

CBP Officer Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Pre-Employment Medical, Fitness and Drug Testing

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

The standard requires that the person be medically and physically capable of performing the essential job functions and duties of the position safely and efficiently without aggravating existing health problems or endangering the health and safety of the individual, others, or national security. The individual must be free of any organic, structural or functional impairment(s) and free of any existing health problem(s) that would be aggravated in response to the work environment or that would affect the safe and efficient performance of the position's duties.

Vision:

- Near vision must test at least 20/40 Snellen, binocular, with or without corrective lenses.
- Binocular distant vision acuity must be at least 20/30 corrected; 20/100 uncorrected.
- Color perception - must demonstrate normal color vision. Use of an X-chromatic lens or other artificial device is not acceptable.
- Normal depth perception and normal peripheral vision are required.
- Refractive surgery/LASIK surgery - individuals who have undergone refractive (for example, LASIK) surgery must meet the vision standards as determined by a prescribed evaluation, at a specific interval following surgery, usually three (3) months.

Hearing:

- Unaided testing with each ear must test at 25dB or less for the average of the 500, 1000, 2000, and 3000 Hz frequencies.
- Unaided testing in each ear must test at 45dB or less at 4000 and 6000 Hz frequencies.
- The difference in hearing levels between the ears may not exceed 30dB at the 4000 and 6000 Hz frequencies.
- The difference in hearing levels between the ears may not exceed 15dB for the average of 500, 1000, 2000, and 3000 Hz frequencies.
- Use of a hearing aid is not permitted in order to comply with hearing standards.

PHYSICAL FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

The physical demands of this job range from sedentary to arduous and include sustained heavy manual labor and the operation of hand controls and other equipment. Job task categories include: vision, reading/comprehension, communication, writing, sitting, standing, running/walking, bending/stooping, pushing/pulling, lifting/carrying, climbing and driving. Due to the unique factors of the job, the CBP Officer may work extended or unscheduled hours including weekends and holidays and be required to rotate shifts, assignments and duty stations. This is a weapon-carrying position.

CBP Officer candidates are required to take and pass two Pre-employment Fitness Tests prior to entry on duty. To increase the chances of passing both Pre-employment Fitness Tests, review the information provided, engage in regular physical exercise and

practice the PFT requirements on a gradual basis. Be sure to consult with your personal physician prior to engaging in a regular fitness program. More information can be found at: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/careers/customs_careers/officer/cbp_officer/

Q: How will I be notified of the time and place of the medical exam and fitness test?

A: Within approximately 4 weeks after your tentative selection letter you will be contacted by our medical contractor to arrange the date, time, and location of your medical exam and/or fitness test. Every effort is made to identify a clinic within a reasonable driving distance of your residence.

Q: What does the medical exam consist of?

A: In advance of your scheduled exam, you will be asked to complete a detailed medical history form. The medical exam itself includes a medical history, EKG, vision test, hearing test and physical examination.

Q: What happens if issues arise as a result of my medical exam?

A: You will be notified by the Minneapolis Hiring Center of any potentially disqualifying issue(s) that arise as a result of the medical exam. You will be given an opportunity to provide additional medical evidence to clarify the issue. The additional information is needed to help us determine your ability to safely perform the strenuous duties of this position without being a hazard to yourself or others.

Q: Should I keep a copy of any additional records I submit to your office?

A: It is recommended that you maintain a copy of all documents submitted to this office. Also, you should take a copy of the medical documents with you to the training academy, if they pertain to physical performance issues (for example, orthopedic, chiropractic, cardiology, asthma).

Q: What do the pre-employment fitness tests consist of?

A: Due to the strenuous nature of the CBP Officer duties and the associated training programs, fitness tests have been developed and will be used to screen candidates for entry-level CBP Officer positions. Candidates will be required to pass the pre-employment fitness test (PFT-1) early in the pre-employment process. The PFT-1 consists of a (1) push up test, (2) sit-up test, (3) side step test, (4) a lift/lower test (50 pounds), and (5) a 5-minute cardiovascular endurance step test or a 1.5 mile run. Approximately 30 days prior to your entrance on duty, you will be required to pass a 2nd pre-employment fitness exam (PFT-2). The PFT-2 consists of a: (1) 220 yard run, (2) sit-up test, (3) push-up test, and (4) 1.5 mile run.

Q: How do I find out more about the fitness examinations?

A: The CBP Officer Fitness Testing Fact Sheet is available online at the following link: www.cbp.gov/linkhandler/cgov/careers/customs_careers/officer/cbp_officer/cbpo_fitness.ctt/cbpo_fitness.pdf

Q: Who will notify me when a decision has been made on my application?

A: You can check your medical status through the Minneapolis Hiring Center's automated system (Central Applicant Self Service program – CASS). Instructions to access CASS will be included in your tentative selection package.

Q: When will I be contacted for the drug test?

A: The drug test is administered randomly at any point in the pre-appointment screening process.

Q: What if I need an accommodation due to a disability?

A: CBP provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. If a reasonable accommodation is needed for any part of the application and hiring process, applicants should contact the office scheduling them for that portion of the process.