

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 [TCLEOSE requirement - Texas Administrative Code §217.1(a)(18)]

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. We understand that unfortunate things happen and we will not automatically hold a negative financial situation against an applicant.

Criminal History

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

- (a) licensed police officers: [Texas Administrative Code §217.1(a)(1)]
 - (1) must be a high school graduate; or
 - (2) must have passed a G.E.D. test indicating high school graduate level; or
 - (3) must have 12 semester hours credit from an accredited college or university.
- (b) unlicensed apprentice police officers: [Texas Administrative Code §215.15(b)]
 - (1) must be a high school graduate; or
 - (2) 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.

Military Record

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

Vision Requirement

- 20/40 vision (both eyes combined, not individually) with corrective lenses
- must pass a color recognition test