



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**IMPORTANT:** The personal history statement is emailed to you. If you don't return the personal history statement as outlined and within the allotted time you will be disqualified. We now also accept the Public Safety Testing personal history statement. **PLEASE ADD THESE EMAILS AS SAFE IN YOUR EMAIL SYSTEM TO ENSURE THE PERSONAL HISTORY STATEMENT DOES NOT GO TO YOUR SPAM EMAIL.**

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### **How old do I have to be to test for an Officer position?**

A new Civil Service change in October of 2020 now allows those individuals at 20.5 years of age to start the testing process. That's right, you no longer need to wait until you are 21! What are you waiting for?

### **What happens if I fail the civil service test?**

If you fail the PAT but pass the classroom portion (video/written/reading) you can sign up again to take just the PAT. If you fail the classroom section, you must start all over and take both the PAT and the classroom section over again. It's important to note a failure of any type (PAT or classroom) requires a 6-month waiting period before you can apply again.

### **How much does the academy cost me?**

The academy costs a recruit about \$3600. You are being paid your entry level salary through the city while you attend academy. The academy fee is deducted from your paycheck at a rate of \$300 a month until completed.

### **Do I need to buy my own uniforms?**

The Kennewick Police Department outfits each officer with the uniforms, safety equipment and tools needed to do their job. In addition, Officers are given \$1500 a year (per contract) to spend on uniforms, ammunition and other tools.

### **How does the retirement work?**

Officers in Washington State belong to the Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' Retirement System also known as LEOFF 2. Your monthly benefit is based on 2% x service credit years x final average salary. Your final average salary is figured on the monthly average of your highest 60 consecutive paid service credit months. Find more about the LEOFF 2 retirement [HERE](#).

### **What type of shift will I work?**

Each officer begins their career in the patrol division. Patrol shifts are 12 hours long and operate on a two week schedule. The schedule looks like this: Work Monday/Tuesday, off Wednesday/Thursday, work Friday/Saturday/Sunday, off Monday/Tuesday, work Wednesday/Thursday, off Friday/Saturday/Sunday. Every other weekend is a three day weekend off. Our day shift operates from 6AM to 6PM and our night shift operates from 6PM to 6AM. You switch between day and night shift every four months. We also operate a mid-shift which operates from 12PM to 12AM. This is by seniority bid and runs for an entire

year. Other assignments in the department work adjusted schedules which include 9 hour shifts and 10 hour shifts.

**Do you have take-home cars?**

No. We share a vehicle with an officer on the opposite rotation. Some assignments like the motor unit, K9, the Metro Drug Task Force, Violent Gang Task Force and on call Detectives have take-home vehicles.

**How long does the hiring process take?**

This depends on when you test and where you placed on the civil service list. Typically, it can take anywhere from 2-6 months to complete the hiring process from the time of your initial test.

**Do I have to live in the City of Kennewick to work there?**

No. Although a lot of our Officers do as Kennewick is a great place to work, live and play! We are looking for Officers who want to be a part of the community and who want to take stake in continuing to make Kennewick a great place to live!

**Is my personal credit a factor in the hiring process?**

Yes. The credit report is used to evaluate an applicant's ability to sustain their obligations over time to credit companies, and to further evaluate an applicant's honesty and reliability.

**Can I set up a ride along to learn more about working for KPD?**

Yes! Please complete this online form and submit it. Please note on the form you are testing or considering testing for KPD. A Sergeant will contact you after you submit the form to set up a ride time that works for you. Find the form [HERE](#).

**How do I get started?**

Your first step in the process is the law enforcement and physical abilities test. We now only use [www.publicsafetytesting.com](http://www.publicsafetytesting.com) to administer this test.



*Questions? Contact a Recruiter at*  
[KPD-Recruiters@ci.kennewick.wa.us](mailto:KPD-Recruiters@ci.kennewick.wa.us)