
Alberta Police Cognitive Ability Test (APCAT)

The only written test applicants must take is the Alberta Police Cognitive Ability Test (APCAT). This is a job-related written exam of approximately 3 hours in duration. The test consists of 120 multiple choice questions, and the passing grade is **84 out of 120 (70%)**.

There is no limit to the number of attempts. Minimum wait periods after a failed attempt are as follows:

- ✦ 1st failed attempt – Applicant must wait 1 month before re-writing,
- ✦ 2nd failed attempt – Applicant must wait 3 months before re-writing,
- ✦ 3rd failed attempt – Applicant must wait 6 months before re-writing, and for all future attempts.

If you are successful, the APCAT results are valid for 5 years.

Exam Help

The APCAT is a general knowledge multiple choice exam that examines cognitive ability and one's potential to successfully complete police recruit training and to perform effectively as a police officer in the Province of Alberta. The APCAT does not measure your knowledge of a particular subject, but rather your ability to think and reason. The questions asked measure 5 different areas including:

1. Judgement
2. Observation skills
3. Learning/memory
4. Written communication
5. Problem analysis

The following are resources for exam help that some candidates have found useful in preparing for the APCAT:

FREE:

- ✦ COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO CANADIAN POLICE OFFICER EXAMS (by Jessop, Deland), Available for loan at:
 - ☐ Grande Prairie Public Library, 101 - 9839 103 Avenue, (780) 532-3580, and
 - ☐ Northwestern Polytechnic Learning Commons Library, Grande Prairie Campus, 10726, 106 Avenue, (780)-539-2939.
- ✦ www.lumosity.com (memory, processing speed, problem solving training)
- ✦ www.grammarbook.com (grammar quizzes)
- ✦ www.jobtestprep.com/police-exam-sample-questions (exam-sample-questions)

COST:

- ✦ www.practice4me.com/ (online Canadian police exam training) - \$79
- ✦ <https://policeready.ca/> (online Canadian police exam training) - cost varies with promotions.
- ✦ www.policeprep.com (online Canadian police exam training) - cost varies with promotions.

OTHER:

The following books may be available for purchase or in your local library.

- † NORMAN HALL'S POLICE EXAM PREPARATION BOOK (by Hall, Norman)
- † BARRON'S CANADIAN POLICE OFFICER EXAMS (by Andersen, Earl)
- † CANADIAN POLICE OFFICER TEST STRATEGY: Winning Multiple Choice Strategies for the Canadian Police Officer Test (by Complete Test Preparation Inc.)