

# What we have to offer

## Opportunities

There are several areas available for troopers to transfer into after they have learned the core job. Some of those include:

- Criminal Investigator
- Police Instructor
- Aircraft Pilot
- Executive Protection
- Commercial Motor Carrier Inspector
- Crash Reconstructionist
- Traffic and Drug Interdiction
- Motor Vehicle Inspector
- Recruitment and Minority Relations

Advancement rests in each trooper's own hands. Troopers may take a promotional exam after they have completed four years of service. Depending on the exam score, troopers are given the opportunity to attend an assessment center to rate the skills required to be a supervisor. A list is comprised from troopers assessed and it is used to fill supervisory vacancies.

## Benefits & Retirement

Troopers work a 40-hour week and are entitled to 10 paid holidays, four personal days, and 10 paid sick leave days per year.

### Vacation

Troopers receive two to six weeks per year based on seniority.

### Insurance

Troopers receive paid vision and dental insurance. A variety of health insurance plans are available to all employees and their families. Also, troopers receive paid life insurance.

### Other Benefits

- Worker compensation protection
- Tuition reimbursement program
- Uniforms and equipment provided
- Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union

### Retirement

Troopers are eligible to retire at a minimum age of 48 with 25 years of service. The pension benefit is currently 61-79 percent of the average salary of the officer's highest three-year period of service.

## Qualifications

To become an Ohio State Trooper, each applicant must fulfill the following minimum qualifications:

- Be a United States citizen
- Be an Ohio resident (may be waived)
- Have a high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate
- Have a valid Ohio driver license
- Be 21 to 34 years of age

## Academy & Training

Once selected as a State Patrol Cadet, individuals will report to the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy in Columbus. Cadet trainees are required to live at the Academy five days a week for 145 training days. Cadets receive extensive training in Ohio laws, misdemeanor and felony arrest techniques, human relations, crash investigation, self-defense tactics, firearms, defensive driving and patrol techniques, as well as many other areas.

Upon successful completion of the classroom training, the cadets graduate to the rank of Trooper. New troopers report to their post assignments and begin a 12-week on-the-job training period with a Field Training Officer. Upon completion of the training period, troopers return to the Academy for additional training in specialized areas for one week, then return to their post assignments to begin their careers as troopers.

Thank you for considering the Ohio State Highway Patrol as a career. We take pride in all of our personnel being where they are needed, when they are needed, to do what is needed.

**Recruitment and Minority Relations Section**  
740 East 17th Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211  
(614)466-6019 or toll free 1-866-TROOPER  
beatrooper@dps.state.oh.us  
www.statepatrol.ohio.gov

An Equal Opportunity Employer

OHP 1266 12/06

# Women in the Highway Patrol



## Oath of Office

I do hereby swear  
and/or affirm  
that I will support  
the Constitution of  
the United States  
and the  
Constitution of the  
State of Ohio,  
and that I will  
faithfully,  
honestly, and  
impartially  
discharge the  
duties of the office  
of Trooper in the  
Ohio State  
Highway Patrol  
to the best of my  
ability during my  
continuance in said  
office.



## HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE HIGHWAY PATROL

The Ohio State Highway Patrol began in 1933 with 60 motorcycle officers. It was not until 1977 that Dianne Harris, the Patrol's first female trooper, began her career as a member of the 100<sup>th</sup> Academy Class. Today, more than nine percent of the Highway Patrol is comprised of female officers. Over 1,500 troopers patrol over 113,000 miles of roadways each year in the Buckeye State. The Ohio State Highway Patrol is a statewide law enforcement agency charged with enforcing traffic and criminal laws on public roadways and on state-owned or -leased property within Ohio. Troopers are trained to treat all citizens with courtesy and fairness while creating a safe driving environment by minimizing fatalities, arresting impaired drivers, and assisting motorists who are stranded along the highway.

## Women behind the badge



### Major Lisa Taylor

I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve with the Ohio State Highway Patrol. The Division has provided me the ability to serve in a variety of positions, ranks, and locations. Additionally, the Patrol has enabled me to earn a college degree and continue my education. The work is challenging, rewarding, and everchanging. I enjoy the career path I've chosen and recommend it to anyone searching for a demanding, exciting, and fulfilling job.



### Lieutenant Judy Neel

I'm currently the commander of the post in my home county. I have worked various assignments throughout the state and have thoroughly enjoyed each one. Our large organization offers a variety of opportunities for learning and job advancement that are not available in smaller agencies.



# Women behind the badge



### Captain Michelle Henderson

Prior to joining the Patrol, I was a single parent working part-time and trying to complete an engineering degree. I was approached by an officer who encouraged me to apply to be a trooper. I followed up on his suggestion and joined the Patrol. Since then my assignments have included working as an investigator and as the administrative assistant to two superintendents. My career has challenged me personally as well as professionally. I believe that women bring special talents and skills to law enforcement and can provide excellent service to our communities.



### Staff/Lieutenant Brenda Collins

A local trooper recruited me to become a part of this great organization. At the time, I was working two minimum wage jobs. The Ohio State Highway Patrol has afforded me a world of opportunity, as it does for each trooper. I have been a part of many diverse aspects of the Patrol in my different assignments. My career has been and continues to be rewarding each and every day.



### Lieutenant Robin Schmutz

I began my career as a single parent and was afforded many opportunities I may not have otherwise had available. The Patrol has allowed me to pursue my interests in the investigative field and to complete a master's degree while working full-time. I am confident my decision to serve the citizens of Ohio will enable me to be a positive role model for my children and others.



### Trooper LaDonna Klocinski

I graduated from the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy on May 8, 1998, but I dreamed of becoming a trooper most of my life. Being a trooper has proven to be a rewarding career which offers new challenges every day. Over the years the patrol has been very accommodating with my military obligations with the Air National Guard and through two pregnancies. The patrol also has a variety of shifts available which has enabled me to spend more time with my family and avoid daycare completely.



### Trooper Dora Gonzalez

The Ohio State Highway Patrol has afforded me the opportunity to live my dream as a trooper. Working as a Hispanic female and single mother can be challenging, but the Patrol has been very supportive. I have enjoyed being part of an organization that promotes family values and community service.

