

NORFOLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Norfolk County Sheriff's Office Announces New Lottery System for Popular Youth Leadership Academy

BRAINTREE, MA – Norfolk County Sheriff Patrick McDermott announced today that his office will be using a new lottery-based system of admissions for the perennially popular Youth Leadership Academy in Braintree for Norfolk County youth between the ages of 10 and 14. In previous years, the Academy, which operated under a “first-come first-served” system would fill up within minutes of registration opening.

“The overwhelming popularity of this life-changing program means that we are in the enviable position of needing to develop new ways to ensure that every child in Norfolk County has an equal chance of participating,” Sheriff McDermott said. “Between this new registration system and the opening of a second location in Medway, I look forward to making sure that every child who wants to participate in this experience has the opportunity to do so.”

Families planning to register their children for the Braintree Youth Leadership Academy should pre-register during the “application phase” of the registration process (running now through March 24th). Applicants can register at <https://youthleadershipacademy.campbrainregistration.com> and add their names to the waitlist of any session weeks they are interested in. On March 27th, a lottery will be held for each week of the Academy, and families will be notified of their placement, at which time payment will be due. Interested participants who are unable to secure a place in the Braintree Academy this year will be given priority registration for the following year.

In addition to the new lottery registration system, the Youth Leadership Academy has expanded to a second location at Medway High School, which boasts an impressive high and low ropes course that will serve as one of the highlights of the Youth Leadership Academy experience. Registration for the Medway Academy will use the traditional registration method. To register for the Medway Academy, families can visit <https://youthacademymedway.campbrainregistration.com>.

The Youth Leadership Academy was first established by the Norfolk County Sheriff's Office in 2002 to help area youth learn leadership skills and practice setting and meeting personal goals. Since its inception, over

15,000 Norfolk county youth from the ages of 10-14 have participated in the experience, many of whom have continued to serve as peer leaders, interns, and NCSO staff. The Academy provides leadership and skills training through a “challenge-by-choice” model that encourages participants to set and meet personal goals in a variety of activities, including the high-adventure ropes course.

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