

FAQ regarding Police Minimum Qualifications

Age Requirement

- Minimum – must be 20 ½ years old at the time of application.
- Maximum – no maximum age.

Citizenship Requirement

- Must be a U.S. citizen [TCOLE requirement - Texas Administrative Code §217.1(a)(17)]

Credit History & Child Support Delinquency

If an applicant has a poor credit history or is delinquent on child support payments, we look to see if there are circumstances surrounding the financial issues, such as divorce, unemployment, medical problems, identity theft, etc., and will make a determination on a case-by-case basis.

Criminal History

- No felony or class A misdemeanor convictions ever. [TCOLE requirement - Tx Admin Code §217.1(a)(6)]
- No class B misdemeanor convictions in last 10 years [TCOLE requirement - Tx Admin Code §217.1(a)(6)]
- No class C misdemeanor convictions (excluding traffic) in last 1 year
- No outstanding warrants
- Cannot have been on court ordered community supervision or probation: (1) ever for a felony or class A misdemeanor offense, (2) within last 10 years for a class B misdemeanor offense, or (3) within last 2 years for a class C misdemeanor offense. [TCOLE requirement - Tx Admin Code §217.1(a)(4)]
- Cannot be under indictment or have any pending criminal case (excluding traffic) [TCOLE requirement - Tx Admin Code §217.1(a)(5)]

Driving Record

- Must have an unrestricted (except for corrective lenses) drivers license
- Must not have more than 3 traffic violation convictions in last 3 years
- Must not have had license suspended in last 1 year

Drug History

- No illegal drug use of any kind in the last year.
- Beyond one year, we look at frequency and severity of use.

Education Requirement

- must be a high school graduate; or
- must have a high school equivalency certificate and completed at least 12 hours at an institution of higher education with at least a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale

Tattoos

- All tattoos must be able to be covered by the standard issued police uniform. Bandages, jewelry, makeup, gloves, wristbands, etc. are not acceptable tattoo covers.

Military Record

- Must have an honorable discharge. [TCOLE requirement - Tx Admin Code §217.1(a)(13)]

Vision Requirement

- 20/40 vision in each eye (with any corrective lenses).
- Must pass a color recognition test and depth perception test.

Hearing Requirement

- Must be able to hear less than or equal to 40 decibels in at least one ear.