

# Exploring



*Building a Better Tomorrow Today*

# What Is Exploring?

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Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 to 20 years old. Adults are selected by the participating organization for involvement in the program. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, or citizenship is not criteria for participation.

Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Explorers are ready to investigate the meaning of interdependence in their personal relationships and communities.

Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. Local community organizations initiate an Explorer post by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.



## Everyone Wins With Exploring

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Exploring will be one of the best opportunities you offer your company, your employees, and the youth of your community.

### COMPANY BENEFITS

- Impact on the education process of youth
- Team-building attitude within the company
- Opportunity to interpret adult occupational roles for youth
- Preparing young adults for transition from school to work
- Creating a "safe haven" for the healthy development of adolescents
- Developing future responsible and caring adults
- Ensuring that young people see how your business relates to the free-enterprise system
- Helping young adults gain insight into the ethics and ideals of business
- Visible commitment to the welfare of your community

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- Greater job awareness
- Developing leadership and problem-solving skills
- Re-evaluating ethical and moral values



- Opportunity for greater community involvement
- Respect from youth and community
- Identification as appropriate adult role models
- Enhancing communication, planning, and program development skills
- Greater commitment to service
- Developing interpersonal skills used in the workplace and elsewhere



### YOUTH BENEFITS

- Stimulated interest in continual education
- Career information; insight into future vocation
- Positive alternative to negative youth activities, such as drug abuse and involvement with gangs
- Sense of acceptance and belonging to the "right" group
- Safe environment for adultlike activities
- Opportunities to participate in practical, real, and meaningful hands-on experiences
- New career and personal skills
- Opportunities to try leadership roles and develop skills
- Cooperative relationship between adults and youth
- Service to others



# Exploring's Five Areas of Emphasis

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## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Developing potential contacts that may broaden employment options
- Boosting self-confidence and experiencing success at school and work



## SERVICE LEARNING

- Encouraging the skill and desire to help others
- Gaining a keen respect for the basic rights of others



## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Developing leadership skills to fulfill our responsibilities in society
- Providing exposure to different leadership traits



## LIFE SKILLS

- Developing physical and mental fitness
- Experiencing positive social interaction



## CHARACTER EDUCATION

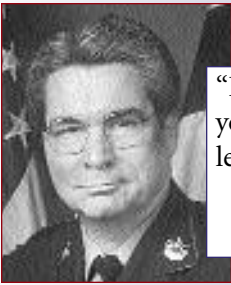
- Helping make ethical choices
- Fulfilling one's responsibility to society as a whole





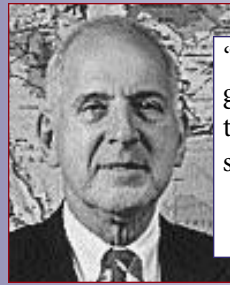
### MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Learning for Life to serve others by helping to instill core values in young people and in other ways prepare them to make ethical choices throughout their lives so they can achieve their full potential.



“Law Enforcement Exploring gives young people a new respect for a challenging profession.”

*David B. Mitchell  
Superintendent, Maryland State Police*



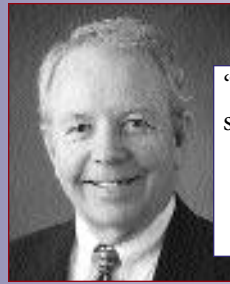
“You can actually see young people grow, becoming members of the aviation community as their curiosity is satisfied through Exploring.”

*Hal Shevers, founder/chairman  
Sporty's Pilot Shop*



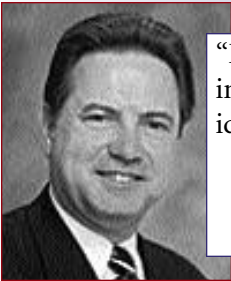
“Law Exploring is one of the best programs I know of to expose our youth to various careers and the judicial system.”

*Lillian G. Apodaca, attorney at law  
Crider, Bingham & Hurst, P.C.*



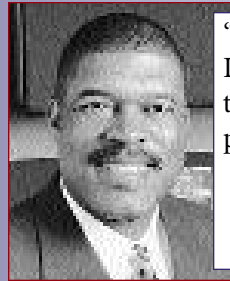
“Exploring brings the medical profession to life for teens.”

*Dr. David N. Sundwall, president  
American Clinical  
Laboratory Association*



“Explorers learn how engineers improve the quality of life and turn ideas into reality.”

*Pat Natale, executive director  
National Society of  
Professional Engineers*



“The partnership with Learning for Life is the perfect way to teach students the soft skills they need to work in corporate America.”

*Mark Rutledge, senior projects  
manager, special projects  
TDIndustries*

## Scholarship Opportunities

- AFL-CIO Skilled Trades Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship
- American Veterinary Medical Association \$500 Cash Award
- ATF Special Agents' Law Enforcement Explorer \$500 Scholarship (two awarded)
- Capt. James T. Regan Memorial Law Enforcement Explorer \$500 Scholarship (two awarded)
- Comair Aviation Explorer \$2,000 Scholarships (10 awarded)
- DEA Drug Abuse Prevention Service Award, \$1,000 Recognition
- Floyd Boring Law Enforcement Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship
- International Association of Fire Chiefs Foundation Fire Service Explorer \$500 Scholarship
- LearningExpress Scholar of Distinction Fire/Emergency Services Explorer \$2,500 Scholarship
- LearningExpress Scholar of Distinction Law Enforcement Explorer \$2,500 Scholarship
- National Young American Award \$5,000 Grant
- Sheryl A. Horak Memorial Law Enforcement Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship
- Silver Wings Aviation Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship (two awarded)
- Sporty's Pilot Shop Aviation Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship
- U.S. Customs Service Law Enforcement Explorer \$1,000 Scholarship
- U.S. Federal Investigators Law Enforcement Explorer \$500 Scholarship

