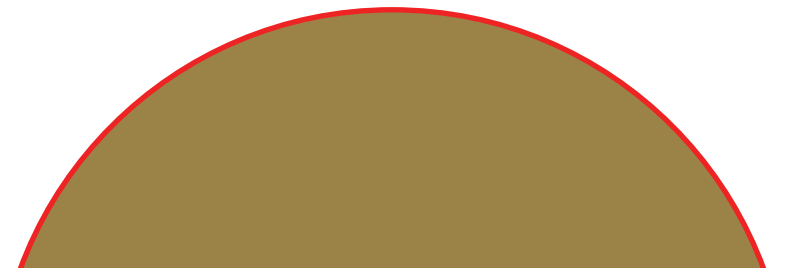
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New Mexico's Law Enforcement Accreditation Program

A partnership among the

- NEW MEXICO POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
- NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
- NEW MEXICO SELF-INSURERS FUND
- NEW MEXICO SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION
- NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



Administration

The New Mexico Municipal League, the New Mexico Self-Insurers Fund, and the New Mexico Association of Counties, sponsor and fund the program with the New Mexico Municipal League designated as the Administrative entity for the program. This creates a natural partnership and “buy-in” with municipal and county governing officials both on a state wide basis and at the local level.

Professional Standards Council

The NM Law Enforcement Professional Standards Council consists of active police chiefs and sheriffs throughout the state and chosen by the Police Chiefs Association and the Sheriffs Association to represent their respective associations.

The Council is the policy making entity of the Program. This includes adoption and review of standards and granting of accreditation status.

Program Purpose

The mission of the New Mexico Law Enforcement Program is to advance law enforcement professionalism through the establishment of professional standards and the administration of the formal mechanism by which New Mexico agencies can be systematically measured, evaluated and updated.

Program Goals

The Council’s goals include:

- Increase effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies in the state in the delivery of services
- Promote cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies
- Reduce liability exposure locally and statewide
- Promote public confidence in law enforcement

Why Become Accredited?

Accreditation is the best measure of an agency’s compliance with professional law enforcement standards, as determined by the Professional Standards Council. The Council consists of police chiefs and sheriffs selected for their expertise and knowledge. Adherence to an acknowledged body of professional standards may help protect an agency against a variety of potential liability problems. Additionally, Accreditation:

- provides the framework for professional self-inspection
- assist agencies in effective and efficient policy development
- helps address high liability issues
- enhances agency moral
- enhances delivery of services to citizens
- beginning with the fiscal year after accreditation is achieved, a 5% reduction will be applied to the Law Enforcement Liability Contribution of the municipality or county (if insured either through the NM Self Insurers’ Fund or the NM County Insurance Authority). NOTE: In order to continue receiving the 5% reduction, agencies must maintain accreditation status; and, this reduction does not apply to the Recognition Program.

Program Cost

The only costs to participate in the New Mexico Law Enforcement Accreditation Program are a minimal, sliding scale fee based on your agency’s authorized strength, and room and board for the assessment team at the time of the on-site assessment.

Fee Schedule

<i>Number of Sworn Officers</i>	<i>Fee</i>
10 and under	\$1,000
11-50	\$1,500
51-100	\$2,000
101 and above	\$3,000

Process

The Accreditation Process entails four (4) phases:

1. Application
2. Self-Assessment
3. On-Site Assessment
4. Board Decision

Required Standards

There are 219 Standards that are required to be met or addressed. These standards cover four classifications, administration, operations, personnel and training. The standards have earned the confidence and support of law enforcement executives throughout the state.

Application

Download the application from: www.nmml.org/subsections/policechiefs or contact Mariah Romero at 800-432-2036 or at mromero@nmml.org.

Self-Assessment

The applicant agency is granted two (2) years to obtain compliance with the required standards. The agency will be given detailed instructions for conducting the self-assessment and the State Program Manager will coordinate assistance and training on an on-going basis.

On-Site Assessment

When the applicant is ready for an on-site assessment the applicant will contact the State Program Manager. The Program Manager will offer a mock assessment as a pre-assessment preparatory measure, but it is not required by the Council. The Program Manager will appoint the assessment team and a team leader. On the arranged dates, the team will travel to the applicant’s locality and conduct the on-site assessment. If the agency is found to be in compliance with all standards, the team leader will so advise the agency and submit the final report of findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Program Manager.

Review of Board Decision

The Program Manager will convene a meeting of the Council to review the assessment team report. Based on their discussion and review of the report, decision to grant accredited status is made. If accredited status is given, arrangements are made for a time and location for a formal presentation.

Re-Accreditation

An accredited agency will remain accredited for a period of three (3) years. The agency is required to periodically submit verification of continued compliance with approved standards. Re-accreditation on-site assessment procedures are similar to the initial assessment procedures.

Recognition Program

The Recognition Program was designed with smaller agencies in mind as well as part of a two tiered process to move to full Accreditation. While the application process is the same as the Accreditation Program, to qualify for Recognition, there are only 55 Standards that must be met. These are all high liability areas that prove to be crucial to the agencies’ day to day operations.

Recognition Program Fee Schedule

<i>Number of Sworn Officers</i>	<i>Fee</i>
10 and under	\$500
11-50	\$1,000
51-100	\$1,500
101 and above	\$2,500

