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## Nj police academy

Becoming a police officer in New Jersey requires meeting specific qualifications before entering the academy. These requirements ensure candidates are prepared for the demands of law enforcement. The process involves multiple steps, including education and fitness standards, examinations, medical evaluations, and background checks. Each requirement determines whether an applicant is suited for policing responsibilities. Age, Citizenship, and Education Requirements Applicants must be at least 18 years old to apply, but most municipal and state law enforcement agencies require candidates to be at least 21 before being appointed as full-time officers. The upper age limit varies by jurisdiction, but municipal police officers generally cannot be appointed after 35, with exceptions for military veterans under federal and state laws. Applicants must be U.S. citizens at the time of appointment. Unlike some states that allow legal permanent residents to apply, New Jersey mandates full citizenship. A valid New Jersey driver's license is also required, as law enforcement duties often involve operating police vehicles. Education requirements include a high school diploma or GED. However, some departments impose higher standards. The New Jersey State Police require at least 60 college credits or two years of full-time military service. Some municipal departments prefer or require an associate's or bachelor's degree, particularly in criminal justice or related fields. Written Examination The written examination assesses cognitive abilities, judgment, and problem-solving skills. The New Jersey Civil Service Commission (NJCSC) administers the Law Enforcement Examination (LEE) for civil service jurisdictions. This test evaluates reading comprehension, reasoning, and memory retention—skills essential for handling reports, interpreting laws, and making quick decisions. A significant portion of the exam focuses on situational judgment, requiring candidates to analyze hypothetical policing scenarios and determine the most appropriate response. The exam also includes sections on report writing, grammar, and logical reasoning. Scoring well is critical, as departments rank candidates based on their results. The LEE is generally administered every two to three years. Fees range from \$35 to \$50, and scores remain valid for up to five years. Some municipalities may impose additional testing requirements, such as department-specific exams. Physical Fitness Standards New Jersey police academies require candidates to meet physical fitness benchmarks before admission. The New Jersey Police Training Commission (PTC) mandates a standardized physical qualification test assessing strength, endurance, and agility. The test includes a 1.5-mile run, push-ups, sit-ups, and a vertical jump. Male candidates aged 20-29 must complete the run in under 15:55 minutes, perform at least 29 push-ups and 38 sit-ups in a minute, and achieve a vertical jump of 20 inches. Female candidates in the same age range must complete the run in under 18:18 minutes, perform at least 15 push-ups and 32 sit-ups, and meet a 14-inch vertical jump requirement. Standards adjust slightly for older candidates. Many academies include additional evaluations, such as obstacle courses and dummy drags, to simulate real-life policing situations. Failure to meet fitness standards results in disqualification, though some academies allow retesting after a designated period. Medical and Psychological Screening Applicants must undergo medical and psychological evaluations to ensure they can handle the physical and mental stress of law enforcement. The medical exam assesses vision, hearing, cardiovascular health, and overall physical condition. Candidates must meet vision requirements, typically 20/30 corrected in each eye and 20/100 uncorrected. Hearing tests measure the ability to detect sound at various frequencies. The medical evaluation also screens for chronic conditions that could impair job performance, such as hypertension or respiratory issues. Drug testing is mandatory, with a zero-tolerance policy for controlled substances. Psychological screening evaluates emotional stability and decision-making under stress. Candidates take a written psychological assessment, such as the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) or the California Psychological Inventory (CPI), followed by an interview with a licensed psychologist. Those exhibiting traits incompatible with law enforcement responsibilities may be deemed unsuitable. Background Investigation A thorough background investigation ensures candidates have the integrity and character required for law enforcement. This process examines personal, financial, and criminal history. Investigators review municipal, state, and federal criminal records. Individuals convicted of indictable offenses (felonies) are permanently disqualified. Even lesser offenses, such as