

Texas Academy of Animal Control Officers



332 E. CUERO ST. Giddings, TX 78942

979-542-5010

www.txacademyaco.com

“Professional Humane Law Enforcement Training”

Dear TAACO Student:

Please find the enclosed registration pack for our upcoming TFA course.

Fill out the applicable information, attach copies of the required documents, and return via hand delivery or certified mail, with your tuition. Do not hesitate to call on us if you have any questions about this information. We will be happy to assist you in any way we can.

Animal Care & Control and Humane Law Enforcement now have great demand for trained personnel. We will assist you in every way possible; before, during and after the course is over. We can even help you in finding employment and relocation if necessary.

You have chosen to enter a career field that is growing dramatically, with many job openings all over this state. The four weeks you will spend with us, will be a challenging and fun learning experience.

We look forward to seeing you in class.

Thank you and God bless:

Chief Alan R, Spence – PO/CACO
Director- TAACO

Proverbs 12:10 A righteous man always cares for his animals.

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“The Premier Humane Law Enforcement Training Facility in the State of Texas“

The TFA is the ultimate Humane Law Enforcement, Animal Control Officer (ACO) and Animal Care Technician (ACT) training course. It is structured much like a combination miniature **Police Academy and Vocational School**. In 30 short days, you can be ready to start an exciting career in the Animal Control, *Humane Law Enforcement* field. The jobs are waiting for you.

The TFA is a complete 130 hour (4 week) course that earns the graduate a **prestigious diploma 2 State certifications, and 14 certificates of completion**, in all pertinent areas of the Animal Care and Control (ACC) field. The better trained and educated a person is, in any field, the better, safer job they will do. The TFA affords employment opportunities in 4 different areas. First and most needed, are **Animal Control Officers**, working the street. Secondly, as an **Animal Care Technician** (Vet Assistant) working in an animal shelter, humane society or vet clinic. Last, but certainly not least, is an **Animal Cruelty Investigator**. However, some of the larger ACC departments are now combining Animal Control with **Code Enforcement**. Code Enforcement is another avenue that the TFA familiarizes the student with.

The TFA course is in part approved by the **Texas Department of Health Services, (Zoonosis Control Branch)**, and the **Texas Animal Control Association**. The TFA is also an approved training course for **the Texas Department of Assistance and Rehabilitation Services (DARS)**, the **US Veterans Administration** and occasionally the Texas Workforce Commission. TAACO accepts those benefits as tuition assistance. TAACO accepts any grants or scholarships a student may qualify for.

The TFA curriculum contains, but is not limited to, the following subjects:

*Texas ACO Basic Certification**
Animal Cruelty Investigations
Lrg & Sml Animal Health & Nutrition
Animal Disease Recognition (Zoonosis)
Parasitology & Testing
Rabies Control & Prevention
Prevention of Disease and Contamination
Mental Health Training
Introduction to Environmental Crimes
Familiarization with Citation Writing
Arrest and Magistration Procedures
Animal Laws, Rules & Regulations
Chemical Capture & Restraint
Public Relations & Perception
Dangerous – Vicious Dog Handling
Interview Preparedness

*Certified Euthanasia Technician **
Animal Care Technician (Vet Asst)
Large & Small Animal Anatomy
Medical Terminology
Animal Shelter Hygiene & Management
Wildlife, Reptile & Fowl Identification
Animal Quarantine Requirements
Police Radio & Emergency Procedures
Offense/Incident Report Writing
Familiarization with Seizure of Animals
Courtroom Demeanor & Procedures
Dangerous Animal Recognition
Officer Safety and Survival
Officer Professionalism & Ethics
Bite Stick/OC Pepper Spray Certification
Interview and Employment Assistance

There is no other training program available anywhere that is even close to being comparable to the depth and quality of the TFA course. We have a 90% hire rate of our TFA graduates. Employers desire to hire persons that are fully trained and ready to work. Many TFA students have job offers before or immediately upon graduation. If you are willing to relocate, the job opportunities are endless. The average starting pay is approximately \$12.00-\$16.00 an hour.

The total tuition for the complete TFA course is \$4,950. This includes lodging, all books, manuals and uniform shirts. **To register, fill out a registration application and submit it and at least the \$500 deposit. This will lock you into the next TFA class.** TFA courses are generally offered in **February, April, July and October** of each year. **Tuition discounts are available for those who qualify (Call for info)!** The TFA course is available with or without lodging & accommodations are Sunday through Wednesday night (at double occupancy).

Contact us TODAY to start your exciting and rewarding career in ACC field!

