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Nys parkpolice academy

New York State Parks sent this bulletin at 07/15/2024 06:30 PM EDT If you're interested in a rewarding career in law enforcement with an emphasis on helping people and protecting the state's natural and historic treasures, consider becoming a New York State Park Police Officer. Our team works in some of the most beautiful places in the state.The New York State Park Police are highly trained specialists dedicated to preserving the peace associated with a park environment. Park Police Officers are permanent, full-time Police positions, and appointment to the position is made after a competitive process that includes a New York State Civil Service exam. Exam registration opens on July 12 and ends on August 14.Do you have what it takes to become a New York State Park Police Officer? Committed to the safety and enjoyment of our visitors, officers follow the core values of professionalism, respect, integrity, dedication, and excellence (P.R.I.D.E.) in everything they do. It happened on January 3, 2025. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation achieved something never done before – two graduations in less than one calendar year and the first summertime academy session. The agency continues the rebuild of one of the oldest police forces in the state, and are proud to welcome four new officers whose career paths began in other roles in the agency. Scenes from the Park Police graduation ceremony, held at the Hall of Springs in Saratoga Spa State Park. On that first Friday of the new year, our Park Police welcomed 29 new graduates from the 19th Basic School at the State Parks Police Academy in Rensselaerville. For the past two decades, there has been a renewed commitment by New York State to build up the OPRHP department as visitors continue to flock to our parks and sites and break attendance records. Graduation Day: in line to begin the ceremony. During a graduation ceremony, you learn a little more about what the academy does to – and expects of – "a newbie." The inside scoop comes from the graduates themselves in the form of a NYSPP-produced video shown at the end of the hourlong ceremony. The video reveals the breaking down and building up of our new officers. Additionally, in his prepared remarks, class speaker Nicholas Fusco, who earned both the Physical Fitness and Leadership awards, offered some memories from the academy experience that led to that day. He recalled his class showing up the first day, June 23, 2024, holding everything they would bring in their left hand, undergoing surprise vehicle inspections, having no communication with the outside world during the weeks they were in the Albany County hilltown, and enduring "seemingly random rules" that later "began to make sense." Class speaker Nicholas Fusco gives an inspiring speech at the Park Police graduation. Fusco, from Smithtown, NY, stressed how his class needed stamina, attention to detail and the skills to compete and succeed. In the end, along with his new brothers and sisters, he says they are "stronger, wiser and more determined" in their chosen career. "You are graduating from one of the oldest and toughest and best training programs in all the country," OPRHP Commissioner Pro Tempore Randy Simons said in his remarks. "And State Parks and the Park Police have a track record for trailblazing for New York State. We are called upon in all situations and scenarios to lead and assist New York State." From the top: Commissioner Pro Tempore speaks at the Park Police Graduation. The class also achieved Governor Hochul's 30X30 Pledge to increase the percentage of female recruits to 30 percent by 2030. This class is at 34 percent – 10 female and 19 male. The Pledge is a series of actions policing agencies are taking to improve representation and experiences of women in law enforcement. The class is also the most diverse class in Park Police history. Training for recruits consists of classroom education in Criminal Procedure Law, Penal Law, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Park and Recreation Law, criminal investigations and a host of other police-related topics. In addition, the recruits received hands-on training in firearms, first response, snowmobile operation, ATV operation, emergency vehicle operation and a wide variety of other law enforcement related topics. On Monday, January 6, 2025, the new officers began a 10-week field training program where they receive supervised training from senior officers in assigned regions. Daniel Aldrich, Daria Black, Aleah Gonzalez and Robert Gitto got their start working as Park Rangers and Patrols at state parks. Among the new graduates are four who have already worked at State Parks. However, the academy's six months was far more grueling than their entire combined time from 2021-2024. Three were Park Rangers at Long Island parks – Daria Black at Caumsett ('23-'24), Aleah Gonzalez at Heckscher ('23-'24) and Robert Gitto at Jones Beach ('24) – while Daniel Aldrich