

## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Candidate:

Although a career in correctional services may be both personally fulfilling and financially rewarding, many persons are not suited for this type of work. The position of Correction Officer often requires that the employee engage in activities and be placed in situations which many individuals find both physically undesirable and emotionally objectionable. In the past, many people interested in a career in corrections, have refused employment when they learned all of the requirements of the position of Correction Officer; others have resigned during the first few months on the job. In order to spare the discomfort of preparing yourself for employment, only to find that there are aspects of the job which make it unacceptable to you, the Department of Corrections has prepared an Interview Questionnaire of job elements for your consideration. Each element in the questionnaire represents a job requirement. An employee who refuses to perform any one of the responsibilities on this questionnaire is subject to dismissal.

THEREFORE, anyone indicating an unwillingness to perform any of the activities outlined in this questionnaire should NOT file an application to be a Correction Officer. It is important that you read each statement carefully and consider the questions carefully.

1. Are you willing to work in a job where you are not free to discuss many of your daily activities with family and friends?
2. Are you willing to wear a uniform to work everyday?
3. Are you willing to be trained in the use of firearms?
4. Are you willing to attend a physically intensive 14-week, in-residence training program in Sea Girt, NJ and two weeks of training in your assigned facility?
5. Are you willing to undergo a comprehensive psychological evaluation if this position is offered to you?
6. Are you willing to undergo an intensive physical examination if this position is offered to you?
7. Are you willing to work in a locked area of a building, supervising the activities of inmates who have been convicted of murder, rape, child molesting, armed robbery, etc?
8. Are you willing to work eight hours a day, with dangerous inmates in an area which can be unlocked only from the outside?
9. Are you willing to work a shift, which may be one the following: 6AM to 2PM; 2PM to 10PM, 10PM to 6AM?
10. Are you willing to work weekends with your regular days off during the week?
11. Are you willing to work ALL Holidays?
12. Are you willing to work double shifts (16 consecutive hours) and scheduled days off with little or no advance warning?
13. Are you willing to be confined to the institution for your entire tour of duty, including the meal break, and eat only the meal provided by the institution?
14. Are you willing to work alone for an entire eight-hour shift?
15. Are you willing to supervise the activities of inmates who might call you filthy names and / or threaten you and your family?
16. Are you willing to supervise the activities of inmates while they are in the bathroom or shower?

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17. Are you willing to pat frisk inmates, visitors, other staff members and to conduct visual searches of inmates' body cavities?
18. Are you willing to testify in court concerning events that have occurred in the institution?
19. Are you willing to work in an infirmary with sick inmates who could have serious diseases such as AIDS or Tuberculosis?
20. Are you willing to work in building areas that smell of unpleasant odors such as body odor, body wastes, etc?
21. Are you willing to respond to life threatening incidents such as inmates and / or staff who have been stabbed, had heart attacks, attempted to hang themselves, etc.?
22. Are you willing to shoot an escaping inmate (possibly to death) should the need arise?
23. Are you willing to report a fellow officer who might be breaking prison rules or regulations?
24. Are you willing to risk your personal safety to rescue a fellow officer or an inmate from attack?

As you can see from the above Correction Officer has a challenging, difficult, stressful job that can sometimes be dangerous. **If you indicate an unwillingness to perform any of the above activities, and cannot answer "yes" to all of the above, you should not file an application to be a Correction Officer.**