TFA ENTRANCE APPLICATION
Texas Academy of Animal Control Officers
332 E. CUERO ST. GIDDINGS, TX 78942
979-542-5010

This application must be filled out in its entirety, in black or blue ink. DO NOT leave any blank, if the question does not apply, fill in N/A. Please write legibly and answer completely as possible. Make sure all addresses and phone numbers are complete. This application is for the **130 HOUR FULL ACADEMY (TFA)** course only. It must be received in our office on or before 21 days prior to the course start date.

Applications must be accompanied by at least the deposit of \$500.00 (non-refundable but transferable) to secure a position in the class. All tuition is due in full (\$4950.00) on or before 7 days prior to the start date of the class unless prior arrangements are made. Persons applying for the "Buddy" discount plan must make notification at the time of registration. This class is limited to 24 students each session. It is on a first come first serve basis.

Applicants will be applying for security sensitive positions, if not already employed. Attach copies of all requested information and submit with the application. Students may at some point, be required to submit to a background investigation and drug screen, by their potential employers. If you have been arrested, be as truthful and complete as possible. This does not mean that you will not be accepted into the class, if the offense is a class B Misdemeanor or above. However, the severity of the offense' disposition and time frame will be considered. Class C Misdemeanors or juvenile infractions are not considered.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE TFA APPLICATION:
SEND COPIES ONLY AND MAKE SURE THEY ARE LEGIBLE.**

- 1) COPY OF APPLICANTS BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- 2) COPY OF SOCIAL SECURITY CARD
- 3) COPY OF DRIVERS LICENSES or APPROVED PHOTO ID
- 4) COPY OF MILITARY FORMS IF APPLICABLE
- 5) LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM A NON-FAMILY MEMBER WHO CAN ATTEST TO APPLICANTS CHARACTER

Please send applications via certified mail or hand deliver. Keep copies of all checks or money orders sent. If tuition is paid by credit card, via the TAACO website, send copy of the confirmation with application.

Any information herein is for TAACO use only and will not be subject to outside distribution without expressed written consent of the student. The Texas Academy of Animal Control Officers is an equal opportunity training facility and will not discriminate against anyone because of their ethnicity, beliefs or age.

Call TAACO at 979-542-5010 with any questions or for assistance in completing or submitting this application.

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TAACO TFA FACILITY RULES & GUIDELINES

The Staff of the Texas Academy of Animal Control Officers would like to welcome you to the premier humane law enforcement, animal care and control Full Academy training program.

You will be checking in on July 09, 2017 at Ramada Inn here in Giddings right after orientation. Orientation will start at 2:00 pm at the TAACO training academy, located at 332 E. Cuero Street Giddings, TX 78942. Class will start 8:30 am Monday morning, February 06, 2017. Rooms at the Ramada Inn are double occupancy unless student request a single, at their expense. (\$560.00 additional for a private room). Males and females will room separately, unless requested otherwise (dating or married couples). **In addition, we are not guaranteed rooms on weekends, so if you will be staying here throughout the length of the course, notify us as soon as you know. The other days (Thurs-Sat) will be added to the already calculated tuition cost (\$630.00).**

The class will run from July 10 to August 04, 2017.

Below is a list of personal items you will need to have with you upon arrival:

1. Personal toiletries and grooming supplies.
2. Modest, street clothes and swim wear to wear during off time.
3. **At least 2 Pair of BLACK uniform type pants.**
(These can be found at almost any police/security supply store. Also check at Academy Store. It is highly recommended that you wash all new items in cold water with 2 cups of vinegar added the first washing, to prevent fading. It is also suggested you then take them and have them professionally starched and pressed to set the color and crease. (Dickey Brand is acceptable as well)
4. **3 BLACK CREW NECK TEE/ UNDER SHIRTS.**
5. **5 pair BLACK ATHLETIC SOCKS**
6. **1 BLACK 1 ½” SMOOTH/PLAIN LEATHER BELT W/ SILVER BUCKLE**
7. **1 pair BLACK TACTICAL BOOTS (NON SLIP SOLE)**
(Example: Lace-UP/ Zipper - ACADEMY SPORTS BATES BRAND #E02700)
8. **Uniform shirts will be furnished and issued at orientation.**

Students will be expected to always act in an adult and respectful manner while attending or representing the Academy. Those failing to do so are subject to dismissal from the program with no recourse. You are training to be a professional Humane Law Enforcement Officer, we expect you to conduct yourself as such.

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TAACO TFA Rules & Guidelines

NO JEWELRY, ear rings or piercings of any kind are allowed while in uniform. This is for your safety and to ensure you are portraying a positive, professional image of Animal Control Officers. In addition, tattoos of questionable taste will be required to be covered.

