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the specific position you are interested in will be beneficial when applying for a job with the TSA. Welcome to the Airport Assessment stage! If you have made it this far, it means that you have successfully completed the first steps towards working at TSA. You have successfully passed the CBT and accepted the Contingent Offer, as well as the Credit Check. On this page, you will find details regarding all the steps of the Airport Assessment. Airport Assessment StepsSchedule AppointmentPrior to the Airport Assessment, you will receive a phone call in the importance of the TSO position will be explained to you, as well as the conditions of the job you are being offered (if you have already received the Contingent Offer), i.e., the location, salary, and hours, as well as the benefits associated with working in this position. You will also be reminded of how complicated working as a TSO can be – for example, the job can be stressful and physically demanding (many hours on your feet, few breaks) – and the duties of the position. If you agree to all the conditions presented during the call, you will be given a date to attend your Airport Assessment.Check-inOn the day of your arrival at the airport for the Airport Assessment, you will be asked to check in before continuing with the assessment process. The assessment process consists of several steps.Identity VerificationAll applicants must submit two forms of identification issued by the U.S. Federal or State Government. At least one of the forms of identification must include both a photograph and a signature. The applicant's identification must be original, current, legible, and reflect their current legal name. In addition, driver's licenses must comply with applicable state laws referencing name and address information. If the name on the employment application does not match the identification, the applicant must provide proof of name change through a marriage certificate or court-issued name change certificate. Applicants will not be admitted to the facility without these two pieces of identification.The following table lists acceptable identification forms. Applicants may bring either two types of ID from column A or one piece of identification from column A and one from column B:Column A (ID with picture)Column BDriver's licenseSocial Security CardU.S. PassportBirth certificateU.S. Military ID (only if it includes signature and picture)U.S. Certificate of naturalizationState Identification Card Examples of unacceptable IDs:Student IDEmployer identification card or badge (not issued by a State or Federal Government)Store loyalty cardHealthcare membership cards (not issued by a State or Federal Government)Depositing Personal BelongingsAfter verifying your identity, your personal items will be collected and stored until the end of your Airport Assessment. Prohibited items such as keys, cell phones, pens, etc., will either be stored on site, or you will be asked to remove them to your vehicle. It is also important to note that no weapons (firearms, knives, etc.) may be stored at the airport under any circumstances.Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA form)At the end of the check-in and in order to proceed to the next step, the candidate must fill out and sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement form (form 1154). You can see a sample NDA form via the following link.Color Vision TestThe "Farnsworth D-15 Color Vision" test, or simply the Color Vision test, determines whether the candidate has sufficient ability to distinguish colors in order to effectively perform the work required by a TSO. Indeed, as you can read about in detail on the following page, the job of a TSO also consists of being able to distinguish between the distinct colors and density differences between the objects as seen on the X-ray machine during the baggage check. It is therefore essential that candidates hired as TSOs have the ability to see and distinguish between the various colors.Here is how this test is designed:The candidate is in a closed room with the examiner. On a table is a box with 15 uniquely numbered colored caps. Each cap has a slightly different hue. One of the caps serves as a reference cap (starting cap). The candidate has 3-minutes to test the caps in order according to the shades most similar to the reference cap. He must first choose the color most similar to the reference cap, then the cap with the color most similar to the previously selected cap and so on. Pass/fail distinctions are determined by the number of "crossovers" (i.e., an error) in the ordering of the caps by the candidate during the test. A crossover is defined as two caps incorrectly placed next to each other. If the candidate has made two or more crossovers, he/she fails the test. In this case, the candidate is allowed to attempt the test a second time, following the same instructions as described above. If a candidate fails the test both times, he/she will not be able to continue with the Airport Assessment and the recruitment process will be terminated. If he/she wishes, the candidate will be allowed to re-take the test six months later.You can practice online for the Farnsworth Test at the following link.Farnsworth Test FAQCan I wear glasses during the test?You can wear your glasses or contact lenses as long as the lenses are not tinted. X-Chrome lenses (special lenses for people with color blindness) are not allowed and must be removed immediately.How long does the test take?The duration of the test is 3-minutes. The test will begin following a concise explanation of what it entails.Can I change my answers?You can change your answers as many times as you like, as long as you have time left within the 3-minute allotment. Once time is up, you will not be able to change your answers.How many mistakes can I make and still pass the test?You fail the test automatically if you have made more than two mistakes. The examiner will not tell you how many errors you made.Should I rank the caps from lightest to darkest?You should classify caps by color, not by lightness or darkness.TSA Standardized InterviewThe next step of the Airport Assessment is the interview. This is a standardized (or structured) interview, i.e., the interviewer asks a set of predefined questions in a given order, and then ranks the answers according to a scoring system. This type of interview allows interviewers to collect similar types of information from candidates in a uniform context.The candidate is taken to a closed room with a minimum of two interviewers (some panels have up to six interviewers). The interviewers ask the candidate six mandatory universal questions and assess and score seven soft skills. Each question has two options (A and B) and only one of them is asked of the candidate. The other option will be used if the candidate has difficulty with the first option.Important update! Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, some airports are conducting Airport Assessment interviews with candidates online, via video conferencing software, such as Cisco Webex, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, or Apple FaceTime.STAR TechniqueFor the TSA and the job market in general, one of the most comprehensive techniques for answering interview questions is the STAR technique. This method allows candidates to answer interview questions clearly, providing concrete examples to demonstrate your abilities and experience.STAR is an acronym that stands for Situation, Task, Action, Result. This technique is particularly effective when being asked skill-focused questions, just like those asked at the Airport Assessment by the TSA. These types of questions usually begin with "tell me how... happened" or "share an example of a situation where...". Each of the STAR elements describes the steps in which the candidate must respond to behavioral or soft skill questions. They can be described as follows:SituationThe first step is to describe the context requested in the question, whether it is at work or in your personal life, while volunteering, or any other relevant event. It is important to be as specific as possible. For example, this could be a description of a group project at work, or a conflict with a client/colleague.TaskThe second step is to describe your part of the responsibility in the situation. For example, you had to help your group complete a project in a very short time frame, or resolve the conflict in a respectful manner, etc.ActionThe third step is to describe how you accomplished the task described or overcame the challenges brought up in the previous step. It is important that you focus on what you accomplished on your own, not what your colleagues/clients/superiors accomplished.ResultThe final step is to explain the outcome or result of the situation as a result of the actions you took.If you feel like you need to practice using the STAR method, take our online interview.What Are Soft Skills?Soft skills are non-technical skills that evaluate work capacity and are sought in candidates. They are a combination of personality traits, behaviors, and attitudes that form the basis for working in a team or with clients. These soft skills may vary slightly depending on the job and the skills needed but are fairly similar for most jobs.Examples of Competency-Based Interview QuestionsAdaptability, Flexibility & ResilienceThis skill is essential for a candidate wishing to be accepted as a TSO; they must be able to adapt to any situation and react quickly, even if it is unexpected or complicated.DefinitionAdaptability is the ability to learn new skills quickly and behaviors in response to changing situations and circumstances.Flexibility is the willingness and ability to respond and adapt quickly to changing situations.Resilience is the ability to recover and adapt to unexpected or complicated situations.Examples of Questions Asked by the TSA?Tell us about the biggest upheaval you faced in your previous job. How did you handle it?Describe an experience during which you received negative feedback from an employer, co-worker, or client. How did you handle this feedback? What was the outcome?How would you handle a sudden change in the priorities of a project you were working on?Tell us about a situation in which someone asked you to do something you were opposed to. How did you handle the situation?What would you do if you made a strong proposal in a meeting, but your colleagues objected?Honesty & IntegrityThis skill is essential for individuals working in teams or as employees, such as TSOs. It helps build trust among team members, as well as with supervisors and passengers, and creates a healthy and respectful work environment for all.DefinitionHonesty is the ability to be fair, truthful, and trustworthy.Integrity implies high reliability and incorruptibility in one's job, which includes not betraying a responsibility or commitment, and remaining ethically.Examples of Questions Asked by the TSADescribe an instance in which your integrity was questioned and how you responded.Describe a situation where you witnessed unethical behavior. How did you respond?Describe a circumstance in which you witnessed a procedural disagreement between two colleagues discussing SSI in a public space. What were your solutions, actions, and responses?What are your weaknesses and strengths?TeamworkThis skill is essential for TSOs and includes many interpersonal elements and behaviors. A TSO, whether in charge of X-ray, baggage, or passengers, always works as part of a team and must be able to communicate with other members of the group effectively.DefinitionTeamwork describes the process of working collaboratively within a group in order to achieve a common goal. It involves team members cooperating and giving constructive feedback regardless of conflicts and personal relationships between members.Examples of Questions Asked by the TSADescribe an instance in which you were a member of a team. How did you contribute positively to the team?How would you respond if your team objected to a new idea or strategy you proposed?Tell us about a conflict you had with a colleague and what you did in response.Problem-SolvingThe ability to manage conflict and resolve problems is one of the most important skills for TSOs. They must be able to identify, analyze and find a solution quickly and calmly in order