



Minimum Qualifications and Testing and Evaluation Process



Maine Forest Ranger

Minimum Qualifications: (Entry level knowledges, skills, and/or abilities may be acquired through, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO the following coursework/training and/or experience)

An Associate Degree in forestry, fire science, criminal justice, emergency management, biology, geology, Oceanography -OR- any degree which includes 15 hours of natural sciences -OR- an acceptable equivalent two (2) year combination of directly related education, training, and/or experience.

Be at least 21 years old by the time of appointment to the Maine Criminal Justice Academy -OR- can be only 20 years old and have completed an associate degree or 60 credit hours of post-secondary education.

Have successfully passed the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's ALERT examination. (see below for scheduling)

Have successfully passed the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Physical Fitness Test (PFT) within the past Two (2) years. (see below for scheduling)

Applicant must have no criminal or extensive motor vehicle record. Proof of age (e.g. legible copy of birth certificate or driver's license) and a copy of your college transcripts / diploma(s) or equivalent **MUST** accompany your application.

Have or be able to obtain a valid Maine Class C motor vehicle operator's license

Be willing to locate anywhere within the State of Maine.

Successful completion of all required training must be met by all employees prior to attaining permanent status in this class.

Salary and Benefit Package:

- **Salary and Grade:** 19 \$21.39 - \$28.11/hour (*Includes \$.85 salary adjustment)

Benefit Package:

- Health, Dental, and Life Insurance Options
- Paid vacation and sick leave
- Deferred Compensation Program options
- Clothing and telephone allowances
- Issued uniform and field gear
- Issued Forest Ranger patrol vehicle

Testing and Evaluation Process:

The Forest Ranger selection process is extensive, thorough and time consuming. The process is conducted by the Bureau of Human Resources and the Division of Forest Protection. It involves multiple evaluation phases and you must successfully complete each phase to proceed to the next.

If you wish to be notified of an open application period, you can call 207-287-4990 to be added to a recruitment list. Upon open application, you will receive notification of such. You can also use the following link to access open application periods: <http://www.maine.gov/nrsc/jobs/index.shtml>

Interested candidates need to complete and submit an online State of Maine Direct Hire Application along with a detailed resume, college transcripts and cover letter. In addition, proof of successful completion of the Alert and PT tests administered by MCJA will need to be included with your application.

Applications are screened, and each candidate is notified of their application being accepted or declined. If accepted, each applicant will be sent detailed instructions and process timelines along with an integrity questionnaire which is required to be completed and sent back to the Maine Forest Service prior to the scheduling of the oral board phase.

Alert Examination and Physical Fitness Test:

Each candidate will be required to compete the Alert exam and physical fitness test prior to having their application accepted. If it has been longer than 2 years since you have taken the physical fitness test at MCJA, you will need to retake the test for your fitness level to be current. You can take the Alert exam and physical fitness test on the same day. The link for scheduling is found here: <https://www.maine.gov/dps/mcja/index.shtml>

What is the ALERT Examination?

The ALERT Examination is a reading comprehension and writing skills test. It is used to ensure that applicants to the Law Enforcement Pre-Service and the Basic Law Enforcement Training Program have the requisite reading and writing skills to complete the programs and function as a law enforcement officer.

How do I sign up to take the ALERT Examination?

The ALERT Examination is offered at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. To make an appointment to take the exam please call (207)877-8000. Applicants must bring with them a government issued picture identification such as a driver's license and the \$50.00 fee. If paying with cash, please bring the correct

amount. If paying with check, please bring a check for \$50.00 made payable to “Treasurer, State of Maine”. Applicants should arrive at 8:15 AM, 15 minutes prior to the start of the exam at 8:30 AM. Anyone arriving after the exam has started will be asked to reschedule. No electronic devices such as cell phones or cameras will be allowed in the testing room. Please lock these devices in your vehicle before entering the building.

How do I sign up for the physical fitness test?

The physical fitness test is offered at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. To make an appointment to take the test please call (207)877-8000. Applicants must bring with them a government issued picture identification such as a driver’s license and the \$35.00 fee. If paying with cash, please bring the correct amount. If paying with check, please bring a check for \$35.00 made payable to “Treasurer, State of Maine”. Applicants should arrive by 8:30 AM, 30 minutes prior to the start of the test at 9:00 AM. If you are taking the Alert test on the same day, you will arrive at MCJA at 8:15 am, take the exam, and then proceed to take the physical fitness test. A total of \$85.00 is needed for both exam and test.

Physical Fitness Test Hiring Requirements

The following three (3) test items constitute the physical fitness test (PFT) REQUIREMENTS for the Maine Forest Ranger hiring process. Applicants must successfully complete the Push Up and Sit Up tests at the 50th percentile and the 1.5 mile run test at the 60th percentile coinciding with age and gender.

