

Frequently Asked Questions for the Police Officer Exam

Q: I see the Police Officer exam is being offered in 2024. I took it in 2023, do I need to apply and take the exam again to remain on the eligible list?

A: No. Your score from the exam in 2023, will determine your ranking on the eligible list and will be good for up to two years (9/1/2023 through 9/1/2025).

Q: How many times can someone take the exam?

A: Candidates are eligible to participate each time the exam is offered, whether every two years or annually. If candidates participate in the annual cycle, the most recent test score will be used for ranking on the eligible list. A candidate could take the most recent exam, fail, and no longer appear on any eligible list.

Q: I participated in the 2023 Police Officer exam and choose not to take the exam in 2024, how does this impact my ranking on the eligible list?

A: All test takers that participate in the 2024 exam will be merged onto the eligible list based on scores and [statutory preferences](#), such as Veterans and residency.

Q: Am I qualified to take the Police Officer exam?

A: Any entrance qualifications and requirements for the position will be listed on the exam announcement. Please carefully review these qualifications and requirements to be sure you meet them before you apply.

Q: How do I apply for the Police Officer exam?

A: Read the Police Officer exam poster and apply [online](#) when it is available.

Q: What are components of the Police Officer exam?

A: The written examination consists of three subtests: the Written Ability Test (WAT), the Life Experience Survey (LES), and the Work Styles Questionnaire (WSQ). The 3 parts, each measuring qualities that are important to succeed as an entry-level police officer are:

- **Written Ability Test (WAT)** — The WAT is administered to measure cognitive abilities that have been identified as essential to performing the duties of a Municipal and Transit Police Officer. The WAT includes areas of verbal expression, verbal comprehension, problem sensitivity, deductive reasoning, inductive reasoning, and information ordering. Candidates must receive a passing score on the WAT section of the examination in order

to have the WSQ (Work Styles Questionnaire) and LES (Life Experience Survey) sections scored.

- **Work Styles Questionnaire (WSQ)** — The WSQ is designed to assess certain motivational, value-related and attitudinal characteristics that are of potential relevance to successful performance of entry-level Municipal and Transit Police Officer.
- **Life Experience Survey (LES)** — The LES consists of a series of multiple-choice questions related to candidates' past history and experience of potential relevance to successful performance of entry-level Municipal and Transit Police Officer.

You can use the [Police Officer Written Test Preparation Guide](#) to find out more about the exam process, learn test-taking techniques, and practice with sample questions.

Q: After I apply for the exam how will I know when and where to take the written test?

A: Two weeks before the written test date you will receive a notice to appear by email. The notice will tell you the location and the time to appear for your written test. Please check your junk or spam mail folder for the e-mail before contacting the Civil Service office.

Q: When will I receive my exam results?

A: Results will be emailed to you as soon as they are available.