



# ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **ILLINOIS STATE POLICE ANNOUNCES THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS NOW OPEN FOR 2026 YOUTH CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY IN SPRINGFIELD**

**SPRINGFIELD** – Applications are now being accepted for the 2026 Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Academy in Springfield, hosted by the Illinois State Police (ISP), the American Legion, and the Illinois National Guard.

The highly structured week-long residency camp is designed for 15–17-year-old teenagers and emphasizes the principles of self-respect and service to others, while promoting positive rapport and interactions between cadets and law enforcement. Cadets will attend classroom instruction and participate in physical activities focused on leadership development, team building principles, and other life-enhancing skills. Other local law enforcement agencies, as well as local civic organizations, have partnered with ISP to provide engagement and mentorship opportunities to develop lifelong connections with young people.

The camp will take place June 21-26, 2026 at Camp Lincoln Military Academy in Springfield, IL.

[Application brochures](#) are available on the Illinois American Legion [website](#). Applications must be submitted to Chairman Wayne V. Madson by mail: 1197 Mary Irene Road, New Baden, IL 62265 or email: [madsonwsr@gmail.com](mailto:madsonwsr@gmail.com), no later than May 31, 2026. Additional questions can be directed to Chairman Madson at 618-806-1408. Space is limited to 50 cadets.



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