served as Assistant Head Patrol at his hometown park of Lake Welch ('21-'24) in the Palisades Region. As Gonzalez put it, surviving the Academy is about staying focused and believing in yourself. "Your mind is a powerful thing. Anything you put your mind to, you can achieve it," she said. Daria Black grew up in Washington State, surrounded by nature and visiting state and national parks. After graduating high school in 2017, she moved clear across the country to study at New York University. She now lives in New Hyde Park with her husband. Officer Daria Black poses with her husband, her badge, and her Academic Achievement Award at the Park Police Graduation. "When I moved to New York, I quickly learned of the vast State Park system and enjoyed visiting [parks]," she said. "It was my husband who one day saw an ad for the Park Ranger program and suggested that I apply." From the Park Ranger program, she took that background and applied to the Park Police. At the end of the grueling Academy, she earned her shield and the Academic Achievement Award in her class. Daria was a Park Ranger at Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve and transitioned to becoming a Park and Recreation Aide after the summer season concluded. Late one night, just before clocking out, she was coming back to the office on a UTV with a coworker. About a mile away, they were flagged down by a group of young people. "One of the females was overly intoxicated and initially unresponsive," she recalled. Daria used her Park Ranger training to calmly assess the situation, check the female's vital signs, make clear radio transmissions and get EMS to the spot. "I loved working for my park and helping with events at other parks so much that I knew that I wanted to make working for New York State Parks a career. A co-worker of mine, Dan O'Neill, suggested that I apply for the Park Police and was one of the most supportive people through my process. The experience and connections that I made during my time with Parks definitely gave me a solid foundation of knowledge which helped me during the Academy scenarios and will continue to help me as I act as an Officer for the New York State Park Police." Another officer drawn early to State Parks is Daniel Aldrich of Airmont. He found himself in a park on weekends and on his days off so when he saw a job listing, he jumped at the opportunity and was in the park from 2021-24. "Growing up, I always loved being outside and walking around in the woods," Aldrich said. He first worked as a campground staffer at Beaver Pond Campground connected to Lake Welch and transitioned into Park Patrol by the next summer (2022). By the summer of 2023, he was promoted to Assistant Head Patrol. "I spent four seasons working at Lake Welch, working with my community and helping patrons in the park," Aldrich said. "I met so many interesting people, including both coworkers and patrons. When Park Police posted signs in the park notifying that they were hiring, I signed up for the test and got called into the Academy the next year." From summer job to officer status: Daniel Aldrich, center, poses with Park Police Chief Daddona and Commissioner Pro Tempore Randy Simons at Park Police Graduation. Park Patrol is similar to Park Rangers, handling rule enforcement, patron assistance, first response to emergency calls, along with many other things that the facility needed to be accomplished. "With more experience at the park than any other Patrol, I was able to answer many questions the staff had and provide clear and concise leadership," Aldrich explained. "I had some of the most fun I've ever had while working at Lake Welch Beach. My coworkers and the patrons I interacted with were extremely interesting and left a huge impact on my life." Since she was a little girl growing up in Patchogue, Aleah Gonzalez has loved the outdoors and wanted to be a police officer. She found that her military background and the park police opportunity "have comparable lifestyle structures and similar basic principles." Additionally, Gonzalez loves a wildlife and says there's no better way to start her law enforcement career than by working in our beautiful parks. To bolster that, she worked as a Park Ranger on Long Island in 2023 and 2024 before the academy. "When I was employed at Heckscher State Park, it remined me of a time when my family enjoyed a day at the park pool," Gonzalez said. "Each time I would oversee that section of the park, it would bring a joyful memory of my youth. Therefore, it was nice to come full circle in my adult life by being employed there." Full Circle Moment: Aleah Gonzalez, center, at her Park Police graduation with Chief Daddona, left, and Commissioner Pro Tempore Simons. Whether at the airshow at Jones Beach or annual fishing festivals at Belmont Lake State Park and Hempstead Lake State Park, Robert Gitto of Massapequa Park has loved New York's state parks all his life. "When I look back, I didn't realize the memories I had visiting state parks," Gitto said. "Now more than