

Rhode Island Department of Corrections  
2013 RECRUITMENT  
SEPTEMBER 5 – 24, 2013

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)**  
**PLEASE READ COMPLETE LIST**  
**BEFORE CONSIDERING CALLING THE ACADEMY**

**1.) Why do I need an e-mail address to apply?**

Having a valid e-mail address will allow us to contact you in a quick, secure manner for all important information you will need as you progress through the application period. We are using e-mail as our primary method to provide information to and contact candidates, as it is faster, more efficient, and more environmentally friendly than paper “snail mail”.

**2.) What if I don't have a valid e-mail address? Can I still apply?**

Yes, you can. Visit the RI Department of Corrections Training Academy at 16 Wilma Schesler Lane, Cranston, RI (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) between the hours of 8:30am and 4:00pm (Monday through Friday), Thursday, September 5 through Tuesday, September 24, 2013 and an Academy staff member will assist you with the application process and we will develop a notification system that addresses your specific circumstances.

**3.) How can I find out more information about the recruitment process?**

Attend one of our Information Sessions held at the Training Academy. They are scheduled for:

Tuesday, September 10, 5-7pm	Tuesday, September 17, 5-7pm
Thursday, September 12, 4-6pm	Thursday, September 19, 4-6pm
Saturday, September 14, 10am-12pm	Saturday, September 21, 10am-12pm

Select a session you would like to attend and then call the Training Academy at 401-462-2697 to reserve a space.

**4.) What happens after I send in my application?**

You will be notified of an exam date and time via e-mail. All exams will be administered at CCRI, Knight Campus, in Warwick.

**5.) When does the class begin?**

The class is scheduled to begin on March 31, 2014 with graduation scheduled for May 30, 2014.

**6.) What are the other steps in the selection process?**

Additional steps include: physical fitness test, background investigation, interview, medical screen and psychological assessment. For more details about the process, refer to the Correctional Officer Applicant Success Guide, which is available on-line.

**7.) If I have a conviction which was expunged, can I still apply? Do I have to notify the Department?**

Yes, you can still apply.

Yes, notify the Department of the expungement. If you do not, it can be cause for termination or removal from the application process.

**8.) How long is the Training Academy?**

Nine weeks, non-residential, 40 hours per week, Monday-Friday, 6:52AM – 3:00PM.

**9.) How much money will I be paid while going through training?**

\$1,000 bi-weekly.

**10.) What benefits do you offer during training?**

No health benefits during Academy, but candidates are covered under worker compensation.

**11.) What benefits do you offer after graduation?**

On website [www.doc.ri.gov](http://www.doc.ri.gov) under Salary/Benefits for Correctional Officers.

**12.) What does the training consist of?**

- Paramilitary training
- Security procedures
- Supervision of inmates
- Suicide signs/precautions
- Use of Force
- Report writing
- Inmate rules & regulations
- Inmate rights
- Fire & emergency procedures
- Safety procedures
- Firearms qualifications
- Defensive Tactics
- CPR/First Aid certification
- Baton certification
- Physical training
- O.C. certification
- Key and Tool control
- Communication skills
- Inmate lifestyles
- Stress Management

**13.) What is the starting pay for a correctional officer after training?**

\$45,506

**14.) What would work hours be after graduation?**

Graduates would primarily work 3pm-11pm or 11pm-7am, with days off during the week.

**15.) Are female officers exposed to a hostile work environment from male officers/inmates?**

No, there are policies and laws in place to prevent this type of behavior. There is Zero tolerance of workplace harassment at the RIDOC.

**16.) Are women allowed to work in the men's facilities/ are men allowed to work in the women's facilities?**

Yes, the only thing that an officer will not be allowed to do in a facility is strip search an inmate of the opposite sex.

**17.) What is the ratio between officer and inmate?**

It varies from building to building, ranging from 1:24 to 1:116

**18.) Do officers carry a firearm while working?**

The only officers who carry weapons are:

- Outside patrol
- Hospital trip officers
- Tower officers
- Utility officers when transporting an inmate to another facility, funeral, or emergency situation

**19.) Will I have to pass a physical fitness test?**

Yes, there are fitness standards for entrance and fitness standards for graduation.

Both are on our website at [www.doc.ri.gov](http://www.doc.ri.gov).

**20.) Can I still apply for a job if I have a family member that is incarcerated?**

Yes, notify the Department in the supplemental application that you have a family member incarcerated.

**21.) Do I have to have a degree? If I have one will I get extra money for it?**

Minimum degree to apply is a high school diploma or GED.

There is a college incentive plan available upon appointment which offers up to \$2,500 per year for a Bachelor's Degree in criminal justice and \$2,000 per year for an Associate's Degree in criminal justice.

**Websites:** [www.networkri.org](http://www.networkri.org)

Or

[www.doc.ri.gov](http://www.doc.ri.gov) – scroll down page to line “I Want To...”,  
Be A Correctional Officer”,

click on this and it takes you to Training Academy page.