1. One Minute Push-up test;
2. One Minute Sit-up test; and
3. 1.5-mile run

FITNESS TEST	MALE (50 th Percentile) AGE				FEMALE (50 th Percentile) AGE			
	20–29	30–39	40–49	50-59	20–29	30–39	40–49	50-59
One Minute Push - up Test	33	27	21	15	18	14	11	5
One Minute Sit-up Test	40	36	31	26	35	27	22	17
	MALE (60 th Percentile)				FEMALE (60 th Percentile)			
1.5 Mile Run	11:31	11:56	12:25	13:32	13:24	14:04	14:44	16:21

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST DESCRIPTIONS:

ONE MINUTE PUSH-UP TEST: You will assume the standard position for a push-up, which is the body rigid and straight from head to their heels (plank position) with the feet together and the hands slightly wider than shoulder-width apart in the “UP” position. An administrator will place a 3-inch measuring device on the surface directly under your chest, between and in line with the nipples of your chest. With the back and remainder of the body straight always, you will lower the body towards the floor until your sternum touches the 3-inch measuring device being held by the administrator’s hand. You will then push to the fully extended UP position, so that the elbows come to a near locked position. You cannot wiggle to get to the UP position. This will complete one repetition. You will complete as many correct push-ups as possible in 1 minute. You may rest only in the UP position while maintaining your body in a straight position at all times during the test. If you do not touch the 3-inch measuring device or do not go all the way up, those individual push-ups do not count. If you come out of the plank position or any parts of your body touch the floor other than your hands and feet, the test is over. The test administrator will count out loud only the number of correct push-ups completed.

Scoring: *The total number of correct push-ups in 1 minute.*

ONE MINUTE SIT-UP TEST: The test will begin in the down position. You will lie down on your back with knees bent and heels flat on the same level surface that you are lying down on. A partner will hold your feet down. Your hands will be placed clasped behind your head. Fingers are interlocked throughout the exercise. A correct sit-up is performed by sitting up until the upper body is **perpendicular** to the floor. Usually this will mean that your elbows must touch the top of your knees or extend beyond your lower legs. The complete sit-up is finished in the correct “UP” position. You will return to a full lying position (with upper back touching the floor) before starting the next sit-up. The buttocks must be kept in contact with the surface during the sit-up with no thrusting of the hips. You will perform as many sit-ups as possible in 1 minute. If your buttocks come off the floor, your fingers come unclasped, you do not come all the way up to perpendicular or your shoulders do not touch

the floor, those individual sit-ups will not count. The test administrator will count out loud only the number of correct sit-ups completed.

Scoring: *Your total number of correct sit-ups in 1 minute.*

1.5 MILE RUN: The applicant will walk, jog, run, or any combination thereof, one and one-half miles. A measured, level course will be used, such as an indoor or outdoor track. Exact distances will be indicated. A monitor will keep record of the distance and time the applicant has completed. If using a track, a monitor will inform the applicant at the end of each lap the cumulative running time or a visual timing device will be observable by the applicant. The assigned monitor will count out loud the number of laps completed.

Scoring: *The time it takes to finish 1.5 miles.*

Structured Oral Board

Applicants will be interviewed by a panel of Maine Forest Rangers and assessed in the following categories: Commitment/Independence; Judgment/Logic; Communications Skills; Applied Knowledge; Decision Making/Decisiveness; Tact & Diplomacy; Motivation; Leadership; Problem Solving Ability.

A five-minute presentation to the board is also required during this phase.

Successful applicants of the oral board phase may be offered conditional employment, contingent upon passing a pre-polygraph interview, polygraph examination, background investigation and law enforcement employment psychological examination.

Background Investigations and Automatic Disqualifiers:

Disqualifying conduct / actions include:

- Has been found guilty of murder or any crime classified in Maine Law as a Class A, B, or C crime (any felony)
- Has been found guilty of any crime classified in Maine Law as a Class D crime (misdemeanor with a maximum term of imprisonment of less than one year)
- Has been found guilty of violating any of the following provisions of the Maine Criminal Code: 1) Chapter 15 (theft); 2) Chapter 19 (falsification in official matters); 3) Chapter 25 (bribery and corrupt practices); or 4) Chapter 45 (drugs)
- Has been found guilty of any crime that is a violation of the domestic abuse provisions of any state or federal statutes
- Has an extensive record of motor vehicle law violations
- Has been found guilty of operating-under-the-influence of intoxicating liquor and/or drugs within the 10 years prior to date of hire

- Has been found guilty of conduct specified in subparagraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 in another state or jurisdiction
- Has been adjudicated to have committed a 0.02 violation (liquor violation under 21 years of age) within the 6 years prior to date of application
- Has ingested or been injected with or used a hallucinogenic drug
- Has illegally sold scheduled drugs or drugs which require a prescription
- Has engaged in illegal drug use beyond what is considered as experimentation
- Is currently abusing drugs or alcohol
- Falsifies, misrepresents, or omits information concerning a material fact in the application, during any of the tests, when interviewed, during the background investigation, polygraph examination, or on the pre-polygraph questionnaire

Colonel's Interview:

Applicants successfully completing all prior phases of the hiring process will be scheduled for an interview with the Division's Chief. Applicants passing this phase will be placed on the Division's hiring register maintained at the Natural Resource Service Center. The register will be used to fill vacancies across the State and will be valid for 18 months after its establishment.

Once Hired

New Rangers are required to attend and successfully complete a 12 to 18 week Law Enforcement Basic School and a 10 week advanced Forest Ranger post school. Upon graduation from these academies, new Rangers will work under a Field Training Officer for a period of six (6) months (832hrs minimum). Employment during this probationary period is contingent on a new employee passing all the above requirements.