8.4. Medical Standards. -- All applicants for entry into an entry-level training program shall submit to a medical examination by a licensed physician chosen by and at the expense of the employing agency. The applicants shall complete a comprehensive medical history questionnaire, as well as submit to a medical examination which shall include the following minimum requirements: A medical history; a medical examination; laboratory tests; blood chemistry; Complete Blood Count (CBC); urinalysis; Tuberculosis; Electrocardiogram (ECG); and drug screening. The criteria as to type and method of evaluation of any required laboratory tests will be established by the Subcommittee.

8.4.a. The medical examination shall consist of criteria aimed at identifying conditions that may potentially exclude an applicant from entry into a basic entry-level training program.

8.4.b. Applicants employed by a law enforcement agency that are required to meet medical requirements for firefighters (National Fire Protection Standards 1582 or its most current equivalent) as a condition of employment will use that medical standard for entry into an entry-level training program (W.Va. Code §8-22-16).

8.4.c. The Medical History Statement and Medical Examination Report are valid for a one-year period, to be measured from the date of the examining physician’s signature on the State of Condition page of the Medical Examination Report.

8.4.d. The examining physician shall note if the applicant has any of the medical and physical conditions established by the Subcommittee which may interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform the essential functions established by the Subcommittee for an entry level law enforcement officer. The conditions established by the Subcommittee will be available for review and will be posted on the website of the West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services. These conditions may be cause to exclude an applicant from consideration for acceptance except where specifically noted.

8.4.d.1. Eyes and Vision. -- With regard to eyes and vision, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.1.A. Visual Acuity -- An applicant’s uncorrected vision may be equal to but not worse than 20/100 in the weaker eye, and shall be correctable to better than, or equal to, 20/30 (Snellen) in each eye. Means of correction must be worn on the job and the means of correction shall not interfere with proper fitting of a facial mask, e.g., gas mask, riot helmet or air or blood borne pathogen masks, etc.

8.4.d.1.B. Far visual acuity shall be at least 20/30 binocular with contact lenses or eyeglasses. Far visual acuity uncorrected shall be at least 20/100 binocular for wearers of hard contacts or eyeglasses. Successful long-term soft contact lens wearers (six months without a problem) are not subject to the uncorrected standard.

8.4.d.1.C. Ophthalmological procedures such as radial keratotomy, repair of retinal detachment. Sufficient time (minimum, six months) shall have passed to allow stabilization of visual acuity and to ensure that there are no post surgical complications.

8.4.d.1.D. Visual Acuity -- Color Vision: The applicant shall pass a “controlled color discrimination test”, such as, United States Department of Transportation Color Vision Examination.
8.4.d.1.E. Visual Acuity -- Depth Perception: An applicant’s depth perception should be sufficient to demonstrate normal stereo depth perception with or without correction to the standard: 80 ARC seconds.

8.4.d.1.F. The examining physician shall note any other conditions which may interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform the essential tasks listed in the job description of entry-level law enforcement officer.

8.4.d.2. Ears and Hearing. -- With regard to ears and hearing, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.2.A. Hearing Acuity -- Using an audiometer, the applicant should have less than average loss of 25 or more decibels at the 500, 1000, 2000, and 3000 Hertz (Hz) levels in either ear with no single frequency loss in excess of 40.

8.4.d.2.B. Acute Otitis Media, Otitis Externa, and Mastoiditis -- If the applicant meets hearing acuity guidelines, then these conditions are non-disqualifying.

8.4.d.2.C. Any Inner /Middle/Outer Ear Disorder Affecting Equilibrium, e.g., Meniere’s Disease - If the applicant has historically had episodes of vertigo, the applicant may require further evaluation.

8.4.d.3. Nose, Throat, and Mouth. -- With regard to the nose, throat and mouth, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.3.A. Loss of sense of smell;

8.4.d.3.B. Aphonia, speech loss or speech defects; and

8.4.d.3.C. Abnormalities of the nose, throat, or mouth, except as described in subparagraphs 8.4.d.3.A. and 8.4.d.3.B. - If the abnormality does not interfere with the applicant’s breathing, or the proper fitting of a gas mask, the condition is non-excludable.

