



CITY OF AURORA, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NO. 022-039
DATE OF PASSAGE June 14, 2022

An Ordinance amending Chapter 13.5-6 of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to the qualifications of newly-hired public safety personnel.

WHEREAS, the City of Aurora has a population of more than 25,000 persons and is, therefore, a home rule unit under subsection (a) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

WHEREAS, subject to said Section, a home rule unit may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department has determined that a need exists to change the minimum education requirements for entry-level police officer and fire private applicants; and:

WHEREAS, Chapter 13.5 of the Code of Ordinances which establishes a system of civil service within the City, expressly states the minimum education requirements to hiring of public safety personnel; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that is in the best interests of the City to mitigate the challenges with meeting manpower goals for sworn personnel, by lowering the grade point average to 2.0 to increase our applicant pools; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that decreasing a barrier to entry for qualified applicants interested in a public safety career allowing the City to remain a competitive employer for those seeking public safety careers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Aurora, Illinois, as follows: that Section 13.5-6 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Aurora, shall be and hereby is amended, as set forth in Exhibit A to this Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 022-039

LEGISTAR NO. 22-0399

PASSED AND APPROVED ON June 14, 2022

AYES 12 NAYS 0 NOT VOTING 0 ABSENT 0

ALDERMAN	Vote
Alderman Llamas, Ward 1	yes
Alderwoman Garza, Ward 2	yes
Alderman Mesiacos, Ward 3	yes
Alderman Donnell, Ward 4	yes
Alderman Franco, Ward 5	yes
Alderman Saville, Ward 6	yes
Alderwoman Hart-Burns, Ward 7	yes
Alderwoman Smith, Ward 8	yes
Alderman Bugg, Ward 9	yes
Alderwoman Baid, Ward 10	yes
Alderman Woerman, At Large	yes
Alderman Jenkins, At Large	yes

ATTEST:

Jennifer Stalley
City Clerk

Carl Franco
Mayor Pro-Tem, Carl Franco

1 Sec 13.5-6 Safety Personnel Qualifications

2 (a) The following qualifications are required to be eligible
3 for the position of police officer:

4 (1) The applicant must be at least twenty (20) and under
5 thirty-five (35) years of age at the time of written
6 examination but must be at least twenty-one (21) and
7 under thirty-six (36) years of age at time of appointment,
8 pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code as amended [65
9 ILCS 5/10-1-1 et seq.]. Candidates on the list who are
10 passed over because they have not reached their twenty-
11 first birthday, or candidates who become over age, shall
12 retain their standing on the eligibility list until the
13 list is exhausted or expired, pursuant to the Illinois
14 Municipal Code as amended [65 ILCS 5/10-1-1 et seq.]

15 (2) The applicant must be a United States citizen.

16 (3) The applicant must be in good health and in good
17 physical and mental condition so as to be able to
18 competently perform the duties required of a police
19 officer. The applicant must be able to pass physical
20 agility standards for a police officer as established by
21 the Illinois Training and Standards Board at the time of
22 the written test during the application process. Vision
23 must be 20/20 with both eyes open or correctable to 20/20
24 with corrective lenses.

1 (4) The applicant must possess good moral character and
2 the highest personal integrity. The applicant's
3 background will be checked through fingerprinting and
4 local, state and Federal Bureau of Investigation
5 criminal records.

6 (5) The applicant must possess a valid, Class D,
7 Illinois driver's license prior to being hired, and at
8 the time of testing, must present either a valid, Class
9 D, Illinois driver's license or a valid, out-of-state
10 driver's license of similar classification.

11 (6) The applicant must satisfy the minimum educational
12 requirements set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.
13 ~~have achieved a high school diploma with a grade point~~
14 ~~average of 2.5 out of 4.0 (or an equivalent on a scale~~
15 ~~with a maximum grade point average other than 4.0) or a~~
16 ~~G.E.D. with a minimum composite score of no less than~~
17 ~~2480 points, or at least sixteen (16) hours of college~~
18 ~~credit with a grade point average of 2.5 out of 4.0 (or~~
19 ~~an equivalent on a scale with a maximum grade point~~
20 ~~average other than 4.0) regardless of high school grade~~
21 ~~point average or G.E.D. composite score.~~

22 (7) The applicant, upon being hired, must make
23 application to the local police pension board for
24 acceptance into the police pension fund.

