

Please Read All Pages Below

BUREAU OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES **EMPLOYMENT DISQUALIFIERS**

Please read the following information carefully before applying. The list below includes the BPS automatic disqualifiers. If you meet any of these, you are disqualified from employment.

- Under 21 years of age at the time when recruits report to training academy
- Not a United States Citizen
- No High School Diploma or G.E.D.
- Dishonorable Discharge from the military
- Convicted of any crime punishable by imprisonment in a federal or a state prison
- Convicted of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs within the past 5 years
- Any conviction of Criminal Domestic Violence
- Drivers license currently suspended, revoked, or more than six points currently assessed against your license
- *A tattoo, brand, piercing or body art that can be seen while in short sleeve patrol uniform
- Cannot meet minimum vision standards: (20/20 vision OR no more than 20/100 corrected to 20/20)
- Sold any illegal drugs or controlled substances (including prescription drugs)
- Any felony conviction (whether convicted as a juvenile or an adult)

*** Note on Tattoos, Piercings, and Brands:**

Body Piercings which are visible anytime while on duty and/or in uniform are prohibited. This does not apply to piercing of the ear lobes on female officers.

Tattoos and/or Brands are not allowed to be visible below the elbow or on face and/or neck while in any uniform of the Bureau of Protective Services. (Any visible portion of a tattoo below the bottom of the shirt sleeve to the elbow will be carefully evaluated to ensure employment suitability.)

Hiring Process Time Line and Rejection Criteria

The BPS Employment process generally takes between four (4) and six (6) months. If you are not selected for a class, you may generally be able to apply during the next hiring cycle for the next class unless your rejection was based on one of the following factors:

1. ***ANY Falsification of application discovered during process:*** Applicants will be ineligible to re-apply for 2 years from date on rejection letter.
2. ***Two (2) Physical Abilities Test (PAT) test failures within a twelve (12) month period:*** Applicants will be ineligible to re-apply for 1 year from date on rejection letter.
3. ***Two (2) Written Examination test failures within a twelve (12) month period:*** Applicants will be ineligible to re-apply for 1 year from date on rejection letter.
4. ***Non-Selection by the Selection Review Interview Board:*** Applicants who fail to get the minimum required votes to continue in the process during their interview will be ineligible to re-apply for 2 years from date on rejection letter.

CREDIT STANDARDS

The credit history and financial conditions of the applicant will be reviewed. Credit history will not be a sole basis for disqualification. Below is a list of minimal credit standards.

- An unsatisfied judgment
- An unpaid State or Federal tax lien
- Accounts written off as bad debt with a remaining balance
- Accounts turned over to a collection agency with a remaining balance
- Voluntary or involuntary repossessions with a remaining balance
- A student loan in default
- An account with a payment 120 days past due with a remaining balance
- A foreclosure account with a remaining balance
- An account “included in bankruptcy” with a remaining balance

Applicants who are given the opportunity to review their credit reports may submit documentation which indicates that they have taken responsibility for the accounts in question. (For example, paid in full receipts/letters, payment plan letters)

SALARY

Rank	Officer Trainee	Officer	Officer First Class	Senior Officer	Lance Corporal
Time	Police Academy	Graduation	1 ½ Years	2 ½ Years	5 Years
Salary	31,154	31,154	34,269	37,695	39,579

Certified South Carolina Class LE1 Applicants:

*Certified with 3 or more years: **\$37,695/year**

*Certified with less than 3 years: **\$31,154/year**

** Certified time counts only from Class LE1 South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (CJA) graduation date.*

Residency Requirements

Bureau of Protective Services Officers must reside within a thirty (30) mile radius of the BPS Headquarters located at the Edgar A. Brown Building, 1205 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC.

OUT OF STATE APPLICANTS

As you take part in this hiring process, please understand the following:

- **You must make several different trips to Columbia, SC to complete this hiring process. These trips are at the expense of the applicant.**
- **You cannot do multiple steps on one visit.**
- **All applicants must undergo a thorough state agency background investigation.**
- **You will need to establish South Carolina Residency and acquire a South Carolina Driver's License before your hire date.**
- **Out of State Law Enforcement Certifications are not recognized. You must complete the SC Criminal Justice.**