

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Rising Stars Leadership Academy  
July 31 – August 4, 2023



**Mission:** *To provide a leadership program that enables each student to be exposed to principles that will enhance their ability to be a successful and responsible citizen.*

**Vision:** *For the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office to become a community leader in developing and rewarding successful students by enhancing their ability to become productive citizens.*

**SRS Program Goals:**

1. Develop relationships between future high school seniors and positive adult role models.
2. Reward responsible students by providing a challenging, yet enjoyable, week-long learning experience.
3. Deliver leadership training that will promote positive citizen involvement.

**Eligibility and Application Requirements**

- Each applicant must be a Junior, advancing to their Senior year.
- Applicants shall provide a transcript supporting a minimum **State** GPA of 3.0 unweighted (**State GPA**).
- Applicants may not have a criminal history.
- Applications shall be submitted to the respective SRO / SRD by **April 14, 2023**.
- Children of currently employed LEO's are not eligible.

**Semifinalist Requirements**

- Each respective high school shall form a selection committee consisting of the SRO / SRD, staff members, teachers, or other persons of their choosing to vet applications and choose a maximum of three (3) semifinalists to be submitted to the HCSO School Resource Section for selection of participants.
- Between the dates of **April 21 and April 28, 2023**, selected semifinalists shall be required to complete a 500 word essay on the topic of leadership. Students shall complete the essay unassisted and in a proctored environment. This essay shall be **typed**, double spaced, and shall be completed at each respective school site.

- Students will be provided with a Release and Indemnity to be signed by the parent or guardian, as well as an Emergency Notification form to be completed and notarized. These forms **MUST** be completed and returned to the HCSO School Resource Deputy with the completed essay.
- After the essay has been completed, and no later than **May 5, 2023**, the SRO / SRD shall submit to the HCSO School Resource Section, the essay along with the completed application, and one (1) letter of recommendation from a non-relative of the applicant.
- Selection of participants will be completed by the HCSO Rising Stars selection committee and will occur on **May 12, 2023**.
- Questions regarding this program, or the application process, should be directed to Sgt. Herb Saumell in the HCSO School Resource Section at 813-247-8115.