

Fact Sheet: Earned Preference Points for Secondary Language Fluency

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

For the 2022 Police Officer Exam, you will have the opportunity to earn points added to your final, phase III test score. You can earn up to 10 points for a qualifying language proficiency.

You will need to take and pass the two written phases of the Police Officer Exam given in English.

Languages Eligible for Proficiency Points

	Qualifying Language Proficiency Level	Available Points
1. Arabic-MSA	Novice Low (NL), Mid (NM), High (NH), or Intermediate Low (IL)	0
2. Cambodian		
3. French	Intermediate Mid (IM)	2.5
4. Mandarin Chinese		
5. Nepali	Intermediate High (IH) or Advanced Low (AL)	5
6. Russian		
7. Spanish	Advanced Mid (AM)	7.5
8. Somali		
	Advanced High (AH) or Superior (S)	10

When you apply for Police Officer, select the language you are fluent in, if any. If you would like to take a language fluency exam but did not select this on your application, contact the Civil Service Commission (CSC) at 614.645.0800 or policefiretesting@columbus.gov.

After passing the written exams, if you selected one of the languages, the CSC will email you about your opportunity to take a language proficiency exam.

The CSC will pay for the language assessment administered by language testing experts.

The language proficiency exam will be a remotely proctored verbal exam that you can take from your home if you have a computer or laptop with an enabled webcam and audio (a smartphone is not an alternative). Alternatively, you can schedule to take the exam at 1111 E. Broad St. Columbus, OH.

You must complete the language proficiency exam by the designated date to earn points.

Your language proficiency test results must be at a level of *intermediate mid* to *superior* to earn points.

You may qualify in only *one* of the languages listed above.

Use the following table as a self-assessment to better understand the ranges assessed through the language proficiency exam and the possible points earned.

	Self-Assessment Descriptions	Possible Points
1	Novice Low (NL) or Mid (NM) I can name basic objects, colors, days of the week, food, clothing items, numbers, etc. I cannot always make a complete sentence or ask simple questions.	0
2	Novice High (NH) or Intermediate Low (IL) I can give some basic information about myself, work, familiar people and places, and daily routines by speaking in simple sentences. I can ask some simple questions.	0
3	Intermediate Mid (IM), High (IH), or Advanced Low I can participate in simple conversations about familiar topics and routines. I can talk about things that have happened, but sometimes my forms are incorrect. I can handle a range of everyday transactions to get what I need.	2.5 - 5
4	Intermediate High (IH), Advanced Low (AL), Advanced Mid (AM), Advanced High (AH), or Superior (S) I can participate fully and confidently in all conversations about topics and activities related to home, work/school, personal and community interests. I can speak in connected discourse about things that happened, are happening, and will happen. I can explain and elaborate when asked. I can handle routine situations, even when there may be an unexpected complication.	5 - 10
5	Advanced High (AH) or Superior (S) I can engage in all informal and formal discussions on issues related to personal, general, or professional interests. I can deal with these issues abstractly, support my opinion, and construct hypotheses to explore alternatives. I am able to elaborate at length and in detail on most topics with a high level of accuracy and a wide range of precise vocabulary.	10