

Transportation Security Officer

Basic Qualification Requirements

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Qualification Requirements:

1. You must be a U.S. Citizen or U.S. National; AND
2. You must have a high school diploma, GED or equivalent; OR at least one year of full-time work experience in security work, aviation screener work, or x-ray technician work.

To be considered for employment, you must be able to:

- Demonstrate daily a fitness for duty without impairment due to illegal drugs, sleep deprivation, medication, or alcohol;
- Work all of the following: irregular hours and/or shifts, including split-shifts; holidays and weekends; overtime; and extended hours;
- Pass a Drug and Alcohol Screening; and
- Pass a background investigation, including a credit check.

In addition, you must successfully complete required training, which includes: 40 hours of classroom training, 60 hours of on-the-job training, and a certification examination.

Continued employment is contingent upon passing recurrent training and certification exams on a periodic basis. This is a Code 1, Public Trust position which requires you to be fingerprinted, photographed, and complete appropriate security paperwork.

Work Schedule: May include irregular hours, nights and week-end shifts, changing shifts, and split shifts. Specific work schedules will be determined by the airport.

Major Functions

[Controls Entry and Exit Points](#)

- Prepares individuals to enter the screening process
- Ensures individuals correctly place personal property onto x-ray conveyor belt
- Prepares individuals and airport personnel to enter through metal detector
- Prevents unauthorized individuals from entering through the exit lanes
- Facilitates orderly flow of individuals through security checkpoints

[Performs Security Screening of Persons](#)

- Ensures that individuals who proceed through the walk through metal detector (WTMD) are screened appropriately
- Conducts hand-held metal detector (HHMD) searches of individuals
- Performs Full-Body Pat-Down searches for alarm resolution protocols, persons with scooters.
- Performs private screening upon request

Performs Security Screening of Property

- Operates x-ray device controls and monitors screen to detect prohibited items in personal property
- Refers suspect property for additional screening
- Conducts Explosive Trace Detection (ETD) inspection
- Conducts physical baggage search
- Performs private screening of property

Continuously Improves Security Screening Processes

- Reports security weaknesses, vulnerabilities, or other problem situations related to specific areas of work
- Recognizes, reports, and participates in handling of emergency situations
- Assists in inquiries/investigations or security issues related to airports
- Makes oral and written formal reports such as incident reports and witness statements
- Understands and protects written and verbal classified or sensitive security information

Continuously Improves Own Performance

- Identifies gaps in personal skill and knowledge
- Attends job-related training sponsored by employer
- Utilizes additional training materials to augment professional knowledge
- Obtains and maintains necessary certifications

General Competencies

Arithmetic/Mathematical Reasoning

- Understands, interprets, and manipulates numeric or symbolic information

Conflict Management

- Recognizes when there is a conflict and respects others' points of view
- Brings conflict to the attention of the appropriate individual
- Works to resolve conflict when directly involved

Conscientiousness

- Demonstrates knowledge of requirements for wearing appropriate uniform and identification
- Displays a professional image at all times, even when facing significant job challenges
- Utilizes equipment, supplies, and resources in a conscientious, cost effective manner

Continual Learning

- Pursues education, training, feedback, or other opportunities for learning and development
- Recognizes and uses learning techniques and recalls available information to apply and adapt new knowledge and skills in both familiar and changing situations
- Uses multiple approaches when learning new things
- Assesses how they are doing when learning or doing something new
- Keeps up-to-date technically and knows one's own job and related jobs

Customer Service

- Applies non-discriminatory policies and procedures as they pertain to the processing in of diverse customers.
- Exercises patience and self-control when handling difficult passenger situations
- Demonstrates skill in re-packing baggage after searches to minimize passenger complaints
- Interacts with passengers with disabilities, wheelchairs, baby strollers, child passengers, or others in need of special assistance

Decisiveness

- Makes decisions that consider relevant facts and information, potential risks and benefits, and short- and long-term consequences or alternatives

Flexibility

- Changes one's own behavior or work methods to adjust to other people or to changing situations or work demands
- Is receptive to new information, ideas, or strategies to achieve goals

Integrity/Honesty

- Demonstrates dependability, conscientiousness, integrity, and accountability
- Shows commitment to doing the job carefully and correctly
- Fulfills obligations, and is reliable, responsible, and trustworthy

- Performs tasks thoroughly and completely
- Demonstrates honesty and avoidance of unethical behavior

Interpersonal Skills

- Interacts with others in ways that are friendly, courteous, and tactful and that demonstrate respect for individual cultural differences and for the attitudes and feelings of others

Listening

- Attends to, receives, and correctly interprets verbal communications and directions through cues such as the content and context of the message and the tone, gestures, and facial expressions of the speaker

Manages and Organizes Information

- Obtains facts, information, or data relevant to a particular problem, question, or issue through observation of events or situations, discussion with others, research or retrieval from written electronic sources
- Organizes, integrates, analyzes, and evaluates information

