

# *Prince George's County Police Department*

## **Entry-Level Police Officer APRT & WRITTEN TEST**

### *Study Guide*



*RECRUITMENT AND EXAMINATION SECTION*

*4380 FORBES BLVD,*

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*WWW.PGPOLICE.ORG (Join the Department)*



## Why You Should Read This Information

The Prince George's County Police Department is hiring people to become successful Police Officers. Among the first things that you will have to do to continue in the process to become a Prince George's County Police Officer is to pass two tests: the Entry-Level Physical Agility Test and the Entry-Level Written Multiple-Choice Test.

**The Prince George's County Police Department conducted studies that show that people who do well on these tests also do well during the Police Academy training and once on the job. Therefore, if you want to become a Prince George's County Police Officer it's in your best interest and in the best interest of Prince George's County that you do your very best on these tests.**

This packet of information has been put together to help you prepare to take these tests. In this packet there are descriptions of each part of the tests, sample questions, what you must do to pass each part and tips to help you do your best.

***The information provided here describes just one approach.*** It is not intended to suggest that other methods do not work equally as well. You should decide, based on your own skill and experience, what information in this orientation packet is useful to you.

## Description of the Entry-Level Written Multiple-Choice Test

The Entry-Level Written Multiple-Choice Test is designed to test for critical skills and abilities that you must possess in order to be selected for and to attend The Police Training Academy and become a successful Police Officer in Prince George's County. You do not need to have experience as a police officer to possess these skills or to do well on the test. The critical job areas directly assessed through the Entry-Level Written Multiple-Choice test include the following:

- Memory skills – 11 questions
- Observation skills – 11 questions
- Reading Comprehension – 16 questions
- Handling Situations – 57 questions

Each skill and ability area listed above is tested in its own section of the test and has its own set of questions. The Memory and the Observation sections are timed separately. The Reading and Handling Situations sections are timed together. The total test time for all 95 questions, including instructions, is about two (2) hours. This test is pass/fail.



## **Written Multiple-Choice Exam: Reading the Test Questions**

Read the *entire* test question and each possible answer *before* choosing the answer you think is best. A common mistake is to choose an answer prematurely based on the first one you read that “sounds good.” Don’t fall into this trap! Read each possible answer carefully.

If you find you are spending too much time on a question, skip it and move on. Make sure you also skip this question number on your answer sheet. *Do not forget to come back to the question before the time period is up.* You may want to go ahead and pick an answer in case you run out of time before being able to come back to answer it.

If you have skipped any questions, be sure to leave time at the end to go back and answer them. Keep in mind that for the Memorization and Observation questions your time to answer questions is very limited.

## **Written Multiple-Choice Exam: Deciding on the Best Answer**

For the Memorization, Observation and Reading Comprehension questions read all four choices before choosing the answer you think is the best response to the question. Try to reduce the number of possible answers by eliminating any choice that you feel is clearly wrong. Once you have eliminated one option your chance of choosing the correct answer increases.

For the Handling Situations questions read all action statements related to a specific scenario before picking the four that you think you would do. Be sure to mark an answer for all questions for that scenario (either “a” – I would take this action, or “b” – I would not take this action).

Do not try to second-guess the test. Answer these questions in the way you think is best.



To answer the following questions, do not look back at Series 1.

Questions for Series 1 (you must answer questions 1 – 3 in 1½ minutes)

1. Which of the following “license plates” had the number 10 in the upper left-hand corner?
  - a. Washington
  - b. Illinois
  - c. Georgia
  - d. Florida
  
2. Which of the following exactly matches the set of numbers and/or letters on one of the “license plates”?
  - a. B W 2 0 0 0
  - b. 0 0 4 3 6 W W R
  - c. B R 2 0 0 0
  - d. 0 0 5 3 6 W W B
  
3. Which of the following “license plates” had the number 83 in the upper right hand corner?
  - a. Washington
  - b. Indiana
  - c. Illinois
  - d. Florida

