

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

CLASS TITLE: Park Police Officer Candidate
SERIES: Park Police Group

GRADE: PC-1 CLASS CODE: 0709
APPROVED: 06/79 REVISED: 04/80

CHARACTERISTICS OF CLASS

This is an instructional level position, the incumbent of which undergoes formalized training in law enforcement methods and procedures both in the classroom and in the field.

Participates in formal training courses in basic law enforcement leading to certification in Basic Law Enforcement training. An officer in this class is assigned to an Entrance Level Training Class and instructed in a variety of subject matter for varying lengths of time. The officer's proficiency is measured through written, oral, and practical examination, the cumulative total of which will normally determine an incumbent's retention as a police officer at a level immediately above Police Officer Candidate. Instructions are explicit and supervision is provided continuously.

An officer in this class, following Basic Law Enforcement Training, may be responsible on a rotating shift basis for enforcing statutes, laws, and regulations for which the Commission is held responsible. Work involves high risk, and the officer must be able to take appropriate action under stress. Work performance is carefully monitored (Field Training Officer Program), reviewed, and evaluated by officer's immediate supervisor.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Attends assigned classes, prepares lessons, and takes examinations. Performs related duties as required to familiarize the candidate with Park Police procedures; attends and completes the Basic Entry Level Training School acceptable to the Maryland Training Commission; performs related duties in an "instructor-student" relationship as required, including those generally associated with journeyman level officer positions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Experience: No previous experience in law enforcement is required.

Education: Graduation from high school or high school equivalency certificate recognized by the Maryland State Board of education.

Examination: Candidate applicants must pass the Commission's written Police Officer Candidate examination, must pass an oral interview conducted by a Police Assessment board.

A background investigation will be made on each Candidate, and candidate must meet the Commission's suitability requirements.

Effective upon the date of announcement for establishing a new listing for selection of Police Officer Candidates.

Medical and Physical Standards: Park Police Candidates must be able to successfully pass a medical examination based on the Commission's medical standards for Park Police administered by a Commission approved medical physician prior to appointment.

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Other: Be a U.S. citizen and not less than 21 years old as of the first day of employment.

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REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Ability to learn the functions and procedures of the Park Police to analyze situations quickly and objectively to determine a proper course of action: to apply laws, rules, and regulations impartially and firmly; and to speak and write clearly and effectively.

Ability to read and understand the law and interpretive court decisions, professional methods in interrogation and interview, crowd control, human behavioral patterns, police philosophy and ethics, etc.

Ability to pursue, apprehend, and restrain suspects and defend oneself from physical attack.

Ability to learn to give primary first aid, including stopping bleeding and treating for shock until arrival of rescue squad.

CAREER STATUS:

An employee in the Park Police series enters on duty as a Park Police Candidate. When the employee has successfully completed Candidate Training School, has had six months experience in police work, and has achieved a performance evaluation rating of at least "Good," the employee is eligible for promotion to Park Police Officer I. After six months as a Park Police Officer I (12 months total Park Police service), with an evaluation rating of at least "Good," the employee will officially end the probationary period and will be granted career status.