ever, I am proud to serve as a New York State Park Police Officer and look forward to my career protecting and preserving the State's parks." A proud moment: Robert Gitto at Park Police graduation with Chief Daddona and Commissioner Pro Tempore Simons. Last spring, Gitto began as a seasonal Park Ranger at Jones Beach, even working the 20th anniversary of the iconic airshow, before moving on to the academy. It was at the airshow where he put his training to good use to achieve "one of my proudest moments when I reunited a missing child with their father," he said. Gitto was at his post on the boardwalk when a man ran up in a panic. His nine-year old nephew was missing among the tens of thousands of people at the beach. Gitto took notes about location (beachfront), clothing (football jersey) and time he'd been gone (about 30 minutes) and then radioed command. After about 15 minutes, Gitto found the boy. "I felt like I made a difference helping a distressed family locate their missing son." Chief Dadonna congratulates the newest class of Park Police officers. At the graduation at the Hall of Springs at Saratoga Spa State Park, Park Police Chief Michael Daddona had a message for his new officers and especially their families with the support and sacrifice they have offered. "You have stood by them, I'm sure listened to countless Academy stories, helped them prepare for the following week and offered guidance without even saying a word sometimes," Chief Daddona said. "Today, you should share in their pride and achievement as this graduation ceremony is about you and your support for them as well." The graduates of the 19th Basic School for Park Police. Effective January 6, 2025, the members listed below will be assigned in the Districts and Zones indicated to complete Supervised Field Training. Upon successful completion of the Division's Supervised Field Training Program, they will report to their Post Field Training Assignment Zone. Name (Hometown) Post Field Training District / ZoneOfficer Otto Pleakis (Allegany) AlleganyOfficer Sahidul Islam (Albany) CentralOfficer Blaise Sutton (Utica) CentralOfficer Vincent Alesi (Locust Valley) Finger LakesOfficer Amber Dillenbeck (Sharon Springs)Finger LakesOfficer Ryan Beutel (Hilton) GeneseeOfficer Carla Martinez (Lawrence) GeneseeOfficer Samantha Turner (Nanuet) GeneseeOfficer Daria Black (New Hyde Park) New York CityOfficer Michael Bodnar (Shoreham)New York CityOfficer Stephanie Carcamo (West Hempstead) New York CityOfficer Gianna Dickson (Hauppauge) New York CityOfficer James Fisenne (Wantagh) New York CityOfficer Nicholas Fusco (Smithtown) New York CityOfficer Robert Gitto (Massapequa Park) New York CityOfficer Arnold Hillian (Baldwin) New York CityOfficer Kyle Walsh (Massapequa) New York CityOfficer Nicholas Anzalone (Grand Island) NiagaraOfficer Md Iqbal Hossain (Queens) NiagaraOfficer Alan Lin (Monticello) NiagaraOfficer Daniel Aldrich (Airmont)PalisadesOfficer Timothy Bazylewicz (Farmingdale)PalisadesOfficer Aleah Gonzalez (Patchogue)PalisadesOfficer Brandon Jennings (Greenwood Lake) PalisadesOfficer Matthew Parrillo (Medford) PalisadesOfficer John Menconeri (Wappingers Falls) TaconicOfficer Sabrina Salazar-Arango (White Plains)TaconicOfficer Enma Bautista (East Patchogue) Thousand IslandsOfficer Maddy Chamberlain (Adams)Thousand Islands -Written by John Craig, Public Affairs Digital Specialist Your browser does not support iFrames. If you want a rewarding career in law enforcement with an emphasis on helping people and protecting the state's natural and historic treasures, consider becoming a New York State Park Police Officer. Our team works in some of the most beautiful places in the state. Contact a Park Police Recruiter in your area. Become a Park Police Officer If you took the exam in September 2024, see information below. Thanks to the many candidates who took our Park Police Officer Trainee examination on Saturday and Sunday, September 28 and 29, 2024. Please note that as soon as the civil service eligible list is established, we will schedule you for an agility test. Please be prepared by getting yourself in the best shape possible to pass the agility test, to be held in April 2025. Please see the following link for the Physical Agility Standards for Park Police Officer Trainee which includes sit-ups, pushups and run. Instructional video about the Physical Agility Test: If Agility Testing is successfully completed, travel will be required to complete the next steps in the hiring process - psychological and physical/medical testing. Stay updated by subscribing for notifications: NY State Parks Civil Service The Hiring Process Professional Police Act of 2021 Age Requirements: Candidates must be at least 20 years of age at time of hire. Candidates must not have passed their 35th birthday on the date of the written test. Time spent on military duty or on terminal leave, not exceeding a total of seven (7) years, shall be subtracted from your age if you have passed your 35th birthday. Education Requirements: Minimum college