disorderly persons convictions or multiple arrests, can lead to rejection. Financial responsibility is also evaluated, as excessive debt or unpaid obligations may indicate poor judgment or susceptibility to corruption. Social media activity is reviewed for discriminatory behavior, violent rhetoric, or content undermining public trust. References, including past employers and acquaintances, provide insight into an applicant's reliability and conduct. Prior drug use is assessed under strict department policies. While experimental marijuana use may not be an automatic disqualifier, repeated drug use, especially of harder substances, often leads to rejection. Candidates with prior law enforcement employment undergo a review of disciplinary history. Any falsification or omission during the background check results in immediate disqualification. Residency Requirements New Jersey has specific residency requirements for police academy candidates, which vary by jurisdiction. Civil service municipalities may require officers to reside within the state at the time of appointment. Some municipalities mandate that officers live within the township or county where they will work. The New Jersey State Police (NJSP) requires applicants to be state residents upon appointment. Some departments allow out-of-state applicants to apply, provided they establish residency before hiring. Residency waivers may be granted in cases where specialized skills or experience make an applicant particularly valuable. Failure to comply with residency rules can result in disqualification or dismissal. Officers who move out of their required jurisdiction after being hired may face disciplinary action or termination. These policies ensure officers remain engaged with their communities. Recruits will receive extensive education and personal training in various areas of law enforcement including law enforcement science, self-defense, leadership, crisis intervention, driving, military drill, first aid, water safety, mental health, wellness, and resilience. The written examinations require a minimum passing score of 70%. The practical assessments are hands-on scenarios that require recruits to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter and skills covered in the unit. In New Jersey, roughly half of the law enforcement agencies fall under the Civil Service (Department of Personnel; Title 11) regulations, while the other half hire according to local ordinance or regulation. All Department of Personnel agencies require applicants to take the statewide Civil Service Examination; non-DOP departments have varying hiring processes, usually including an examination. The New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police administers many of these exams; a schedule is posted on the Association website. If you have an interest in working for a specific agency or department, contacting them directly is a good first step in finding out the exact requirements and process for applying for a position. [Click Here for Schedule of Upcoming Non-Civil Service Entry-Level Exams Entry-Level Law Enforcement Titles Municipal Police Officer County Police Officer Campus Police Officer Transit / Bridge Police Officer Park Police Officer Police Officer \(Health Care Facility\) Housing Police Officer State Police Trooper Sheriff's Officer State Ranger Police Officer \(Palisades Interstate Park\) County Corrections Officer State Correction Officer State Correction Officer \(Juvenile Justice\) County Prosecutor's Detective / Investigator State Investigator The New Jersey Police Training Commission has granted approval to police academies in this state to conduct the Alternate Route Basic Course for Police Officers. This program permits qualified applicants to apply for admission to an approved academy for the purpose of participating in the Basic Course for Police Officers. Resources New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police: - \[www.njsacop.org\]\(http://www.njsacop.org\) - 856.334.8943 New Jersey State Police: - \[www.NJSP.org\]\(http://www.NJSP.org\) - 609.882.2000 ext. 6400 "How to Apply to the NJ State Police" - \[New Jersey Department of Corrections\]\(#\): - \[609.943.5770\]\(tel:609.943.5770\) Newark Field Office, Federal Bureau of Investigations - 973.792.3000 New Jersey law sets the basic requirements for becoming a law enforcement officer. However, potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact agencies directly to enquire as to any specific requirements for employment. In general, no person may be appointed to a police department unless he or she: is a citizen of the United States is sound in body and of good health sufficient to satisfy the board of trustees of the police and firemen's retirement system of New Jersey as to his eligibility for membership in the retirement system is able to read, write and speak the English language well and intelligently is of good moral character, and has not been convicted