8.4.d.4. Peripheral Vascular System. -- With regard to the peripheral vascular system, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.4.A. Hypertension - An applicant’s resting blood pressure should be less than, or equal to, 140 mmHg systolic and 90 mmHg diastolic on three successive readings. If the applicant has controlled hypertension not exceeding this standard and is on medication with side effect profiles which do not interfere with the performance of his or her duty as an entry-level law enforcement officer, the condition may not cause the applicant to be excluded. The applicant shall have a functional and therapeutic cardiac classification no greater than 1A, i.e., Functional Capacity I: Applicants with cardiac disease and no limitation of physical activity. Ordinary physical activity does not cause discomfort. Applicants in this class do not have symptoms of cardiac insufficiency, nor do they experience anginal pain. Therapeutic Classification A: Applicants with cardiac disease whose physical activity need not be restricted.
8.4.d.4.B. Peripheral Vascular Abnormality - Any condition that is severe or symptomatic may cause the applicant to be excluded, e.g., arterial insufficiency, deep or superficial vein thrombophlebitis, or Raynaud’s Disease.

8.4.d.5. Heart and Cardiovascular System. -- With regard to the heart and cardiovascular system, the examining physician shall note any condition that may interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform the duties attendant to the position of a basic entry-level officer as well as any of the following conditions. The following conditions may or may not exclude an applicant from consideration depending on their effect in performance of the job duties as set forth in this section.

8.4.d.5.A. Congenital Heart Disease - If the applicant’s functional work capacity is unimpaired, then the condition may not cause the applicant to be excluded.

8.4.d.5.B. Valvular Heart Disease - Includes significant valvular insufficiency, significant septal defects (any valve), and prolapsing mitral valve (symptomatic).

8.4.d.5.C. Coronary Artery Disease.

8.4.d.5.D. ECG Abnormalities (if associated with organic heart disease) - Including but not limited to: WPW Syndrome, ST Depression, Partial or Complete Left Bundle Branch Blocks, 3 Degree A-V Block, Mobitz Type II A-V Blocks, Sinoatrial Block or Sick Sinus Syndrome, Ventricular Extrasystole (frequent - 20/minute with exercise, 10 minutes without exercise), Ventricular Tachycardia, Atrial Fibrillation or Flutter, Episodic Supraventricular Tachycardia or Consistent Supraventricular Tachycardia at Rest or Persistent After Exercise even if Asymptomatic.

8.4.d.5.E. Angina;

8.4.d.5.F. Congestive Heart Failure;

8.4.d.5.G. Cardiomyopathy; and

8.4.d.5.H. Pericarditis, Endocarditis, and Myocarditis.

8.4.d.6. Respiratory System. -- With regard to the respiratory system, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.6.A. Any chronically disabling conditions that would interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform essential job tasks;

8.4.d.6.B. Infectious or potentially infectious Pulmonary Tuberculosis;

8.4.d.6.C. Chronic Bronchitis;

8.4.d.6.D. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease;

8.4.d.6.E. Emphysema;
8.4.d.6.F. Restrictive Lung Diseases;

8.4.d.6.G. Bronchiectasis and Pneumothorax (current or repeated history);

8.4.d.6.H. Pneumonectomy;

8.4.d.6.I. Acute Mycotic diseases - Including but not limited to coccidiodomycosis and histoplasmosis;

8.4.d.6.J. Acute Pleurisy;

8.4.d.6.K. Malignant Disease - Any condition that may interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform the duties attendant to the position of a basic entry-level officer shall be noted.

8.4.d.7. Gastrointestinal System. -- With regard to the gastrointestinal system, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions. If any of the following or other G-I condition is controlled, then they may not cause the applicant to be excluded.

8.4.d.7.A. Colitis - Including but not limited to Crohn’s Disease, Ulcerative Colitis, Irritable Bowel Syndrome (symptomatic or needing medication), Bacterial Colitis;

8.4.d.7.B. Diverticulitis;

8.4.d.7.C. Esophageal disorders - Including, but not limited to, Esophageal Stricture, Lower Esophageal Ring and Esophageal Spasm.

8.4.d.7.D. Pancreatitis;

8.4.d.7.E. Gall Bladder disorders;

8.4.d.7.F. Active Peptic Ulcers;

8.4.d.7.G. Symptomatic Inguinal, Umbilical, Ventral, Femoral, or Incisional Hernias;

8.4.d.7.H. Malignant Disease of the Liver, Gall Bladder, Pancreas, Esophagus, Stomach, Small or Large Bowel, Rectum, or Anus;

8.4.d.7.I. Gastrointestinal Bleeding;

8.4.d.7.J. Active or Chronic Hepatitis;

8.4.d.7.K. Cirrhosis of the Liver; and

8.4.d.7.L. Motility Disorders, e.g., Scleroderma.

