



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### About the Massachusetts State Police Eligibility List

**This section features answers to the questions we are most frequently asked about the eligibility list for Massachusetts State Police selection.**

**For more information about becoming a State Trooper, go to the *General Recruitment Information* page in the Administrative Services section of this website, or call our Recruitment Unit at (508) 820-2292.**

**Thank you for your interest in the Massachusetts State Police.**

**Q. I am on the list and I have a rank number. What does my rank number mean?**

- A. Candidates are selected from the list in rank order. The order begins with rank number 1. This means candidates with rank number 1 will be contacted first when an opportunity to participate in the State Trooper selection process becomes available. Candidates with rank number 2 will be contacted second and so forth.

Once all contacted candidates have completed the selection process, the rank order is used again to appoint eligible candidates to the State Police Academy. Candidates with rank number 1 are appointed first, candidates with rank number 2 are appointed second, etcetera. Your rank number is your place in the order for selection and appointment to the State Police Academy.

**Q. Can I improve my rank number?**

- A. Your rank number on the current eligibility list is based primarily on your final score on the Commonwealth's *2017 Police Officer Exam*. You cannot retake the exam to improve your rank number. However, certain candidates may experience a rank number improvement if they become eligible for selection preference.

For example, the veteran's preference clause allows candidates who have qualifying military service to receive a two-point addition to their passing test score. *Whereas two points have been awarded already to candidates with Veteran status on the list, candidates who have yet to qualify for veteran's preference may apply for it as long as the list is active.* For candidates who will qualify for veteran's preference points in the future, the two-point addition to their scores will improve their rank number.

An important fact to remember about this list is that it is fluid. Each time a military make up exam is offered, passing test-takers will be added to the list at the appropriate rank numbers. Accordingly, the list and its rank numbers fluctuate over time.

**Q. Are Veterans treated differently from Disabled Veterans for State Police selection?**

- A. No. A distinction has been made between Veterans and Disabled Veterans for civil service selection purposes. However, the civil service rules are not applicable to selection for the State Police Academy. For this Department, all veterans with qualifying service receive a two-point addition to their passing exam score.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### About the Massachusetts State Police Eligibility List

#### **Q. Since I am on the list can I apply to become a State Trooper now?**

A. The Department of State Police does not accept unsolicited applications for State Trooper positions. When we contact candidates about an opportunity to participate in the selection process, we provide specific instructions about completing the Trooper application and related paperwork.

#### **Q. Exactly how are candidates contacted from the list?**

A. Typically, we notify candidates in writing when there is an opportunity to participate in a State Police selection process. We mail a notice to the address on file for each candidate in the selection range. Thus, it is important for candidates to inform us when an address change has occurred. Address changes must be submitted in writing to the State Police Human Resources Section via one of the following methods:

- By email to [msplist@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:msplist@massmail.state.ma.us)
- By fax to (508) 820-2211, Attn: HR - MSP List
- By mail to Department of State Police, Attn: HR - MSP List, 470 Worcester Road, Framingham, MA 01702

Please note that the Department of State Police is a separate entity from the state Human Resources Division – Civil Service Unit. We do not receive notice when you change your contact information or veteran's status online for civil service selection. The Human Resources Division does not receive notice from us when a candidate updates their address or veteran's status. You must inform us of changes to your personal information if you want the Department of State Police to contact you. Failure to update your contact information with us may result in missed notification and a lost opportunity for selection.

#### **Q. How many candidates do you contact about participating in a selection process?**

A. There is no set number of candidates to be contacted about participating in a selection process. The state legislature appropriates funding for a State Police Academy class whenever lawmakers determine a need to hire more State Police Troopers. Through this process, the legislature establishes parameters for the size and timing of State Police Academy classes. The funding appropriation indicates how many new State Troopers the Commonwealth shall hire and roughly when the State Police Academy class should graduate. Once a funding appropriation has been created, the Department of State Police uses the number of Troopers to be hired as a guide for how many candidates to contact from the eligibility list. As a result, the number varies from appropriation to appropriation. The Department continues to select candidates from an eligibility list until a new list is generated by an applicable Police Officer examination.

To request veteran's preference status, send your DD 214 (Member-4) to us by email, fax or mail as cited above. To request a military make up exam, call the HRD Civil Service Unit at (617) 878-9895. Please feel free to check this site periodically for Academy class news and updates.