

(b) The Department of Personnel may also authorize a certification from a common or similar State or local service eligible list under the following circumstances:

1. The appointing authority has requested the use of such list in writing;
2. The examination requirements of the titles for which the eligible lists may be certified shall be appropriate for the title in the requesting jurisdiction;
3. The State or local lists will be used to supplement the existing list in order to create a complete certification; and
4. Only those persons on the eligible list who have expressed an interest in working in the jurisdiction shall be certified.

(c) In local service, regular reemployment lists may be used to certify against vacancies in the same or comparable titles in all appointing authorities in the respective jurisdiction, except school districts.

(d) See N.J.A.C. 4A:8-2.3 for uses of special reemployment lists in State and local service.

#### **4A:4-4.4 Limitation on number of times eligible is certified**

(a) A non-veteran eligible who has been certified to the same appointing authority from an open competitive list on three occasions and who has been passed over in favor of a lower ranked eligible on each occasion, shall have his or her name withheld from future certification to the same appointing authority. The appointing authority may request that such eligible be recertified, in which case only that eligible and any higher or equal ranking veteran eligible shall be certified.

(b) All eligibles on a promotional list shall be certified, in order of rank, as long as they remain on the list.

Petition for Rulemaking.  
See: 32 N.J.R. 4016(b).

#### **4A:4-4.5 Certifications limited to persons of a particular sex, religion or national origin**

(a) A certification may be issued limited to persons of a particular sex, religion or national origin of the eligibles, where such factors are bona fide occupational qualifications (BFOQ) that are essential to successful job performance and the normal operation of the appointing authority.

(b) The appointing authority shall determine those positions in State service and those specific titles in local service for which BFOQ designations are essential.

(c) A request for a BFOQ designation shall be signed by the agency or department head, or designee, and the affirmative action officer, and submitted by the appointing authority to the Department of Personnel, Division of Equal

Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action (EEO/AA) and shall include:

1. The purpose of the BFOQ being requested;
2. An accurate description of the employment for which the BFOQ is sought, including:
  - i. The position number in State service and the specific title in local service;
  - ii. The duties of the position and percentage of time required to perform those duties;
  - iii. The post location; and
  - iv. The shift designation.
3. A statement why a person without the specific BFOQ cannot perform the position's duties;
4. What accommodations were considered to permit persons without the BFOQ to perform the duties and why the accommodations were not adopted; and
5. Such other information as requested by the Division.

(d) The appointing authority shall have the burden of proof that a BFOQ designation is necessary.

(e) The Director, Division of EEO/AA shall review the request and advise the appointing authority in writing of his or her decision to either accept the BFOQ request or not accept the request based on insufficient justification.

(f) The Division of EEO/AA will audit BFOQ positions to eliminate artificial barriers that may exist to equal employment opportunity and particular BFOQ designations may be reconsidered or eliminated.

(g) Any person who has been denied an employment opportunity as a result of a BFOQ designation may contest the designation as a discrimination appeal in State service (N.J.A.C. 4A:7-3.2 et seq.) or a general appeal in local service (N.J.A.C. 4A:2-1.1).

#### **4A:4-4.6 Eligibles on military leave**

(a) Interested eligibles on military leave shall continue to be certified. The appointing authority may consider such eligibles immediately available for appointment even though reporting for work may be delayed.

(b) On return from military duty, an appointed eligible shall, after successful completion of the working test period, have the same rights, privileges and obligations as if the eligible had served continuously in the title from the original effective date of appointment.

#### **4A:4-4.7 Removal of names**

(a) The name of an eligible may be removed from an eligible list for any of the following reasons:

1. The causes for disqualification listed in N.J.A.C. 4A:4-6.1;

2. Permanent appointment through certification to the title for which the list was promulgated or made appropriate, except that the appointment to a lower title will not be cause for removal;

3. Inability, unavailability or refusal of eligible to accept appointment. An eligible who has declined appointment may, upon written request, have his or her name withheld from future certifications until available for appointment. The Department of Personnel must be notified when the eligible wishes to be considered for certification;

4. The eligible has a criminal record which adversely relates to the employment sought.

i. The following factors may be considered in determining whether a criminal record adversely relates to employment:

- (1) The nature and seriousness of the crime;
- (2) The circumstances under which the crime occurred;
- (3) The date of the crime and age of the eligible when the crime was committed;
- (4) Whether the crime was an isolated event; and
- (5) Evidence of rehabilitation.

ii. The presentation of a pardon or an expungement shall prohibit removal from a list, except for law enforcement, correction officer or firefighter titles and other titles as the Commissioner may determine.

5. Notice by the postal authorities that they are unable to locate or deliver mail to the eligible;

6. Non-compliance with the instructions listed on the notice of certification;

7. Discontinuance of an eligible's residence in the jurisdiction to which an examination was limited or for a title for which continuous residency is required;

8. Discontinuance of the eligible's employment in the unit scope to which a promotional examination was limited, except when the eligible has accepted a temporary or interim appointment in another unit scope. An employee who subsequently returns to the unit scope within current continuous service may request, in writing to the Department of Personnel, that his or her name be restored to the promotional list;

9. Employees who are involuntarily transferred shall be retained on a promotional list until they have had an opportunity to take a promotional examination in the new promotional unit scope or have been appointed from the list;

10. Failure to maintain interest in a geographical area or choice; and

11. Other valid reasons as determined by the Commissioner.

(b) An appointing authority that requests removal of an eligible's name from a list shall submit to the Department, no later than the date for disposition of the certification, all documents and arguments upon which it bases its request.

1. Upon request of the eligible or upon the eligible's appeal, the appointing authority shall provide the eligible with copies of all materials sent to the Department.

2. If the appointing authority fails to provide either the Department or the eligible with copies of materials, the request for removal may be denied.

(c) The Department of Personnel shall determine if there are sufficient grounds for removal, notify the appointing authority and the eligible of its decision, and advise the eligible of his or her appeal rights.

(d) An eligible may appeal his or her removal from an eligible list utilizing the procedures in N.J.A.C. 4A:4-6.3.

(e) The removal of names from an eligible list will advance the rank order of all names below it. The Department may supplement a certification to provide the appointing authority with the number of names necessary for a complete certification.

(f) Acceptance or refusal of a temporary or interim appointment shall not be cause for removal from an eligible list.

(g) When the Department of Personnel has accepted a single application for one or more law enforcement title areas, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.3(c), an eligible whose name has been removed from the pool of eligibles for one jurisdiction or title area for cause shall be removed from the pool of eligibles for any other jurisdiction or title area.

(h) When an eligible has been permanently appointed from a certification of a pool of eligibles, the eligible shall be removed from the pool of eligibles for that title area only.

Amended by R.1993 d.270, effective June 7, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1085(b), 25 N.J.R. 2509(a).

Revised (a)8; added new (f).

Amended by R.1997 d.482, effective November 17, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 3385(a), 29 N.J.R. 4864(b).

Added (g) and (h).

Amended by R.1998 d.291, effective June 1, 1998.

See: 30 N.J.R. 890(a), 30 N.J.R. 1975(a).

Rewrote (b)1.

#### Case Notes

Statements made in report of background check of police officer applicant. Pollinger v. Loigman, 256 N.J.Super. 257, 606 A.2d 1113 (A.D.1992).