

# IDAHO STATE POLICE

## Personal History Statement (PHS)

### Instructions to the Applicant

The information you provide in this personal history statement will be used for your background investigation and in determining your suitability for the position of peace officer or other Idaho State Police job classification. Please fill out the questionnaire completely and accurately **after you have completely read all instructions**. Keep in mind that:

1. The completion of this form is mandatory. Should you fail to complete any area, you may be removed from consideration for failure to submit a complete packet.
2. All statements are subject to verification.
3. Deliberate inaccuracies or incomplete statements may bar or remove you from employment.
4. All time periods in your background must be accounted for.
5. You must have the required documents attached or a letter explaining why it is not attached and when the Human Resource Office can expect them. Without explanations you will be removed from consideration.
6. Most contact with you will be via email. Please be certain to provide your email address, and check your inbox often.

It is to your advantage to respond openly. Any negative factor in your background will be evaluated in terms of the circumstances and facts surrounding its occurrence, and degree of relevance to the position for which you have applied. For example, being fired from a job or having an arrest record is not in itself grounds for disqualification; lying about it will result in disqualification. During the investigation, the investigator will inquire into the facts surrounding such occurrence. An evaluation will then be made of the relevance of these facts to the requirements of the job.

The *Americans with Disabilities Act* prohibits employers from making medically related decisions prior to a conditional offer of employment. Therefore, if you are completing this PHS before you have received a conditional offer of employment, **do not** divulge information concerning physical or medical conditions, either past or current.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Your ability to complete the Personal History Statement (PHS) and enclosed forms correctly and in a timely manner is essential to your viability as an applicant. It is your responsibility to make sure your PHS and enclosed forms are complete and accurate. Be as specific as possible on your answers.

Any discrepancies, misstatements, omissions and/or falsifications may be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment by the Idaho State Police, or may be cause for dismissal from employment by this department.

***Once submitted, your PHS and contents of your background packet become the sole property of the Idaho State Police.***

## **BACKGROUND PACKET**

Your background packet should include the following:

1. Instructions to the applicant.
2. Personal History Statement (PHS)—28 pages.
3. Authorization to Release Personal Information Form & Credit Report Form.
4. Required Documents page.
5. Polygraph Information page.

## **PREPARING YOUR BACKGROUND PACKET**

Read each question carefully before answering. All questions must be answered completely, accurately, and truthfully. Vague responses are not acceptable.

Additional information for various questions on the PHS is listed below by **QUESTION NUMBER**. It is important to read this additional information before making your response to a particular question.

**Question 8** - Spouses include those people with whom you have had children in common either by birth or adoption. On page four (4), under other relatives with whom you have close personal relationship (including children), list your children first and their ages.

**Question 9** - You must list six (6) references. Do not list anyone you have known for less than six months. Do not list relatives, or references listed from questions ten (10) eleven (11), or fifty one (51). You may jointly list a husband and wife as one reference, but not as two separate references.

**Question 11** - Provide current information for roommates, boyfriends, girlfriends, ex-spouses, etc. Those in the military need not list everyone you lived with in the barracks. Those in college need not list all dorm residents. Those who have served a mission do not need to list everyone that you lived with.

**Question 12** - Arrest information must be fully explained. If more space is necessary, use page twenty two (22). List the actual charge(s) at the time of the arrest. If the charge(s) were reduced or dismissed, indicate circumstances surrounding the arrest as well as the results/penalty. Include arresting agency's name, and date of arrest.

NOTE: This question includes arrests resulting in a withheld judgment, dismissed after a successful completion of probation (Per Idaho Code Section 19-2601 or any similar provision of any other state), an expungement, a pardon or sealing of your criminal record.

**Question 21** - Include divorces, child custody cases, small claims actions, etc.

**Question 25** - Questions regarding illegal drug use must be answered truthfully and completely. If exact dates are unknown, you must list an approximate month and year you feel certain when the drugs were used. Keep in mind if you are not honest regarding all of your illegal drug use, including dates used, you will be disqualified for falsification of your statement.

**Question 35** - If living at home with parents or relatives, indicate “parents” or “relatives” or if you own your own home, indicate, “own” in the right column. If you rent(ed) and don’t know who you paid the rent to, or management has changed, list the name and address of the apartment complex: Attn: Manager. Include the landlord or rental office phone number. Applicants in the military who have lived on base or aboard ship should use your Duty Station as the address.

**Question 36** - You must verify the address, zip codes, and telephone numbers of each employer before submitting your packet. If a past employer has moved and is still in business, use their new address. If they are no longer in business, use their old address with a notation “No longer in business”.

**Question 52** - Under “Current Monthly Expenditures”, “other monthly payments”, instead of listing every credit card, indicate “credit cards”, and what your total monthly payment is for all cards combined. Include leases as a monthly payment. Under Current Assets “Real Estate”, list what you could sell your house, condo, etc. for at today’s market prices. “Other assets” would include furniture, household goods, tools, stereo equipment, antiques, art, firearms, etc. Under “Current Liabilities”, list how much you owe on your house, condo, all credit cards combined, vehicle loans, student loans, back child or spousal support, etc.

**Question 53** - List only those accounts in your name or on a joint account.

**Question 69** – Circle whether you were cited or arrested if you mark “yes”.

**Question 70** - Accident information listed under question number sixty nine (69) must be fully explained here. Explain what happened, were you at fault or not at fault, etc.

**Question 72** - Do not list employment as a security officer or guard as police experience.

**Page 23** - Sign and date your Personal History Statement at the bottom of page twenty three (23).

## **OTHER DOCUMENTS AND FORMS**

The remaining forms that need to be filled out are self-explanatory. The following information is also required:

### **Authorization to Release Information Form**

This authorization form must be notarized. Do not sign the form until you sign it in the presence of a Notary Public. The notary will request a valid photo I.D. (driver’s license, Idaho I.D., military I.D., alien registration card). You might check with your bank or credit union, as they may provide the service for free.

### **Additional Waiver (for Commissioned positions only)**

Read this form carefully. This form must be notarized. Do not sign until you are in the presence of a Notary Public.

## **Transcript Request**

Only official, sealed transcripts from each post secondary school you attended will be accepted. Request that each school mail the transcripts directly to Idaho State Police Human Resources, 700 S. Stratford Dr., Meridian, ID 83642.

## **MISCELLANEOUS BACKGROUND PROCESS INFORMATION**

You must return the original PHS we provided you and copies of requested documents. Copies of the PHS will not be accepted.

Please call Human Resources (208) 884-7317 with changes. Be prepared to mail, email or fax (208) 884-7087 the appropriate required information for major changes such as employment, residence, etc. **It is your responsibility** to notify the Idaho State Police of any changes in employment, residence, telephone numbers, application for employment with other law enforcement agencies, or law enforcement contacts.

It is a good idea to make a copy or two of the blank PHS and use them as a working copy. Before transferring the information onto the original PHS, please ensure all information is accurate, including all names, addresses, phone numbers, zip codes, as well as spelling and grammar.

## **RETURN THE COMPLETED PACKET WITH ORIGINAL PHS AND COPIES OF ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO:**

Idaho State Police  
Human Resources  
700 S. Stratford Dr.  
Meridian, ID 83642