

Comparison Between Forest Ranger II and Other Law Enforcement Officers

MFPC requested the following information from the Maine Forest Service. It was compiled by Alan Hammond, Planning and Training Coordinator, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

AGENCY	EMPLOYMENT QUALIFICATIONS	TRAINING	PAY / BENEFITS
<p>Maine Forest Serviceⁱ</p> <p>Positions: 56 forest rangers 9 district rangers 3 regional rangers 1 chief pilot 4 additional pilots 1 chief ranger Total 74</p> <p>Currently 7 forest ranger positions and 1 district ranger position are unfilled. See job posting attachment for more information about qualifications, responsibilities and representative tasks.</p>	<p>Must have Associate's degree with 15 credit hours of natural science coursework. Minimum Age 20. Must pass fitness standards, oral Interview, background investigation and polygraph exam.</p>	<p>BASIC TRAINING: All new hires must complete the Maine Forest Ranger Academy. The Academy includes law enforcement training, fire suppression training, natural resource protection training and agency specific policy training. Must complete required field training program.</p> <p>REQUIRED REFRESHER TRAINING: All forest rangers must attend annual fireline refresher training .</p>	<p>Starting pay at \$16.55 per hour Top pay at \$21.92 per hour</p> <p>All state employees have benefits which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacation • Sick leave • Health insurance • Dental insurance • Life insurance • Retirement (State Police have different plan) <p>Like game warden and marine patrol officers, rangers are represented by the Maine Law Enforcement Association. They are at Range 19, while wardens and marine patrol officers are at Range 20. If they were armed</p>
<p>Maine State Policeⁱⁱ</p>	<p>High School graduate. Minimum age 21 or age 20 with an Associate's degree. Must pass reading and writing assessment, fitness standards, oral interview, background investigation, polygraph and psychological examination.</p>	<p>BASIC TRAINING: All new hires must complete the 18 week basic law enforcement training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and the State Police Post School. Must complete required field training program.</p> <p>REQUIRED REFRESHER TRAINING: All law enforcement officers must complete 40 hours of in-service training approved by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Board of</p>	<p>Starting pay at \$17.67 per hour Top pay at \$23.76 per hour</p> <p>All state employees have benefits which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacation • Sick leave • Health insurance • Dental insurance • Life insurance • Retirement (State Police have different plan)

Comparison Between Forest Ranger II and Other Law Enforcement Officers

		Trustees every two years.	
Maine Warden Service ⁱⁱⁱ	High school graduate or equivalent; twenty-one (21) years of age or at least 20 years of age and have completed an Associate's Degree or 60 credit hours of post-secondary education; Must pass reading and writing assessment, fitness standards, oral interview, background investigation, polygraph and psychological examination.	BASIC TRAINING: All new hires must complete the 18 week basic law enforcement training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and the Warden Service Post School. Must complete required field training program. REQUIRED REFRESHER TRAINING: All law enforcement officers must complete 40 hours of in-service training approved by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Board of Trustees every two years	Starting pay at \$16.66 per hour Top pay at \$22.36 per hour All state employees have benefits which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacation • Sick leave • Health insurance • Dental insurance • Life insurance • Retirement (State Police have different plan)
Maine Marine Patrol ^{iv}	High school graduate or equivalent; twenty-one (21) years of age or at least 20 years of age and have completed an Associate's Degree or 60 credit hours of post-secondary education; Must pass reading and writing assessment, fitness standards, oral interview, background investigation, polygraph and psychological examination.	BASIC TRAINING: All new hires must complete the 18 week basic law enforcement training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. REQUIRED REFRESHER TRAINING: All law enforcement officers must complete 40 hours of in-service training approved by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Board of Trustees every two years	Starting pay at \$16.66 per hour Top pay at \$22.36 per hour All state employees have benefits which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacation • Sick leave • Health insurance • Dental insurance • Life insurance • Retirement (State Police have different plan)
Sheriff's Deputies ^v	<i>Age and educational requirements vary by agency.</i> All candidates must meet minimum standards set by statute: High school graduate or equivalent; twenty-one (21) years of age or at least 20 years of age and have completed an Associate's Degree or 60 credit hours of post-secondary education; Must pass reading and writing assessment, fitness	BASIC TRAINING: All new hires must complete the 18 week basic law enforcement training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. REQUIRED REFRESHER TRAINING: All law enforcement officers must complete 40 hours of in-service training approved by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Board of Trustees every two years	Pay and benefits are determined locally.

Comparison Between Forest Ranger II and Other Law Enforcement Officers

	standards, oral interview, background investigation, polygraph and psychological examination.		
Municipal Law Enforcement Officers ^{vi}	<p><i>Age and educational requirements vary by agency.</i> All candidates must meet minimum standards set by statute: High school graduate or equivalent; twenty-one (21) years of age or at least 20 years of age and have completed an Associate's Degree or 60 credit hours of post-secondary education; Must pass reading and writing assessment, fitness standards, oral interview, background investigation, polygraph and psychological examination.</p>	<p>BASIC TRAINING: All new hires must complete the 18 week basic law enforcement training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. REQUIRED REFRESHER TRAINING: All law enforcement officers must complete 40 hours of in-service training approved by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Board of Trustees every two years</p>	Pay and benefits are determined locally.

ⁱ Forest Rangers are currently exempted from the training standards required of law enforcement officers employed by other agencies listed above [25 M.R.S.A. §2801-B\(1\)C](#)

ⁱⁱ Basic and in-service training standards for non-exempt law enforcement agencies are set by statute and rule. [Basic Training Requirements](#) ; [In Service Requirements](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid

^{iv} Ibid

^v Ibid

^{vi} Ibid