

**Tim Touhy**  
Chairman



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## ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD

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### 2026 PROMOTIONAL PROCESS TEST DECLARATION ANNOUNCEMENT

#### TEST ADMINISTRATION DATES

The target **Sergeant** Job Knowledge and Assessment Center testing will be conducted the week of **September 14-18, 2026**, at the Illinois State Police Academy and Illinois State Police Merit Board office in Springfield.

The target **Master Sergeant** Job Knowledge and Assessment Center testing will be conducted the week of **August 31-September 4, 2026**, at the Illinois State Police Merit Board office in Springfield.

The Merit Board will assign individual appointment dates and times for each rank. Participants will receive additional information by e-mail at a later date.

If you fail to complete the Job Knowledge Exam and Assessment Center on your assigned date, time, and location, you are voluntarily removing yourself from consideration for the 2026 Promotional Process. **There will be no exceptions.**

#### ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for participation in the 2026 Promotional Process, all candidates must complete the online Test Declaration form by the stated deadline of May 31, 2026.

Participation in the 2026 SPEAR P3 ratings process is not a requirement to be eligible to participate in the State Police Merit Board's Promotional Testing Process.

#### SCORE CALCULATION

P3 rating scores will no longer be used in calculating final promotional test scores. Promotional scores will be calculated solely on the Job Knowledge Exam and Assessment Exercise results, which together comprise 95% of the final score. The calculation for seniority remains unchanged and has a maximum of five points.

# 2026 PROMOTIONAL PROCESS TEST DECLARATION ANNOUNCEMENT



## PROMOTIONAL LISTS

Beginning in 2026, the Merit Board will utilize **statewide** certification lists for each rank, rather than work unit specific lists (such as Troops, Zones, or regions). The top 65% of each statewide list will now be considered **equally eligible** for promotional consideration. This creates consistency by ensuring all candidates are held to the same certification score threshold, rather than varied thresholds based on list placement.

## SENIORITY POINTS

Seniority (in rank) as of July 1, 2026, shall consist of the time accumulated (as an Illinois State Police officer) in your permanently assigned rank with .2 points earned per month up to a maximum of 5 points (.2 points x 25 months = 5 points)

## TEST DECLARATION

The online Test Declaration Form will be available from 8:30 AM CST on Friday, May 1, 2026, until 4:00 PM CST on Sunday, May 31, 2026. To complete the Test Declaration Form, visit: [www.illinoistrooper.com/login](http://www.illinoistrooper.com/login) and select the Test Declaration menu item. You will be required to log in using the following credentials:

**Username:** four-digit ISP Star ID#

**Password:** year, month, date of birth (yyyymmdd)

Any candidate who does not complete the Test Declaration Form by the deadline will **not** be eligible to participate in the 2026 Promotional Process. As a result, you will not be considered for the 2026 or 2027 Promotional Certification Lists. Please retain your confirmation email as proof that your declaration was submitted on time. **There will be no exceptions.**

## READING LISTS

The 2026 Promotional Test Reading Lists have been published on the Merit Board's website. Under the Promotional Process tab, select **Reading Lists**.

To view and download the selected Compiled Statutes, Shift Briefings, and Law Bulletins, you will be required to log-in using your State Police Merit Board assigned credentials provided above.

# 2026 PROMOTIONAL PROCESS TEST DECLARATION ANNOUNCEMENT



## ORIENTATION

The Illinois State Police Merit Board's online candidate orientation for those testing to the rank of Sergeant and Master Sergeant will be available on the Merit Board's website from 8:30 AM on June 15, until 3:00 PM on July 10, 2026.

## SENIORITY POINTS

Seniority (in rank) as of July 1, 2026, shall consist of the time accumulated (as an Illinois State Police officer) in your permanently assigned rank with .2 points earned per month up to a maximum of 5 points (.2 points x 25 months = 5 points)

## REMOTE TESTING

Candidates are required to take the Promotional Examination at the designated sites and times determined by the State Police Merit Board except for two deviations: military leave or pre-approved department authorized training.

If you qualify for either of these deviations, you may apply for Remote Testing by completing a Remote Testing Request Form.

**Requests must be submitted prior to any test administration and require approval from the Executive Director of the Merit Board. All requests will be reviewed, and each candidate will receive a decision in writing. There will be no exceptions.**

The Remote Test Request form is available at [illinoistrooper.com](http://illinoistrooper.com), under the Promotional Process tab. Completed forms should be e-mailed to [promotions@ispmeritboard.org](mailto:promotions@ispmeritboard.org).

## POST-TEST REVIEW

Candidates will be provided the opportunity to review their respective job-knowledge exam, along with the list of answers on the State Police Merit Board's website from Tuesday, September 29, at 8:30 AM, until Thursday, October 1, 2026, at 4:00 PM. Information regarding the Post-Test Review process will be provided to candidates at a later date.

**2026 PROMOTIONAL PROCESS  
TEST DECLARATION ANNOUNCEMENT**



**PROCESS**

The 2026 Job Knowledge Exam will be a closed book exam.

The Promotional Process will be conducted in accordance with adopted Illinois State Police Merit Board Rules, Regulations and Procedures: **TITLE 80: PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES, SUBTITLE A: MERIT EMPLOYMENT SYSTEMS, CHAPTER IV: DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD, PART 150 PROCEDURES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD.**