



## Veterans Preference

### Eligibility

Applicants in any of the following categories are entitled to veterans' preference if they have completed their military service commitment and have received an honorable discharge from such service prior to taking a civil service examination.

1. Certain military commitments completed prior to July 27, 1953
2. Applicants who have served in an active duty capacity in the armed forces of the United States since July 27, 1953. Such service must include completion of basic training.
3. Applicants who served in the National Guard or Reserves. Such service must include completion of basic training and completion of either the entire first term of service or at least one period of active duty for a purpose other than training since August 2, 1990.

### Also eligible are:

1. Widows or widowers of veterans.
2. Spouses of disabled veterans.

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections has a long history of hiring veterans from all branches of the military for many of our job titles. If you pass a civil service examination, you may be eligible for various training programs available within the DOC, for more information [click here](#).

## GI Bill

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections has a long history of hiring veterans from all branches of the military for many of our job titles. If you take and pass a civil service examination, you may be entitled to receive the addition of 10 points to your score and preference in hiring.

### VETERANS' PREFERENCE

If you think you may qualify for veterans' preference you can access the PA State Civil Service Commissions' website at [www.scsc.pa.gov](http://www.scsc.pa.gov), select "Veterans" to review eligibility and preference qualifications.

## **GI BILL BENEFIT**

Veterans who have been working in technically oriented military occupations are better prepared for civilian technical training. If you do not have a job, or if you are not working in the occupation you want, contact your local Pennsylvania CareerLink. The Veterans Employment Representative should be able to find an employer who can offer the kind of training you need to reach your occupational goal. The Department of Corrections does provide apprenticeship training for on-the-job training (OJT) as a Corrections Officer Trainee.

You may be eligible to receive a monthly GI Bill benefit check from the federal Department of Veterans Affairs. OJT is training you receive while actually performing a job and earning wages, as well as receiving your GI Bill benefits. OJT programs normally range from six months to two years in length. Some examples of currently approved OJT programs in addition to Corrections Officer Trainee are: Records Specialist, Corrections Counselor, Electronics Trade Instructor, Vocational Guidance Counselor, and Food Service Instructor.

Apprenticeship training is OJT coupled with theoretical related instruction. During apprenticeship training you receive your GI Bill benefits while working full time and earning wages. Apprenticeship programs are normally from two to five years in length. Examples of approved apprenticeship programs are: Building Trades Instructor positions that include Carpentry, Electrical, Masonry, Plumbing and Heating, and Custodial Maintenance, Corrections Officer Trainee, and Corrections Officer 1. Availability of these programs varies by institution. You will be provided with more information by the human resource office staff at the institution where you are considering employment.

## **PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENCY**

Pennsylvania residency means you currently reside in Pennsylvania and you intend to remain a resident. Most Department of Corrections' job opportunities require PA residency, however, there are waivers to the residency requirement for specific locations and/or types of jobs. For more information, you can access the PA State Civil Service Commission's website, shown above, select "Job Seekers," and then select "PA Residency Information."

## **CAREERS IN CORRECTIONS**

For information on employment opportunities with the Department of Corrections, you can access our website at [www.cor.pa.gov](http://www.cor.pa.gov) and select "About Us," then select "Employment."