Males are required to have their hair cut/styled in a manner appropriate for the profession of law enforcement: above the ears and collar. It is recommended that Females wear their hair short (collar length or less) or in a pony tail during class, this too, is a health & safety precaution. No facial hair except for groomed mustaches is allowed.

Uniforms shall always be worn in a neat and professional manner at all times during class and Academy functions, unless otherwise instructed. Pants must fit properly and be worn at the waist with a belt.

Personal Protection Equipment will be required at times during certain segments of class. (Required equipment such as: gowns, coveralls, aspirators, gloves, safety shield/glasses or goggles will all be furnished by the Academy.)

In accordance with the Texas Education Code, the possession and use of Tobacco products on the premises of an educational facility are prohibited. However, since TAACO is a private facility a special area is posted for smoking at various times for those **of age to legally possess and use tobacco (18 years of age)**. However we strongly urge students not to use tobacco products anytime. Animal Control can be an extremely physically demanding job and it is in one's best interest to be physically fit.

Possession and/or the use of drugs or alcohol of any kind are strictly prohibited at the TAACO facility. Those **of age 21 or older may consume the alcoholic beverage** of their choice **away from the facility**, and after the course is completed for the day. However, the TAACO staff does not recommend or condone alcohol consumption. You are here to learn, not to party. **Purchasing and/or consuming alcohol in uniform is strictly forbidden at any time.**

Students are expected to be in their seats and ready for class PROMPTLY at 08:30 hours each day, except when directed otherwise.

There will be at least 2 off facility field trips during the course. Students may want to bring a small ice chest or back pack.

Parents and family members are welcome to visit anytime. However, we would appreciate the visits to be on Wednesday afternoons.

We are excited about having each of you in the TAACO TFA training course. You are embarking on an adventure of a life-time, in preparing to enter a profession that very few will attempt and even fewer will remain in. It takes a very special person to do animal care & control and/or humane law enforcement. We thank you in advance for your efforts and choosing TAACO to provide you with the most progressive and professional training available. You will be at the top of the hiring lists upon graduation from the Texas Academy of Animal Control Officer TFA. We will assist you in every way to see you become employed in your chosen field.

Thank you and God bless:
Alan R. Spence Chief – PO/CACO
979-542-5010

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TEXAS ACADEMY of ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS
LIABILITY WAIVER

I _____ being at least eighteen years of age, accept and understand the inherent risk of working in the animal care and control field and with the handling of animals, while at the Texas Academy of Animal Control Officers training facility.

I also understand that even though there is limited direct contact with live animals, there is a possibility of being bitten, scratched or injured. I accept and understand the inherent risk involved in this training involving live & dead animals.

Therefore, I agree to hold the Texas Academy of Animal of Animal Control, its subsidiaries, its employees or volunteers harmless in the event of injury during my training session at the TAACO facility or on any facility sponsored field trip or activity.

My signature below, acknowledges that I am taking this training of my own accord and I have read and fully understand the rules and requirements of the training I am taking on

_____ - _____
Course Begin Date Course End Date

STUDENT SIGNATURE DATE

TAACO STAFF

NOTARY SEAL:

NOTARY SIGNATURE

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ACCEPTABLE METHOD OF TUITION PAYMENT

OPTION 1 Cash, Check, Money Order or Credit Card. If full payment is made at one time with the application, this is eligible for the **paid in full discount of \$125.00.**

OPTION 2 All student loans, personal loans, grants or scholarships. If full payment is made at one time or in 2 payments (\$500 deposit & then remaining balance) this is eligible for the **paid early discount of \$125.00.**

Unfortunately, TAACO can not be issued a Federal School Number, because the TFA class is less than 600 clock hours. **Therefore, we are unable to accept FASFA and PAL Grant funding.** Some grants may be available through the Texas Workforce Commission (WIA) program. Each person would be required to individually apply through their local TWC office.

OPTION 3 Tuition payment or partial payment from The Veterans Administration, from the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services or The Texas Workforce Commission may be available to students who qualify.

OPTION 4 Tuition in ONE full payment & 30 days prior to the first day of class. This option is eligible for the **early registration discount of \$250.00.**

TAACO also offers a **\$100.00 “BUDDY” reimbursement** for any person that registers with or refers someone that registers for the same session of the TFA.

The TFA course is available without lodging also, **deduct \$250.00 for no lodging.**

If you desire a private room, the additional charge would be \$560.00.

If you need weekend lodging, the additional charge would be \$630.00.

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