

Airport Police Officer and Port Police Officer

1. Preliminary Background Application (PBA) and Job Preview Questionnaire (JPQ)

All candidates must complete the on-line, interactive PBA and JPQ prior to taking the written test. The PBA and JPQ are available online at www.lacity.org/per/safety.htm under "How to Apply". The online PBA will identify issues that you should resolve before beginning the selection process and will tell you if you have a realistic chance of success in the background investigation portion of the selection process. The JPQ will help you better understand the nature of police officer work. Bring the printed results to the test site.

2. Personal Qualifications Essay (PQE)

The PQE consists of essay questions related to judgement and decision making and behavioral flexibility. Your written communication skill will also be evaluated. A passing score places you on the hiring list and is valid for 18 months. You may retake the PQE once every 3 months.

3. Physical Abilities Test (PAT)

The PAT measures agility, strength, and endurance. It is a pass/fail test that is normally offered twice monthly. You may take it as often as necessary to pass, but you must pass this test before proceeding in the selection process. A passing score is valid for 12 months.

4. Background Investigation

The investigation begins with completion of a Personal History Form, which requires compilation of extensive biographical information, completion of additional questionnaires, fingerprinting, and a background interview. While not every candidate will be selected for further processing, if you are selected you will undergo a background anywhere from one to six months, depending on the complexity of the investigation.

1. Prelim.
Background
Application and Job
Preview Questionnaire

2. Personal
Qualifications
Essay

3. Physical
Abilities Test

4. Background
Investigation

5. Polygraph
Examination

6. Department
Interview

7. Medical
Evaluation /
Psychological
Evaluation

8. Certification and
Appointment

5. Polygraph Examination

A polygraph is conducted to confirm information obtained during the selection process.

6. Department Interview

You will be evaluated by the hiring department to determine your qualifications for this position. This evaluation may include an interview with the hiring department. If you fail a department interview, you can retake it in 3 months.

7. Medical Evaluation / Psychological Evaluation

Conducted by a City physician, the medical evaluation requires that you be in excellent health with no conditions that would limit your ability to do police work. Results are valid for up to 12 months. Part of the medical evaluation includes a psychological evaluation by a City psychologist. This evaluation consists of written tests and an individual oral interview to determine your suitability for the stressful job of police work. Written psychological test results are valid for up to 24 months. Oral psychological evaluation results are valid for 12 months.

8. Certification and Appointment

This is a highly competitive process. Candidates must demonstrate their positive attributes at each step of the selection process. You must pass all test parts (including a pre-employment substance screening), be identified as the most qualified candidate by the hiring department, and possess a valid conditional job offer in order to be certified for hiring consideration.