education requirements: 60 college credit hours; 30 of those hours may be waived if candidate is an honorably discharged veteran with at least two years of active military duty. At the time of appointment, you must have a high school diploma, high school equivalency diploma issued by a recognized educational authority, or a USAFI GED high school level diploma. Additional Requirements: Must be a United States citizen and a New York State resident at the time of appointment and maintain a New York State residency after appointment. Must hold a valid New York State Driver license at time of appointment and maintain it after appointment as a term and condition of employment. Next Steps Agility performance test Candidates are urged to maintain a level of fitness that will enable them to meet the standards listed in the Cooper Norms (pdf). Review of Tattoos according to the Tattoo Policy (pdf). Background investigation, including polygraph examination and fingerprinting. Medical examination, after a conditional offer of employment. See the Civil Service Physical/Medical Requirements Form (pdf). Visual acuity should be correctable to better than or equal to 20/30 (Snellen) in each eye; if correction is required, distant visual acuity should not be less than 20/100 without correction in each eye. Drug testing. Psychological examination Once the above is completed, candidates who are hired will start as Park Police Officer Trainees Grade 13 and will: Be enrolled in a six-month residential police academy located in Rensselaerville, NY. Be assigned to a Park Police Zone within New York State upon graduation. Complete Field Training and the remaining 6 months of their probationary period. After successfully completing the traineeship, candidates will advance to Park Police Officer Grade 14. If you have additional questions, please review the Hiring Process Frequently Asked Questions (pdf) and call or email with any additional questions. To learn more about the Park Police Academy and working as a Park Police Officer, click here: Academy and Job Scope Frequently Asked Questions (pdf) Back to Navigation Menu Salary & Benefits The current starting salary for a NY State Park Police Officer Trainee, Grade 13, is $61,587. As a Trainee, you will participate in a one-year traineeship. Upon completion of the traineeship, you will advance to the Grade 14 Park Police Officer. Please see the chart below to learn more about Park Police Officer salaries. Additional Geographic Pay: Officers who work in the five boroughs of New York City or in Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, or Westchester Counties will receive an additional $1,763 annual downstate adjustment. In addition to the downstate adjustment, Officers who work in the following locations will receive an additional supplemental local pay in the following amounts: The counties of Orange, Putnam, and Dutchess - $1,468 The five boroughs of New York City, Rockland, and Westchester Counties - $2,204 Nassau and Suffolk Counties - $2,570. NEW: Additionally, Officers who work in the mid-Hudson region (Dutchess, Orange, Rockland, and Westchester counties) or downstate region (Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, Richmond, Nassau, or Suffolk counties) are eligible to receive an additional $15,000 in geographic pay differential. Learn more. Work Location** Base Salary* Upstate Orange/ Dutchess NYC/Rockland/ Westchester Nassau/ Suffolk SG-13 Trainee (at the Academy) $61,587 X X X X SG-13 Trainee (after 6 months) $63,192 $63,192 $79,660 $82,159 $82,525 SG-14 Hiring Rate $64,796 $73,796 $90,264 $92,763 $93,129 Step 1 $67,085 $76,085 $92,553 $95,052 $95,418 Step 2 $69,374 $78,374 $94,842 $97,341 $97,707 Step 3 $71,663 $80,663 $97,131 $99,630 $99,996 Step 4 $73,952 $82,952 $99,420 $101,919 $102,285 Step 5 $76,241 $85,241 $101,709 $104,208 $104,574 SG-14 Job Rate $78,530 $87,530 $103,998 $106,497 $106,863 *Without any additional contractual or geographic pay included. **Work Location is determined by the needs of the agency. Benefits Accrue 13-24 vacation days, 12 holidays, 5 personal days, and 13 sick days each year. Excellent health, dental, and vision insurance coverage. Salaries do not include overtime. Retirement is at half pay after 25 years. Promotional opportunities are available by competitive examination processes. All uniforms and equipment are provided. Back to Navigation Menu NY State Park Police OPRHP Albany, New York 12238 (518) 474-4029 email: PPOCareers@parks.ny.gov For questions regarding employment with the New York State Park Police, please contact the appropriate region or headquarters listed below and ask to speak with the Recruiting Officer. Long Island - (631) 321-3700 (Nassau, Suffolk) Hudson Valley - (845) 786-2704 (Palisades, Taconic, NYC) Mid-State â€" (315) 492-6422 (Central, Finger Lakes, Thousand Islands, Saratoga/Capital) Western New York - (716) 278-1777 (Niagara, Genesee, Allegany) Division Headquarters - Albany - (518) 474-4029 Back to Top The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) today