

8.4. Medical Standards. -- All applicants for entry into an entry-level training program shall submit to a medical examination by a licensed physician chosen by and at the expense of the employing agency. The applicants shall complete a comprehensive medical history questionnaire, as well as submit to a medical examination which shall include the following minimum requirements: A medical history; a medical examination; laboratory tests; blood chemistry; Complete Blood Count (CBC); urinalysis; Tuberculosis; Electrocardiogram (ECG); and drug screening. The criteria as to type and method of evaluation of any required laboratory tests will be established by the Subcommittee.

8.4.a. The medical examination shall consist of criteria aimed at identifying conditions that may potentially exclude an applicant from entry into a basic entry-level training program.

8.4.b. Applicants employed by a law enforcement agency that are required to meet medical requirements for firefighters (National Fire Protection Standards 1582 or its most current equivalent) as a condition of employment will use that medical standard for entry into an entry-level training program (W.Va. Code §8-22-16).

8.4.c. The Medical History Statement and Medical Examination Report are valid for a one-year period, to be measured from the date of the examining physician's signature on the State of Condition page of the Medical Examination Report.

8.4.d. The examining physician shall note if the applicant has any of the medical and physical conditions established by the Subcommittee which may interfere with the applicant's ability to perform the essential functions established by the Subcommittee for an entry level law enforcement officer. The conditions established by the Subcommittee will be available for review and will be posted on the website of the West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services. These conditions may be cause to exclude an applicant from consideration for acceptance except where specifically noted.

8.4.d.1. Eyes and Vision. -- With regard to eyes and vision, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.1.A. Visual Acuity -- An applicant's uncorrected vision may be equal to but not worse than 20/100 in the weaker eye, and shall be correctable to better than, or equal to, 20/30 (Snellen) in each eye. Means of correction must be worn on the job and the means of correction shall not interfere with proper fitting of a facial mask, e.g., gas mask, riot helmet or air or blood borne pathogen masks, etc.

8.4.d.1.B. Far visual acuity shall be at least 20/30 binocular with contact lenses or eyeglasses. Far visual acuity uncorrected shall be at least 20/100 binocular for wearers of hard contacts or eyeglasses. Successful long-term soft contact lens wearers (six months without a problem) are not subject to the uncorrected standard.

8.4.d.1.C. Ophthalmological procedures such as radial keratotomy, repair of retinal detachment. Sufficient time (minimum, six months) shall have passed to allow stabilization of visual acuity and to ensure that there are no post surgical complications.

8.4.d.1.D. Visual Acuity -- Color Vision: The applicant shall pass a "controlled color discrimination test", such as, United States Department of Transportation Color Vision Examination.

8.4.d.1.E. Visual Acuity -- Depth Perception: An applicant's depth perception should be sufficient to demonstrate normal stereo depth perception with or without correction to the standard: 80 ARC seconds.

8.4.d.1.F. The examining physician shall note any other conditions which may interfere with the applicant's ability to perform the essential tasks listed in the job description of entry-level law enforcement officer.

8.4.d.2. Ears and Hearing. -- With regard to ears and hearing, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.2.A. Hearing Acuity -- Using an audiometer, the applicant should have less than average loss of 25 or more decibels at the 500, 1000, 2000, and 3000 Hertz (Hz) levels in either ear with no single frequency loss in excess of 40.

8.4.d.2.B. Acute Otitis Media, Otitis Externa, and Mastoiditis -- If the applicant meets hearing acuity guidelines, then these conditions are non-disqualifying.

8.4.d.2.C. Any Inner /Middle/Outer Ear Disorder Affecting Equilibrium, e.g., Meniere's Disease - If the applicant has historically had episodes of vertigo, the applicant may require further evaluation.

8.4.d.3. Nose, Throat, and Mouth. -- With regard to the nose, throat and mouth, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.3.A. Loss of sense of smell;

8.4.d.3.B. Aphonia, speech loss or speech defects; and

8.4.d.3.C. Abnormalities of the nose, throat, or mouth, except as described in subparagraphs 8.4.d.3.A. and 8.4.d.3.B. - If the abnormality does not interfere with the applicant's breathing, or the proper fitting of a gas mask, the condition is non-excludable.

8.4.d.4. Peripheral Vascular System. -- With regard to the peripheral vascular system, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.4.A. Hypertension - An applicant's resting blood pressure should be less than, or equal to, 140 mmHg systolic and 90 mmHg diastolic on three successive readings. If the applicant has controlled hypertension not exceeding this standard and is on medication with side effect profiles which do not interfere with the performance of his or her duty as an entry-level law enforcement officer, the condition may not cause the applicant to be excluded. The applicant shall have a functional and therapeutic cardiac classification no greater than 1A, i.e., Functional Capacity I: Applicants with cardiac disease and no limitation of physical activity. Ordinary physical activity does not cause discomfort. Applicants in this class do not have symptoms of cardiac insufficiency, nor do they experience anginal pain. Therapeutic Classification A: Applicants with cardiac disease whose physical activity need not be restricted.

