

Full Cost of a Police Officer

Full Cost of a Police Officer: The average annual cost of a police officer is \$149,362. This includes salary, benefits, and supervision.

Background

The average annual salary of a police officer is \$82,162. Although a newly hired police officer receives a salary of \$47,604 the first year, that officer reaches the average salary within 4 years of being hired. As such, the average annual salary more accurately reflects the cost of officers on the street. The average police officer also receives \$55,070 in other benefits, as outlined below.

In addition to salary and benefits costs, for each additional police officer additional supervisors must be added to maintain the appropriate ratio of officers to supervisors in line with public safety best practices and departmental protocol. For every 10 police officers, a sergeant must be present to supervise. Similarly, for every 50 police officers, a lieutenant is required. This supervision adds \$12,130 to the cost of the average police officer.

The following table outlines the costs discussed above, totalling to just under \$150,000/year for the average police officer.

Cost Element	Amount
Annual salary	\$82,162
Annual benefits	\$55,070
<i>Contributions to the Policemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund</i>	<i>\$29,520</i>
<i>Healthcare</i>	<i>\$15,408</i>
<i>General liability and workers' compensation insurance</i>	<i>\$2,640</i>
<i>Overtime related to extensions of tour and court attendance</i>	<i>\$3,824</i>
<i>Medicare</i>	<i>\$1,189</i>
<i>Uniform allowance</i>	<i>\$1,800</i>
<i>Share of tuition reimbursement</i>	<i>\$519</i>
<i>Unemployment insurance</i>	<i>\$170</i>
Supervision	\$12,130
<i>Supervision, 1/10th of a Sergeant</i>	<i>\$9,858</i>
<i>Supervision, 1/50th of a Lieutenant</i>	<i>\$2,272</i>
Total Annual Cost of an Average Officer (Including Supervision)	\$149,362