announced 27 recruits graduated from the from the 15th Basic School of the New York State Park Police Academy. "We strive to create a safe and welcoming environment in all of our State Parks, and our State Park Police are the key to making it possible," said State Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey. "We look forward to these officers joining the ranks of our State Park Police, and providing friendly, professional, and lifesaving services at our parks year-round." "My congratulations to our State Park Police Academy graduates," said David Page, Director of State Park Police. "The path ahead will be challenging but rewarding. I look forward to working with new officers as we continue to protect the millions of people who visit our beautiful parks and historic sites." The 27 recruits completed a six-month residential training program at the State Park Police Academy in Rensselaerville, Albany County. Training consisted of classroom education in Criminal Procedure Law, Penal Law, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Park and Recreation Law, criminal investigations and a host of other police related topics. In addition, the recruits received hands-on training in firearms, first response, snowmobile operation, ATV operation, emergency vehicle operation and a wide variety of other law enforcement related topics. The following graduates received special recognition awards: Officer Steven P. Latulipe of Carthage, NY, the recipient of the Leadership Award. Officer Anthony M. Petrosky of Albany, NY, the recipient of the Academic Achievement Award. Officer Stephen P. Latulipe of Carthage, NY, the recipient of the Physical Fitness Award. Officer Daniel E. McCarthy of Selden, NY, the recipient of the Firearms Proficiency Award. The new officers will be assigned to regional commands throughout the state. They will begin a 10-week field training program where they will receive supervised training from senior officers, followed by assignment to patrol responsibilities. New York State Park Police work year-round to protect State Park visitors and people throughout the State, including patrolling state parks, historic sites and campgrounds; tapping their specialized training to respond to extreme weather emergencies; assisting State and local police agencies in criminal investigations; and providing enforcement and education on New York State's waterways and snowmobile trails The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which are visited by 71 million people annually. A recent study found that New York State Parks generate $5 billion in park and visitor spending, which supports nearly 54,000 jobs. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518-474-0456 or visit www.parks.ny.gov, connect with us on Facebook, or follow on Instagram and Twitter. Names, hometowns and regional assignments of the graduating class appear below: GRADUATE HOMETOWN INITIAL ASSIGNMENT DISTRICT ZONE Officer Joseph Aboudi Smithtown, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer Thomas C. Bebak West Seneca, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Melissa C. Berke Tappan, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Matthew R. Conroy Middletown, NY Long Island/Metro New York City Officer Anthony M. Cooper Warwick, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Dean L. Domenici Nanuet, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Michael G. Flanagan Wantagh, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer Morgan K. Foster Fabius, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer Daniel F. Gifford Burt, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Eduardo S. Gomez Patchogue, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer Steven P. Latulipe Carthage, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Luis A. Martinez-Perez Hudson, NY Hudson Valley Taconic Officer Daniel E. McCarthy Selden, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer Aleska L. McCumber Margretville, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer Joshua M. O'Hearn Watertown, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Tatiana L. Pena Hicksville, NY Long Island/Metro New York City Officer Anthony M. Petrosky Albany, NY Long Island/Metro New York City Officer Eric P. Rice Lowville, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Joseph A. Sagliano Poughkeepsie, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Brian K. Smithley Perry, NY Hudson Valley Palisades Officer Pawel Sobotko South Setauket, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer James M. St. John Bayport, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island Officer Joshua S. Tusang Cobleskill, NY Long Island/Metro New York City Officer Orelvis J. Lazala Robles White Plains, NY Long Island/Metro New York City Officer Carter J. Rana Ballston Lake, NY Long Island/Metro New York City Officer Michael J. Wing Albany, NY Long Island/Metro New York City Officer Zachary Zyskowski Altamont, NY Long Island/Metro Long Island