

Entry routes to become a Police Constable

The Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF)

supports three entry routes for Police Constables. All three routes lead to the same outcome – a competent officer qualified to degree level (L6) at the point when confirmed in post.

Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA).

Minimum of 3 years and allows the apprentice to earn while they learn. Early adopter forces are likely to be using this route from September 2018, leading to a Degree in Professional Policing Practice.

Degree Holder Entry Programme.

Aimed at those with existing degrees in other disciplines. A programme of learning is completed to develop policing specific skills and knowledge. In development, with availability expected from September 2018.

Degree in Professional Policing

This is a 'pre-join' degree made up of academic study (some forces may offer operational experience) and is expected to be available from September 2018, with the first recruits being seen in 2021.

The PCDA curriculum and supporting documents are now available

All forces will need to be using the new nationally-standardised routes of entry by 2020.

The various entry routes benefit the individual by providing different options on how to become a PC. Together, they will help the service appeal to a wider cross-section of the communities served and permit forces to appeal to and recruit from a more diverse pool. Recruiting differently will help attract the next generation to the policing profession. The new educational levels are a vital building block to right the wrong that is the lack of formal recognition of the professionalism of police officers.

The new curriculum offers a greater breadth, depth and complexity of learning than current training, developing an education founded upon professional practice. The PCDA, for example, engages the student officer in operational policing alongside their professional education, marrying the two together - an educational degree founded in professional practice

The College website holds further information along with Q & A's. www.college.police.uk/qualifications. If you have any specific questions around the Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) transition, then please do not hesitate to contact: PolicingEQF@college.pnn.police.uk

The PEQF Implementation community on [POLKA](#) provides information to those who are implementing the various strands of the PEQF in force including the Entry routes into Policing.