8.4.d.8. Genitourinary System. - With regard to the genitourinary system, the examining physician shall note any conditions that may interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform essential job tasks listed in this section as well as any of the following conditions;
8.4.d.8.A. Pregnancy;

8.4.d.8.B. Nephrectomy - If an applicant possesses this condition with normal natural renal function, then the condition is non-disqualifying;

8.4.d.8.C. Acute Nephritis;

8.4.d.8.D. Nephrotic Syndrome;

8.4.d.8.E. Acute Renal or Urinary Calculi;

8.4.d.8.F. Renal Transplant;

8.4.d.8.G. Renal Failure;

8.4.d.8.H. Hydrocele and Varicocele (Symptomatic);

8.4.d.8.I. Malignant Diseases of Bladder, Kidney, Ureter, Cervix, Ovaries, Breasts, Prostate, etc.;

8.4.d.8.J. Active Venereal Diseases;

8.4.d.8.K. Urinary Tract Infection;

8.4.d.8.L. Polycystic Kidney Disease;

8.4.d.8.M. Pelvic Inflammatory Disorders;

8.4.d.8.N. Endometriosis;

8.4.d.8.O. Inflammatory Disorders, e.g., prostatitis, orchitis, epididymitis; and

8.4.d.8.P. Scleroderma.

8.4.d.9. Endocrine and Metabolic Systems. -- With regard to the endocrine and metabolic systems, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.9.A. Uncontrolled Thyroid Disease;

8.4.d.9.B. Diabetes Mellitus - Potential excludability requires a case by case assessment by a physician designated by the Law Enforcement Training Subcommittee as to the control of diabetes and presence and severity of symptoms and complications;

8.4.d.9.C. Adrenal Dysfunction - Including but not limited to Addison’s Disease and Cushing’s Disease;

8.4.d.9.D. Insulin Reactions; and
8.4.d.9.E. Untreated Thyroid Malignancy.

8.4.d.10. Musculoskeletal System. -- With regard to the musculoskeletal system, the examining physician shall note any condition that may interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform essential job tasks listed in this section as well as any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.10.A. Disorders that limit motor function;
8.4.d.10.B. Cervical Spine or Lumbarsacral Fusion;
8.4.d.10.C. Degenerative Cervical or Lumbar Disc Disease (if symptomatic);
8.4.d.10.D. Extremity amputation;
8.4.d.10.E. Osteomyelitis;
8.4.d.10.F. Muscular Dystrophy;
8.4.d.10.G. Loss in the motor ability from tendon or nerve injury or surgery - In an area relevant to the applicant’s performing the essential tasks of the job;
8.4.d.10.H. Arthritis - If the applicant possesses this condition with no functional impairment, then the condition is non-excludable;
8.4.d.10.I. Coordinated balance;
8.4.d.10.J. Symptomatic Herniated Disc; and
8.4.d.10.K. Spinal Deviations.

8.4.d.11. Hematopoietic and Lymphatic Systems. -- With regard to the hematopoietic and lymphatic systems, the examining physician shall note any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.11.A. Hematopoietic disorders (including malignancies), e.g., SCD, thalassemia, G6PSD, etc.; and
8.4.d.11.B. Hemophilia.

8.4.d.12. Nervous System. -- With regard to the nervous system, the examining physician shall note any condition that may interfere with the applicant’s ability to perform essential job tasks listed in this section as well as any of the following conditions:

8.4.d.12.A. Seizure disorder (all types);
8.4.d.12.B. Cerebral Palsy;
8.4.d.12.C. Movement disorders, e.g., Parkinson’s;
8.4.d.12.D. Cerebral Aneurysms;

8.4.d.12.E. Syncope;

8.4.d.12.F. Progressive Neurological Diseases - Including but not limited to Multiple Sclerosis and Huntington’s Chorea;

8.4.d.12.G. Peripheral Nerve Disorder - Including but not limited to Polyneuritis, Mononeuritis, and Neurofibromatosis;

8.4.d.12.H. Narcolepsy;

8.4.d.12.I. Cerebral vascular accident; and


8.4.d.13. Any condition listed in this Subsection of this Rule that requires further evaluation, beyond that offered by the applicant’s physician, shall be conducted at the applicant’s expense.

8.4.e. Any medical or physical condition approved by the Subcommittee that requires further evaluation to determine the condition’s impact upon the applicant’s ability to perform the essential functions that an entry level law enforcement officer should be able to perform, shall be conducted at the applicant’s expense.