



EXAMINATION INFORMATION ALERT

Police Promotional Announcement and Testing Schedule 2026 (Includes County, Municipal, Palisades Interstate Park, Human Services, and State Park Police titles)

This alert is intended to notify Appointing Authorities (AAs) and police promotional candidates of the timeframes that will apply to the New Jersey Civil Service Commission’s (NJCSC) 2026 announcement and testing schedule for in-line police promotional titles. Providing these dates in advance should assist AAs and potential promotional candidates with their respective planning needs. Candidates may also go the NJCSC’s [Promotional Testing website](#) when an announcement is issued to obtain an orientation guide.

	Employer requests Announcement no later than	NJCSC issues Announcement	Applications must be filed by this Deadline	Eligibility is determined using this Closing Date	Tentative month of Written Exam	Tentative month of Oral Exam
SERGEANT	Aug. 1, 2026	Oct. 1, 2026	Oct. 21, 2026	Dec. 31, 2026	Feb. 2027	NA
LIEUTENANT	Apr. 1, 2026	Jun. 1, 2026	Jun. 22, 2026	Aug. 31, 2026	Oct. 2026	NA
CAPTAIN	Apr. 1, 2026	Jun. 1, 2026	Jun. 22, 2026	Aug. 31, 2026	Oct. 2026	Dec. 2026
INSPECTOR	Dec. 1, 2025	Feb. 1, 2026	Feb. 23, 2026	Apr. 30, 2026	NA	Jun. 2026
	Jun. 1, 2026	Aug. 1, 2026	Aug. 21, 2026	Oct. 31, 2026	NA	Dec. 2026
DEPUTY CHIEF	Dec. 1, 2025	Feb. 1, 2026	Feb. 23, 2026	Apr. 30, 2026	NA	Jun. 2026
	Jun. 1, 2026	Aug. 1, 2026	Aug. 21, 2026	Oct. 31, 2026	NA	Dec. 2026
CHIEF	Dec. 1, 2025	Feb. 1, 2026	Feb. 23, 2026	Apr. 30, 2026	NA	Jun. 2026
	Jun. 1, 2026	Aug. 1, 2026	Aug. 21, 2026	Oct. 31, 2026	NA	Dec. 2026

As the above schedule reveals, NJCSC issues announcements annually for the titles of Police Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain, and semi-annually for the titles of Inspector, Deputy Chief, and Chief. Please note that the NJCSC will automatically initiate Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain announcements for most jurisdictions based on the expiration date of an existing list for a given municipality. However, if a promotional list is exhausted or is expected to be exhausted or rendered incomplete prior to its expiration date, an AA should initiate a new announcement and submit its request by the appropriate deadline indicated above.

The tentative exam dates in this alert may change due to many factors. Candidates should periodically check the [Law Enforcement Status Report and orientation guides](#) for updates. Notifications to report to an exam will be emailed/mailed to eligible candidates a minimum of two weeks prior to the exam date. Candidates must notify NJCSC of any changes to contact information (postal/email/phone). Make-up exams for Public Safety titles are only granted as stated in *N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.9*.

Approved: Ryan Reinert, Director, Division of Test Development, Analytics, and Administration

Issued: February 2026