of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude shall not be less than 21 or over 35 years of age \[Civil Service rules have some exemptions and alternate provisions in this regard\] Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on the date of the written examination and must not reach their 35th birthday prior to the graduation dater of the State Police class for which they are applying Applicants must be a citizen of the United States to be eligible to take the examination, and must be a resident of the State of New Jersey at the time of graduation from the State Police Academy Candidates must have a bachelor's degree or an associate's degree or 60 semester college hours plus at least two years of satisfactory employment or military experience Applicants must have a good reputation and be of sound moral character. Page 2 President Chief John R. Russo Rutherford Police Department 184 Park Avenue Rutherford NJ 07070 Immediate Past President Chief Edward M. Kerr, Jr. Spring Lake Police Department 311 Washington Avenue Spring Lake, NJ 07762 1st Vice President Chief Andrew Caggiano Montville Township Police Department 360 Route 202 Montville, NJ 07045 2nd Vice President Chief Kevin Carey Collingswood Police Department 735 N. Atlantic Ave. Collingswood, NJ 08108 3rd Vice President Chief Giacomo Sacca Elizabeth Police Department One Police Plaza Elizabeth, NJ 07201 4th Vice President Chief Matthew Brenner East Greenwich Township Police Department 150 Democrat Road Mickleton, NJ 08056 Vice President At-Large Chief Anthony G. Manna Fairfield Police Department 230 Fairfield Road Fairfield, NJ 07004 Treasurer Chief Matthew Geist Middlesex Police Department 1101 Mountain Avenue Middlesex, NJ 08846 Executive Director Mitchell C. Sklar, Esq., CAE NJSACOP 751 Route 73 North Suite 12 Marlton, NJ 08053 Page 3 NEW JERSEY STATE ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE 751 Route 73 North Suite 12 Marlton, New Jersey 08053 P: 856-334-8943 F: 856-334-8947 \[office@njsacop.org\]\(mailto:office@njsacop.org\) GPS Address: 11,000 Lincoln Drive West, Marlton, New Jersey 08053 Page 4New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police 751 Route 73 North, Suite 12, Marlton, NJ 08053 \(856\) 334-8943 FAX: \(856\) 334-8947 GPS Address: 11,000 Lincoln Drive West, Suite 12, Marlton, NJ 08053 \[office@njsacop.org\]\(mailto:office@njsacop.org\) © Copyright 2024 NJSACOP | Privacy Policy As a state-of-the-art law enforcement agency that offers more than 120 career paths... Visit Recruiting A Atlantic County Police Training CenterEdward Thornton, Director Anthony Canale Training Center5033 English Creek Ave Egg Harbor Twp., New Jersey 08234-5743609-407-6727609-407-6717 \(fax\)Thornton\\_Edward@clink.org B Bergen County Law & Public Safety Institute Police, Fire & EMS AcademiesLieutenant Brett Rothenburger, Commanding Officer/Director 281 Campgaw RoadMahwah, New Jersey 07430201-226-5525201-845-1670 \(fax\)Brothenburger@bcpo.net C Camden County College Police Academy Orlando Cuevas, DirectorCamden County CollegeP.O. Box 200Blackwood, New Jersey 08012856-374-4874856-374-4889 \(fax\)ocuevas@camdenc.edu Cape May County Police Academy Thomas DePaul, Director 4 Moore RoadDN 909Cape May Court House, New Jersey 08210609-465-1134609-463-0749 \(fax\)tddepaul@co.cape-may.nj.us Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. The Monmouth County Police Academy is a Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy operating under the direction of the Monmouth County Sheriff and the Academy's Board of Directors. We are the only Police Academy in the State of New Jersey to receive the Gold Standard in Public Safety from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies \(CALEA\). The Monmouth County Police Academy offers basic recruit classes for many branches of Law Enforcement. We offer a wide variety of in-service training to meet the needs of the Law Enforcement Community and prepare both recruits and veteran Officers to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. Our mission is to provide the most knowledgeable, experienced staff to deliver the latest in training and technology to our recruits and in-service students in a professional manner. Professionalism, Character, Pride, and Leadership are key words in our daily activities as we strive to develop and strengthen the mind and body of both the recruit and veteran Officer. Review of personal data and citizenship information, including an applicant's birth certificate, voter registration, citizenship or naturalization papers, and the presence of tattoos, brands, or other body art, dermal piercing and scarification; Interviews of an applicant's spouse, partner, dependents, relatives, associates, and friends; Review of an applicant's current and past residences, temporary or permanent, and interviews with landlords, roommates, and neighbors; Review of an applicant's high school and college grades, achievements, extracurricular activities and programs, history of absenteeism and/or