(b) The following qualifications are required to be eligible for the position of firefighter/paramedic:

(1) The applicant must be at least twenty (20) and under thirty-five (35) years of age at the time of written examination but must be at least twenty-one (21) and under thirty-five (35) years of age at time of appointment, pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code as amended [65 ILCS 5/10-1-1 et seq.]. Candidates on the list who are passed over because they have not reached their twenty-first (21st) birthday, or candidates who become over age, shall retain their standing on the eligibility list until the list is exhausted or expired, pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code as amended [65 ILCS 5/10-1-1 et seq.].

(2) The applicant must be a United States citizen.

(3) The applicant must be in good health and in good physical and mental condition so as to be able to competently perform the duties required of a firefighter. Applicant must present a copy of their valid Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certificate and ladder climb certificate by the time of application deadline. CPAT cards will be considered valid within one (1) year of the issuance date. Vision must be 20/20 with both eyes open or correctable to 20/20 with corrective lenses.

1 (4) The applicant must possess good moral character and
2 the highest personal integrity. The applicant's
3 background will be checked through fingerprinting and
4 local, state and Federal Bureau of Investigation
5 criminal records.

6 (5) The applicant must possess a valid, Class D,
7 Illinois driver's license prior to being hired, and at
8 the time of testing, must present either a valid, Class
9 D, Illinois driver's license or a valid, out-of-state
10 driver's license of similar classification. The
11 applicant must obtain a Class B non-CDL license within
12 six (6) months of hire.

13 (6) The applicant must satisfy the minimum educational
14 requirements set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.
15 ~~have achieved a high school diploma with 2.0 2.5 GPA on~~
16 ~~a 4.0 scale or a GED with a 2480 min. score or at least~~
17 ~~16 hours of college credit with a 2.5 GPA.. or an~~
18 ~~equivalent acceptable to the commission. Applicants who~~
19 ~~were home schooled must have achieved certification~~
20 ~~through the Regional Superintendent of Schools for proof~~
21 ~~of education.~~

22 (7) In accordance with the civil service commission
23 rules and when a conditional offer is made, the applicant
24 may be required to possess a valid, emergency medical

1 technician (EMT-Paramedic) classification/certification.
2 If the applicant is unable to provide the EMT-Paramedic
3 certification, he/she will be disqualified. At anytime
4 thereafter the course of employment, the employee must
5 be able to certify as an EMT-Paramedic if required by
6 the city. If the applicant is unable to obtain the EMT-
7 Paramedic certification, the employee will be subject to
8 dismissal.

9 (8) The applicant, upon being hired, must make
10 application to the local fire pension board for
11 acceptance into the fire pension fund.

12 (c) Minimum Educational Requirements. No applicant shall be
13 eligible for appointment as a police officer or fire
14 fighter/paramedic, unless such applicant:

15 (1) Has achieved a high school diploma with a grade
16 point average of at least 2.0 on a grade point scale
17 having 4.0 as the highest possible average, excluding
18 weighted courses; or

19 (2) Has achieved a high school diploma with a grade
20 point average equivalent to at least 50% of the highest
21 possible grade point average where 4.0 is not the highest
22 possible average, excluding weighted courses; or

23 (3) Has passed a general educational development (GED)
24 test with a score equivalent to the grade point average

1 required of an applicant with a high school diploma under
2 this paragraph; or

3 (4) Has received a certification of the completion of
4 a home-schooling program by a regional superintendent of
5 schools, or an equivalent credential issued by a duly
6 authorized public official of this state or another; or

7 (5) Has completed at least at least sixteen (16) hours
8 of college credit with a grade point average of at least
9 2.0 on a grading scale having 4.0 as the highest possible
10 average.

11 As used in this paragraph (c), a "weighted course" is a
12 high school course of such advanced difficulty that the letter
13 grade awarded upon completion is assigned a higher numerical
14 value for the purpose of computing a grade point average than
15 a letter grade awarded for the completion of a course of
16 general difficulty. Weighted courses may include, but are not
17 limited, to honors or Advanced Placement courses.

18 (Ord. No. 008-59, § 1, 6-24-08; Ord. No. 009-14, § 1, 2-24-09; Ord.
19 No. 016-067, § 1, 9-27-16)

20 **Editor's note**— Formerly section 33-46.