

TAACO FULL ACADEMY (TFA) **“Animal Cops, not just a job, but a career”**

As the *Texas Academy of Animal Control Officers* enters its 11th year of operations, we are pleased to still be the first and only facility – training program of its type in the United States. Our goal has always been to provide the most complete and professional training in the Animal Care and Control Field. Humane Law Enforcement is not just a job, it is a profession.

Our unique TFA training course is 130 Hours (4 weeks) in length and very specific training for persons working in, or **desiring to work in** the Animal Care and Control Field as a career. **The TFA course affords the graduate a prestigious diploma, 3 state certifications, and 15 certificates of completion, in every aspect of the Animal Care and Control Field.**

Complete, professional training is a must for success, promotions and longevity in this exciting career field. All potential employers enjoy the opportunity to interview and hire a TFA graduate. Graduate’s field training is cut by 80%, therefore saving that department time and money. TAACO has a 90% hire rate of those graduates that complete the TFA and then take and pass their state exam. We are very proud to say, we have a 98% pass rate of the state exam for our students. There are a great number of employment opportunities all over the country, with very few trained and/or experienced persons to fill them. We assure you, the jobs are waiting for you in this great career field. The days of the *“Ole Dog Catcher”* are over. Today’s Animal Control Officers, Animal Care Technicians, Animal Cruelty Investigators have a very difficult and IMPORTANT job to do, where caring for animals is their number one goal.

If you are truly serious about a career working in the Animal Care and Control Field, **the TFA course is for you.** In four short weeks you can be fully trained and ready to start an exciting career. The average starting pay is about \$25,000 annually with good benefits such as paid vacation, paid sick leave, medical insurance and a retirement package. Also, there are few occupations where age makes little to no difference. We have had students as young as 17 and as old as 56, which have all done well. If one can physically complete the task, age is of little question. However, the more mature and professional you are, the better you will do. Also, there are few professions that a person of any age, especially 17-25 years of age, can become qualified and ready to go to work in 30 days.

The TFA course is a combination vocational school and miniature police academy. One of TAACO's main missions is to produce a fully trained Animal Cruelty Investigator (Humane Law Enforcement Officer). Animal cruelty investigations is a large part of the ACO's daily duties. Many of our students' main goal is to work directly in this area after graduation. Complete ACI case preparation, offense report writing, crime scene photography, evidence collection, court room testimony and professionalism & ethics, is a big part of the TFA course.

The TFA has dedicated four full days to the **Animal Care Technician** portion of the course. Having knowledge of the animal's anatomy, physiology, health & nutrition requirements, common diseases and temperaments is a must for safety first, and to acquire employment in this field. The ACT portion is like a mini vet tech course in itself. Many students choose to work in a clinical setting such as an animal shelter, humane society or a vet clinic.

Other important subjects in the TFA include; *Animal behavior-handling and restraint, chemical capture (tranq gun), animal bite & dangerous dog investigations, humane animal trapping, animal shelter operations & management, rabies and zoonotic diseases, parasitology, pharmacology, officer safety unarmed self-defense tactics, bite stick & OC spray training and humane euthanasia where required. The TFA course also contains a block of instruction in Code Enforcement.*

The TFA is a very educational, professional and enjoyable learning experience. There will be weekly exams and a final exam over the entire course on the last day of the course. There will be three study and review days also. If you are truly sincere about a career in this exciting and rewarding field, the TFA course is the one for you.

TAACO and the TFA course is approved training for the **U.S. Veterans Administration**, where VA benefits as “TUITION RE-IMBURSEMENT” would apply or under Chapter 33, the VA would pay the tuition direct. We welcome any Veteran to apply and the potential employers like to have the opportunity to hire a Vet. *(Thank you for your service)*

TAACO is an approved training provider for the Texas Department Rehab Services (DARS) and in some cases the Texas Workforce Commission; tuition assistance may apply if you qualify.

The TFA courses are generally planned for February, April, July and October of each year. Please check the “CURRENT SCHEDULE” page on our website for exact dates.
www.txacademyaco.com

The current 2017 TFA tuition is \$4950.00, which includes lodging Sunday – Wednesday night. (as most everyone goes home Thursday after class for a three day weekend) **Lodging is**

based on double occupancy, but single rooms are available upon request at an additional cost of \$560 for the four weeks. The full month lodging amount is available for those needing/desiring lodging for the entire 4 weeks (9 extra nights at \$70.00) at an additional \$630. Also, there is a tuition discount of \$250 if lodging is not needed/required at all.

EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNTS of \$125.00, for registering at least 30 days prior to the start date of the course, and an additional \$125.00 when the tuition is **paid IN FULL** at the time of registration.

BUDDY DISCOUNT. Anytime two or more persons register together, there is an additional \$100.00 tuition discount available to both students. This is paid as a reimbursement to the student at the beginning of the course.

REGISTERING WITH THE \$500.00 DEPOSIT ONLY. The \$500.00 (personal check, cashier's check, money order or payment by credit card) deposit must accompany the registration application, at least 21 days prior to the start date of the course. Please send UPS-FEDEX or CERTIFIED US MAIL, so we have to sign for it. Student will be issued a "letter of commitment" upon TAACO receiving the deposit and registration application.

LETTER of COMMITMENT. Upon receiving at least the minimum \$500 deposit, each student will be issued a letter of commitment. This letter may be used to assist in securing a "student" loan at the student's personal banking establishment, as it guarantees you a spot in the class. However, generally the regular rules and regulations will apply when making a loan, ie: down payment, credit score, ability to repay and/or co-signer.

TUITION PAYMENTS. Unfortunately we are unable to have any type of actual “payment plan”. However, TAACO will accept pre-payments of any amounts and number of increments once the registration application and the minimum \$500 deposit are received. Tuition payment must be received in full on or before 7 days prior to the start date of the course, unless prior arrangements are made.

TAACO has now served over 350 TFA students from all over Texas and the US. The TFA training is universal and may be used anywhere. Animal Care and Control is a vastly growing field and has a great potential for growth. There is slim to no chance of a staff reduction or layoffs in this field. Trained and knowledgeable ACOs, ACTs and ACIs are in much demand.

Register now for our next TFA course, the jobs are waiting for you.