tardiness, and disciplinary history; Review of an applicant's military service, if any, including branch of service, service records, and discharge; Review of an applicant's employment/work history, including interviews of current and former employers, discipline, terminations, and unemployment records; Review of an applicant's financial status, including assets, debts, reported income, liens, civil judgment, and liabilities; Review of an applicant's fraternal, societal, and workplace affiliations such as clubs, social networking sites, fraternities, sororities, and charitable and volunteer organizations; Review of an applicant's adult and juvenile criminal history including arrests, convictions, or pretrial intervention for state, county, or local crimes or other offenses, whether or not expunged; and Review of an applicant's motor vehicle history, including accidents, driving records, summonses, surcharges, license revocations, failures to appear in court, warrants, vehicle ownership information, and insurance information. Unfortunately, no. The Attorney General and this Division receive an enormous number of inquiries that involve legal issues or disputes. However, this Division, under the authority of the Attorney General, is authorized by statute to render legal advice to departments, agencies and instrumentalities of State government only. \[N.J.S.A. 52:17a-4\(e\)\]. The Attorney General is not empowered to render legal advice to private citizens or non-governmental attorneys or organizations. In this instance, as a private citizen, you do not qualify to receive the type of legal advice you are seeking from the Division. The most appropriate source of information and legal advice concerning the subject of your inquiry would be private counsel of your choice. As an alternative, should you fall within required income limits, your local Legal Services Office may be of some assistance to you. If you wish to conduct your own research, you may find all New Jersey Statutes available free of charge on the Internet at \[www.njleg.state.nj.us\]\(http://www.njleg.state.nj.us\) You may report them anonymously to the Criminal Justice tipline at 1-866-TIPS-4-CJ or by using our confidential online form. You can call 1-877-55-FRAUD or by using the Office of The Insurance Fraud Prosecutor's confidential online form Sex Offender Internet Registry \(NJSP\) Megan's Law Web site \(DCJ\) Gang Awareness Guide \(2.2mb pdf\) plug-in Many gang members say they joined because the gang offered them support, caring, and a sense of order and purpose -al the things that most parents try to give their kids. The odds are that the better you meet these needs, the less need your children will see for gangs. Here are some parenting skills that are especially important: Talk with listen to your child. Spend some special time with each child. Put a high value on education and help your child to do his or her best in school. Do everything possible to prevent dropping out Help your kids identify positive role models and heroes - especially people right in your community. Do everything possible to involve your children in supervised, positive group activities Praise them for doing well and encourage them to do their very best - to stretch their skills to the utmost Know what your children are doing and whom they are with. Know about their friends and their friends' families. Don't forget to talk about gangs. The best time is before there's a major problem. Tell your child that: you disapprove of gangs, you don't want to see your child hurt or arrested, you see your child as special, and worth protecting, you want to help your child with problems, family members don't keep secrets from each other, and you and other parents are working together against gangs Don't forget to listen to your child as well. View Guidelines \(80k pdf\) plug-in The New Jersey Victim Information Notification Everyday \(VINE\) Service will tell you if an offender is in custody in the State of New Jersey and will give you other important information. VINE will also let you register telephone numbers where you can be notified if an offender is released or transferred. Register with VINE - Call toll-free 1-877-846-3465 from a touch-tone phone and follow the directions. Please have any of the following Offender information ready: Offender Name, Date of Birth, SBI \(State Bureau of Identification\) No Leave your number. If the offender is in custody, you can leave a phone number to be notified if there is a change in the offender's status. Do not leave a phone number that is answered by a switchboard. Enter the area code, phone number followed by the pound \(#\) key. Create a PIN. When the VINE Service asks, make up and enter a four-digit Personal Identification Number \(PIN\) that will be easy for you to remember. Write your PIN down for future reference. The New Jersey VINE service will ask for the PIN code when it calls you. Directives/Guidelines \(DCJ, Law Enforcement Resources\)](#)