

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Rising Stars Leadership Academy
May 28 – May 31, 2024



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 **March 1, 2024**
- 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 **March 4 and March 8, 2024**, 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 **March 18, 2024**, 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 **March 22, 2024**.
- Questions regarding this program, or the application process, should be directed to M/Sgt. Herb Saumell in the HCSO School Resource Section at 813-247-8115.