

## Recruitment and Selection

### 1000.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The employment policy of the Illinois State University shall provide equal opportunities for applicants and its employees regardless of race, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy, religion, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental handicap, marital status, veteran status, or sex, and shall not show partiality or grant any special favors to any applicant, employee or group of employees. The rules governing employment practices for this department are maintained by the Illinois State University Department of Human Resources.

### 1000.2 STANDARDS

The classification specifications for the police series is maintained by the State University Civil Service System. The classification specifications include the minimum qualifications, typical duties, and personal attributes necessary for the position. The [State University Civil Service Classifications](#) for all department civil service classifications are available at the [SUCSS website](#).

The Department also maintains an appropriate job description for each employee's position.

### 1000.3 SELECTION PROCESS

The Department shall actively strive to identify a diverse group of candidates that have in some manner distinguished themselves as being outstanding prospects.

The examination of applicants shall be public, competitive, and open to all citizens of the United States and those legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law if they are authorized to possess firearms under federal law, with specified limitations as to residency, age, health, habits, and moral character (55 ILCS 5/3-6033; 55 ILCS 5/3-8010; 55 ILCS 5/3-7008; 65 ILCS 5/10-2.1-6; 65 ILCS 5/10-1-7).

Minimally, the Department shall employ a comprehensive screening, background investigation, and selection process that assesses cognitive and physical abilities and includes review and verification of the following:

- (a) A comprehensive application for employment (including previous employment, references, current and prior addresses, education, and military record)
  1. Candidates shall not be screened, requested, or required to disclose wage or salary history as a condition of employment (820 ILCS 112/10).
- (b) Driving record
- (c) Personal and professional reference checks
- (d) Employment eligibility, including U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 and acceptable identity and employment authorization documents. This required documentation should not be requested until a candidate is hired. This does not prohibit obtaining documents required for other purposes.
- (e) Information obtained from public internet sites

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1. This review should include the identification of any activity that promotes or supports unlawful violence or unlawful bias against persons based on protected characteristics (e.g., race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability).
  - (f) Financial history consistent with the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) (15 USC § 1681 et seq.)
  - (g) Local, state, and federal criminal history record checks
  - (h) Polygraph or voice stress analyzer (VSA) examination (when legally permissible)
  - (i) Medical and psychological examination (may only be given after a conditional offer of employment)
  - (j) Review board or selection committee assessment
  - (k) Relevant national and state decertification records, if available
  - (l) Any relevant information in the National Law Enforcement Accountability Database

#### 1000.3.1 VETERAN PREFERENCE

The Department will provide veteran preference points as required (65 ILCS 5/10-1-16; 65 ILCS 5/10-2.1-8; 65 ILCS 5/10-2.1-9; 55 ILCS 5/3-8010).

#### 1000.3.2 EXPUNGED JUVENILE RECORDS

Application forms for employment should contain language informing the applicant that he/she is not required to disclose expunged juvenile records (705 ILCS 405/5-923). No member of the Department may ask an applicant whether he/she has had a juvenile record expunged.

### **1000.4 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION**

Every candidate shall undergo a thorough background investigation to verify his/her personal integrity and high ethical standards, and to identify any past behavior that may be indicative of the candidate's unsuitability to perform duties relevant to the operation of the Illinois State University Police Department (50 ILCS 705/10.2).

#### 1000.4.1 NOTICES

Background investigators shall ensure that investigations are conducted and notices provided in accordance with the requirements of the FCRA (15 USC § 1681d).

#### 1000.4.2 REVIEW OF PERSONAL ONLINE ACCOUNTS

Due to the potential for accessing unsubstantiated, private or protected information, the Administration Division Commander shall not request, require or coerce candidates to provide usernames, passwords, account information or access to password-protected personal online accounts (820 ILCS 55/10).

Candidates may be required to share specific content that has been reported to the Department, without requesting or requiring candidates to provide access to their personal online accounts, as set forth in 820 ILCS 55/10.

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The Administration Division Commander should consider utilizing the services of an appropriately trained and experienced third party to conduct open source, internet-based searches and/or review information from personal online accounts to ensure that:

- (a) The legal rights of candidates are protected.
- (b) Material and information to be considered are verified, accurate and validated.
- (c) The Department fully complies with applicable privacy protections and local, state and federal law.

Regardless of whether a third party is used, the Administration Division Commander should ensure that potentially impermissible information is not available to any person involved in the candidate selection process.

#### 1000.4.3 DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING

The background investigator shall summarize the results of the background investigation in a report that includes sufficient information to allow the reviewing authority to decide whether to extend a conditional offer of employment. The report shall not include any information that is prohibited from use, including that from social media sites, in making employment decisions. The report and all supporting documentation shall be included in the candidate's background investigation file.

#### 1000.4.4 RECORDS RETENTION

The background report and all supporting documentation shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

#### **1000.5 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS**

All candidates shall meet the minimum standards required by state law. Candidates will be evaluated based on merit, ability, competence and experience, in accordance with the high standards of integrity and ethics valued by the Department and the community.

Validated, job-related and nondiscriminatory employment standards shall be established for each job classification and shall minimally identify the training, abilities, knowledge and skills required to perform the position's essential duties in a satisfactory manner. Each standard should include performance indicators for candidate evaluation. The Department of Human Resources should maintain validated standards for all positions.

#### **1000.6 DISQUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

As a general rule, performance indicators and candidate information and records shall be evaluated by considering the candidate as a whole, and taking into consideration the following:

- Age at the time the behavior occurred
- Passage of time
- Patterns of past behavior
- Severity of behavior

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- Probable consequences if past behavior is repeated or made public
- Likelihood of recurrence
- Relevance of past behavior to public safety employment
- Aggravating and mitigating factors
- Other relevant considerations

A candidate's qualifications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, using a totality-of-the-circumstances framework.

#### **1000.7 PROBATIONARY PERIODS**

The Administration Division Commander should coordinate with the Illinois State University Department of Human Resources to identify positions subject to probationary periods and procedures for:

- (a) Appraising performance during probation.
- (b) Assessing the level of performance required to complete probation.
- (c) Extending probation.
- (d) Documenting successful or unsuccessful completion of probation.

#### **1000.8 TRAINING**

All steps involved in the recruitment and selection process (e.g., recruitment techniques, polygraph examinations, medical examinations) shall be conducted by trained personnel.