Oral Communication

- Checks back with the audience to ensure that important messages have been understood
- Communicates information concisely and clearly
- Exhibits awareness of the impact of own words, actions or decisions on others
- Explains complex concepts (e.g., schedules, policies, and procedures) clearly and at an appropriate level of detail
- Maintains frequent appropriate level of contact with senior management to keep them informed about important or controversial cases and situations
- Demonstrates skill in oral presentation

Organizational Awareness

- Demonstrates knowledge of key roles and responsibilities across TSA functions (e.g., regulatory, law enforcement and screening)
- Applies TSA policies and procedures and applicable federal laws correctly while conducting the screening process

Planning and Evaluating

- Organizes and structures work for effective performance and goal attainment
- Sets and balances priorities
- Anticipates obstacles

- Modifies plans or adjusts priorities given changing goals or conditions

Problem Solving

- Anticipates and identifies problems and their causes
- Develops and analyzes potential solutions or improvements using rational and logical processes or innovative and creative approaches when needed

Reading

- Understands and uses written information that may be presented in a variety of formats, such as text, tables, lists, figures, and diagrams
- Selects reading strategies appropriate to the purpose, such as skimming for highlights, reading for details, reading for meaning, and critical analysis

Resilience

- Demonstrates maturity and restraint to cope with pressure, stress, emergency situations, hostile individuals, setbacks, personal and work-related problems, etc.
- Maintains composure, keeping emotions in check, controlling anger, and avoiding aggressive behavior even in very difficult situations
- Accepts criticism and deals calmly and effectively with high stress situations

Self Management

- Identifies own work and career interests, strengths, and limitations
- Manages, directs, and monitors one's own learning and development
- Sets challenging performance goals and holds self accountable for achieving them

Service Motivation

- Exerts a high level of effort and perseverance toward goals attainment
- Works hard to become excellent at doing tasks by setting high standards, paying attention to details, working well, and displaying a high level of concentration even when assigned an unpleasant task
- Displays high standards of attendance, punctuality, enthusiasm, vitality, and optimism in approaching and completing tasks
- Demonstrates willingness to take on responsibilities and challenges and do what is needed without being asked

Team Building

- Works cooperatively and collaboratively with others to achieve goals by sharing or integrating ideas, knowledge, skills, information, support, resources, responsibility, and recognition

- Motivates, inspires, and influences others toward effective individual or teamwork performance, goal attainment and personal learning and development by serving as an example and role model to peers and as a mentor and coach to new employees
- Builds consensus among individuals or groups by facilitating agreements that involve sharing or exchanging resources or resolving differences in such a way as to promote mutual goals and interests
- Builds consensus by persuading others to change their point of view or behavior without losing their future support
- Builds consensus by resolving conflicts, confrontations, and disagreements while maintaining productive working relationships

Technology Application

- Selects, accesses, and uses necessary information, data and communications-related technologies, such as basic personal computer applications, telecommunications equipment, Internet, electronic calculators, voice mail, email, facsimile machines, and copying equipment to accomplish work activities

Written Communication

- Expresses ideas and information in written form clearly, succinctly, accurately, and in an organized manner
- Uses English language conventions of spelling, punctuation, grammar, and sentence and paragraph structures
- Tailors written communication for the intended purpose and audience

Technical Competencies

Maintain Command Posture

- Demonstrates credibility and authority in issuing instructions and making requests to individuals and in performing screening duties
- Maintains firm and direct tone of voice, authoritative posture, manner, and bearing

Safety Policies and Procedures

- Applies knowledge of appropriate provisions of Federal safety rules and regulations
- Completes safety logs, incident reports, record keeping
- Demonstrates knowledge of reporting channels, i.e., supervisor, law enforcement officer (LEO)

Security Equipment Knowledge

- Demonstrates skill in using x-ray machine and conveyor belt
- Demonstrates skill in using Magnetometer or walk through metal detector
- Demonstrates skill in using hand held metal detector
- Demonstrates skill in using Explosive Threat Detection (ETD) equipment
- Demonstrates skill in using Explosive Detective System (EDS) equipment, computer, conveyor, printer
- Demonstrates skill in periodic operational testing and calibrating of equipment

Security Screening Policies and Procedures

- Demonstrates knowledge of permitted and prohibited items
- Demonstrates knowledge of current Standardized Operating Procedures (SOP) including security breach
- Demonstrates knowledge of current performance protocols (i.e., hand wanding techniques)
- Performs pat down searches of passengers
- Performs baggage and property searches
- Performs physical searches on individuals with disabilities
- Performs screening of animals, cages, etc.

Technical Documentation

- Demonstrates skill in writing formal reports, such as incident reports and witness statements

Visual Observation

- Notices details and pays attention to instructions, demonstrations, and other activities
- Takes in and recalls incoming visual sensory information and uses it to make predictions, comparison, and/or evaluations
- Recognizes difference or similarities, or senses patterns in circumstances or events
- Discerns between relevant visual cues or information and irrelevant or distracting information
- Visually inspects persons, property, or equipment