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Careers

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Which CBP Career is Right for You?

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Border Patrol Agent

WE ARE AMERICA'S FRONTLINE

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Who are we looking for?

We are looking for candidates interested in preventing terrorists and terrorist weapons from entering the United States; detecting and preventing the smuggling and unlawful entry of undocumented aliens into the United States; and apprehending those people found to be in violation of the immigration laws.



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[Border Patrol Agents](#)

(Click Image to Launch Video - [Caption File](#))

Do you qualify?

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- be under age 37 unless you are a qualified Veterans' Preference eligible candidate or have previous Federal law enforcement experience
- be a U.S. citizen and resident of the U.S.
- be fluent in Spanish or be able to learn the Spanish language
- possess a valid state driver's license
- pass a pre-employment fitness test-1 (pft1), medical examination, thorough background investigation, pre-employment fitness test-2 (pft2), and a drug test

You may be rated unsuitable for a Border Patrol Agent position if your background includes:

- past or present arrests
- convictions (including misdemeanor domestic violence charges)
- dismissals from previous jobs
- debts and financial issues
- excessive use of alcohol
- use of illegal drugs, and/or the sale and distribution of illegal drugs

**Pre-employment
Fitness Test-1
(PFT-1)**

[Border Patrol
Agent Candidate
PFT1](#)

**Pre-employment
Fitness Test-2
(PFT-2)**

[Border Patrol
Agent Candidate
PFT2](#)

You may also be subject to a polygraph examination.



(Click Image to Launch Video - [Caption File](#))

What can I expect if I get hired?

New hires must successfully complete a 58-day paid “Basic Academy” training at the "U.S. Border Patrol Academy” in Artesia, N.M. Training includes such topics as immigration and nationality laws, physical training and marksmanship. An additional 40 days will be required, past the 58 day Basic Academy training, for those that need Spanish language instruction. Border Patrol Agents must be willing to work overtime and shift work under arduous conditions, and be proficient in the use of and carry firearms. Border Patrol Agents are subject to random drug testing. They may also be sent on temporary assignments on short notice and on permanent reassignments to any duty location.



(Click Image to Launch Video - [Caption File](#))

Border Patrol Agent Candidate Fitness Requirements

Border Patrol Agent (BPA) Candidates are required to take and pass two Pre-employment Fitness Tests (PFT-1 & PFT-2). The PFT-1 is the first step in the hiring process and is conducted with your medical exam. The PFT-2 is taken approximately 30 days prior to your entrance on duty. To increase your chances of passing both PFTs, engage in a regular physical exercise program and practice the fitness requirements a regular basis. Be sure to consult with your personal physician prior to engaging in a regular fitness program.

- [Starting a Running Program](#)
- [Additional Fitness Information](#)

Oral Interview Notice

Applicants scheduled for an oral interview located in a CBP facility will be required to present a valid form of identification, such as US Passport, military ID, veterans ID or a REAL ID compliant state issued driver's license. Please check the [Secure Driver's Licenses](#) page on DHS.gov to see if your state is compliant.

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