



Become a Conservation Officer

What is a Conservation Officer?

Conservation officers (COs) are uniformed field staff who are responsible for protecting our environment and making sure natural resources, such as fish and wildlife, are used wisely. While their primary role is environmental law enforcement – they have the authority of police officers – COs are also kept busy doing public relations, resource management work (e.g. wildlife surveys) and promoting healthy environments and ecosystems. COs work outdoors daily, and often in isolated wilderness areas.

COs have the authority of police officers, and work as part of Saskatchewan's Protection and Response Team to reduce rural crime and ensure public safety on roadways. COs respond to emergency situations and can be dispatched to serious Criminal Code offences in progress.

How do I become a Conservation Officer?

You must:

- complete grade 12;
- submit a clear criminal record check;
- be fluent in English;
- pass the Physical Abilities Requirement Evaluation (PARE test); and
- Complete a defensive driving program.

As well, minimum post-secondary education requirements include a two-year integrated resource management diploma program that includes a law enforcement component. For example:

- Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Prince Albert Campus, Prince Albert, SK
- Lethbridge Community College, Lethbridge, AB
- Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo, BC
- Keewatin College, The Pas, MB, and
- Sir Sanford Fleming School of Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences, Lindsay, ON

- The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Prince Albert Campus has a Resource and Environmental Law diploma program that can provide you with the educational background you need to apply for a job as a conservation officer. This program is also linked to the First Nations University of Canada/University of Regina and University of Saskatchewan degree programs, allowing Sask Polytech graduates the opportunity to use their diploma as a credit toward the university degree.

Other requirements for employment are:

- Psychological compatibility
- Physically fit and able to meet defensive tactics and firearms qualification standards

Further information:

For further information, ask to speak with the conservation officer in your local Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment office or contact:

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
Compliance and Field Services
319 - 800 Central Avenue
Prince Albert SK S6V 6Z2
Phone: 306-953-3519

