

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

Office of the Sheriff

55 West Younger Avenue
San Jose, California 95110-1721
(408) 808-4605



Laurie Smith
Sheriff

Frequently Asked Questions

General:

Who can I contact for more information?

- Visit our website at www.GOSHERIFF.org
- Call us at (408) 808-4605 or (866) GO-SHERIFF
- Email us at SO_Recruiting@sheriff.sccgov.org

Are you currently hiring?

- We are continuously accepting applications for Deputy Sheriff Cadet and Lateral positions.
- We are continuously accepting applications for Sheriff's Correctional Deputy Cadet and Lateral positions.
- Apply online at www.SCCJOBS.org

Written Examination:

How do I register for the written examination?

- Once you submit your application, you will receive an email confirming it has been accepted. The email will also include instructions on how to self-register for the written examination.
- Frequently check on the status of your application at www.neogov.com to see the current status of your application.

Do you accept PELLET-B T-Scores?

- We are now accepting PELLET-B T-Scores for the Deputy Sheriff Cadet position only.
- A T-Score of 48 or higher is considered passing.
- We do not accept T-Scores for the Sheriff's Correctional Deputy Cadet position at this time.
- Additionally, we proctor our own unique written examinations for both the Deputy Sheriff Cadet and the Sheriff's Correctional Deputy Cadet position.

What does the written examination entail?

- The written examination covers the reading comprehension, English grammar, sentence construction, vocabulary, and spelling.

What should I study for the written examination?

- Public libraries, local bookstores, or online resources should have literature on Entry Level Law Enforcement or Corrections Officer Examinations.

Where do I go for the written examination?

- You will be informed of the testing location through email.

If I do not pass the written examination, can I retake the exam?

- You must reapply for the position to retake the written examination.

Who do I contact if I do not get my examination score?

- Whether you pass or not, your score will be sent to you either through mail or email.

How long does it take to get my examination results?

- You should receive your results in approximately 3-6 weeks.

Hiring Process:

Can I apply for both positions at the same time?

- Yes, you can submit applications for both the Deputy Sheriff and the Sheriff's Correctional Deputy position. In fact, this is highly recommended to increase your chances of being hired.

What is the average hiring time?

- The hiring process takes approximately 6-9 months, although we have been working on reducing the amount of time necessary for the hiring process.

What is included in the hiring process?

- Initial application
- Written examination (70% is passing or a T-Score of 48)
- Physical agility test
- Pre-background interview
- Background investigation
- Polygraph examination
- Psychological evaluation
- Medical evaluation
- Hiring board review

What does the physical agility test entail?

- 99 yard obstacle course
- 6 foot solid or chain-link fence climb (Deputy Sheriff Cadets must complete the solid fence)
- 165 pound life-like dummy drag for 32 feet
- 165 pound life-like dummy lift for 60 seconds
- 500 yard run

Academy Training

Do I have to go through an academy?

- Applicants applying for cadet positions will attend the academy.
- Lateral applicants may attend an abbreviated academy.

Who pays for the academy?

- Upon being extended a final offer of employment, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office will pay for your academy training. The academy is sponsored meaning you will earn a salary and have benefits starting the first day at the academy.

Where is the academy located?

- The academy for both the Deputy Sheriff Cadet and the Sheriff's Correctional Deputy Cadet positions are located at the Santa Clara County Justice Training Center.
- Santa Clara County Justice Training Center
19050 Malaguerra Avenue
Morgan Hill, California 95037

How long is the academy?

- Deputy Sheriff Cadets attend a 26-week P.O.S.T. Basic academy and Sheriff's Correctional Deputy Cadets attend a 14-week S.T.C. Adult Correction Officers Core academy.

Is the academy a live-in academy?

- No, the academy is not a live-in academy. The academy is extremely rigorous and time spent commuting may affect your performance during the academy. Please make accommodations nearby if you live far away to increase your chances of successfully passing the academy.

What is the basic schedule while attending the academy?

- The basic schedule is 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. with some nights and weekends for training.

Will I be paid and receive benefits while attending the academy?

- Yes, pay and benefits begin on your first day at the academy.

Contact Us:

For more information please feel free to contact us at:

Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office
Backgrounds and Recruiting Unit
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San Jose, CA 95110

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