Education and writing resources

The willingness to learn includes both formal and informal institutions of learning. Obtaining a degree can help make you a better criminal justice professional. In a recent article of Police magazine, police officers were asked what the benefits were to them to obtain a college degree. Steve Gibbs, a retired lieutenant from the Indianapolis Police Department, obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from the Indiana University School of Business with a management concentration.

“But the help to the career was taking English compensation and some literature courses and doing papers”, Gibbs reflects. Learning to write logically and with at least some attention to grammar and spelling is what I think helped the most, especially when I became a detective and started writing affidavits and search warrants. I think in preparation for this career one should take more English and take more writing courses.”

People, especially professionals in the criminal justice system, often times judge you on how well you write. They may never meet you however, they receive your written reports and that forms their image of you. Scholarship applications work the same way. Often times applications for scholarships ask the applicant to respond in an essay why they are deserving of the award. While here at Mission, take full advantage of the writing center in the Library building to help you improve your writing skills.

In addition to the Mission College Library and its numerous resources, California State University, Los Angeles has several resources for students in its library. For students working on a research paper, the universities library website has a wonderful section on how to conduct research and start a research paper. The site includes audio tutorials, library guides that you can download and referrals to other areas of information. Visit them at calstatela.edu/library research.

Scholarship opportunities for AJ students

The Administration of Justice program is awarding 8 scholarships from the Fred Aves Scholarship Foundation in the amounts of $1,000 each.

In order for students to be eligible for this award they must meet the following criteria:

1. Have at least a 3.0 GPA.
2. Are involved in their community and/or school.
3. Students who are struggling to keep up with the cost of attendance.
4. Enrolled in at least 6 to 12 units

AB 540 and Foster Youth students are especially encouraged to apply. There is no age limit or restriction on types of CTE programs.

If you meet the criteria, see your AJ instructor or Professor Enos for an application. A short essay is required and information will be verified.

Our website address: www.lamission.edu/aj
Our main office number: 818-364-7610
Our location: 13356 Eldridge Avenue Sylmar, Ca 91342

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Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Internships

The A.T.F. is looking for student interns.

Flexible schedule of work assignments and open to all students...high school, under-graduate, graduate, and vocational/technical. Students may be employed year round. Eligibility Requirements:

A student enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a degree-seeking student (diploma, certificate, etc.)

At least the minimum age of 16 years required by Federal, state or local laws and standards governing the employment of minors.

Taking at least half-time academic or vocational and technical course load in an accredited high school, technical or vocational school, 2-year or 4-year college or university, graduate or professional school, and a U.S. citizen or a national (resident of American Samoa or Swains Island). Non-citizens may be eligible for employment if permitted by a Federal agency’s appropriation act, and eligible to work under U.S. immigration laws. U.S. citizenship is required for conversion to permanent employment under the Student Career Experience Component.

For more information, see their website at www.ATF.Gov/Careers/Internships.

U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security scholarships and internships

The department of Homeland Security is offering several scholarships and internships for 2010.

The programs include a 10-week summer internship at federal research facilities or DHS Centers of Excellence. One of the minimum requirements is U.S. citizenship. To learn more, visit their website at www.orau.gov and look for internships and scholarships under the department of Homeland Security.

AJ gifts for the holidays

Just in time for the holiday season. We still have a large inventory of shirts in assorted sizes. These shirts make a wonderful gift during the holidays and could actually contribute to a person’s overall well being. A recent study showed that by wearing one of our AJ shirts for short periods of time actually made people happier and more productive at home and at work. People have also reported that by wearing the shirts on campus, they have had continued good luck throughout the year. Amazing!

We also have barbeque aprons. Thanks to our friends at the F.B.I. these aprons are now available for anyone as gifts for the holidays.

For purchasing, see Kelly Enos in the AJ program at 818-364-7610. Shirts are $10 and aprons are $15. All proceeds go to the AJ Trust fund which benefits students in the program.