

# Police Officers – Eligibility to Apply

## Age Limits

You must be 18 to apply to become a Police Officer. Retirement age for Constables and Sergeant's is 60.

## Nationality

You must be a British Citizen, an EC/EEA National or Commonwealth Citizen or a Foreign National with no restrictions to live and work in the UK.

## Qualifications

Specific educational qualifications are not a requirement for the role. Please see 'Interview and Selection Information' which details the assessment Police Officer candidates go through.

## Cautions/Convictions

If you have had any previous cautions or convictions please detail these on your application form. Dependent on the nature of the caution/conviction, this could lead you to be ineligible to apply.

## Disabilities

Bedfordshire Police welcomes applications from candidates with disabilities and will do all we can to make reasonable adjustments.

## Driving License

All applicants MUST have a full UK Driving License at the time of submitting an application to become a Police Officer.

## Health Requirements

All applicants must be in good physical and mental health. If you pass the National Assessment Centre, you will attend a full medical with our Occupational Health Team.

## Eyesight Requirements

Bedfordshire Police require all new recruits to have the potential to be trained to become a Police Response Driver. Therefore, all new recruits are required to meet DVLA Group 2 eyesight standards.

## Financial Positions

Credit checks are made on all applicants and all debts will need to be discharged on application. If you have been declared bankrupt, you will have to have been discharged for five years before you are eligible to apply.

## Tattoos

Tattoos are not acceptable if:

They undermine the dignity and authority of the office of constable.

Are garish, numerous or particularly prominent.

They could cause offence to members of the public, colleagues and/or invite provocation.

This would include tattoos that are; rude, lewd, crude, racist, sexist, sectarian, homophobic, violent or intimidating. Also tattoos that display unacceptable attitudes towards women, minority groups or any other section of the community, or alignment with particular groups that could be offensive to members of the community.

## **Business Interests**

Unless the Chief Officer decides otherwise, you will not normally be eligible for appointment as a Police Officer, if you have any of the following business interests:

You hold office or employment for higher gain (other than a Police Officer) or you carry on any business.

Your spouse or any other relative living with you keeps a shop or similar in the area of the Police Force in question.

You, your spouse or any relative living with you holds or has financial interest in any license or permit relating to liquor licensing, refreshment house, or betting and gaming or the regulation of places of entertainment in the area of the Force in question.