to prevent situations from escalating.DefinitionThis skill is a combination of different abilities that, when combined, allow for adaptation to conflict or problematic situations. It combines the following elements, among others:Active listeningEmpathyCommunicationResearchCreativityCommunicationDependabilityDecision makingTeam buildingExamples of Questions Asked by the TSA?Tell us about an episode in which you developed an unconventional approach to solving a problem. How did you develop this new approach? What challenges did you face and how did you overcome them?Tell us about an episode in which you had to complete a task under a tight deadline. Describe the situation and explain how you handled it.Tell us about a time when you showed initiative in your work.Sometimes travelers get angry. How have you ever dealt with an individual who was a problem?Leadership & DecisivenessBeing able to make decisions and having leadership skills is important for TSOs. A TSO must be authoritative with passengers and make quick and accurate decisions in any situation.DefinitionDecisiveness is the ability to make decisions quickly and effectively. Leadership is the ability to take the dominant position in a group in order to make the best possible decisions for the good of all.Examples of Questions Asked by the TSA?Tell us about a decision you made whilst knowing it would be disliked by many people. How did you approach the decision-making process? How did you deal with the negative reactions of others?Describe an instance in which you had to improve a team's performance. What challenges did you face and how did you overcome them?What would you do if the work of an employee under your charge did not meet your expectations?What would you do if a member of your team refused to do his or her share of the work?Describe a situation in which you were given responsibilities at work. What was the situation and what actions did you take? What was the outcome?Interpersonal SkillsTSOs must be able to maintain a polite, calm, and professional demeanor at all times, both within the team and while interacting with passengers.DefinitionInterpersonal skills include many elements; you must be able to demonstrate:UnderstandingFriendlinessCourtesyTactEmpathySolicitudeKnow how to establish links and relationships with othersKnow how to deal with difficult, hostile, or distressed peopleMaintain good relationships with people from different backgrounds and in different situationsBe sensitive to cultural diversity, gender, disability, and other individual differencesExamples of Questions Asked by the TSA?What would you do when faced with a colleague with whom you were unable to establish a positive relationship?How would you handle working closely with a colleague who is very different from you?Describe a problem or disagreement you have had with a previous supervisor.Describe a situation in which you were faced with an unpleasant situation in your workplace and how you handled it.Describe a time when someone acted negatively toward you. How did you respond?Grading System ExplanationTo score the interview, a score out of 30 is given for six of the competencies, while the Honesty/Integrity competency is scored separately. If the candidate has a minimum score of "3/5" for each of the six competencies and a pass for Honesty/Integrity, then the interview is marked successful. The minimum score is therefore 18/30 and a pass for Honesty/Integrity.An insufficient score is obtained if the candidate obtains a score lower than "3" (score of 1 or 2) for one of the competencies and/or a pass for the competency "Honesty/Integrity". In this case, the interview is failed, and the candidate will not continue the Airport Assessment. The candidate will be allowed to retake the assessment after six months.Why a Panel Interview?A standard panel is composed of two or more people who have in-depth knowledge of the job and are trained to conduct interviews.During the Standardized Interview, the candidate and the interviewer exchange a lot of information. A panel of at least two or three interviewers allows for better documentation and interpretation of this information. In addition, the panel also reduces the risk of bias in scoring and allows for diversity among interviewers, which signals to candidates that the organization values diversity and fair treatment.Fingerprinting and Digital PhotosThe last step of the Airport Assessment is the taking of fingerprints and digital photos. This data will then be transmitted to the Transportation Security Clearinghouse (TSC), which collects fingerprints and digital photos of all airport employees (since 2001). The TSC is now the largest civilian information clearinghouse in the country.FormsPreviously, the SF 86 and OF 306 forms were completed during the Airport Assessment. Nowadays, these must be completed online up to 21 days after passing the Airport Assessment. Candidates receive an email invitation to complete these documents after they have successfully completed the CBT and Credit Check. However, they can only complete the SF 86 in full after passing the Airport Assessment.You can find a complete guide to filling out the SF 86 document on the following page.The OF 306 can also be completed online using software such as DocuSign. Each candidate receives an invitation on their dashboard to complete these documents online after taking the Airport Assessment.Veterans FormsApplicants wishing to apply as Veterans must fill in additional forms. These forms are not required in order to be accepted as a TSA employee but are necessary if the applicant wishes to receive Veteran preference status, which may affect their status on the eligibility list. The following documents are required:Medical FormsIn addition to the forms described above, the applicant must also complete medical forms. These forms can be accessed directly from the Dashboard.SOMCandidate Pre-Medical Instructions FormAt this stage, candidates receive a medical kit, which they must keep with them until the medical examinations that take place after the Airport Assessment. This kit contains forms to be filled out by the doctors as well as a container for a urine test.During the Covid-19 pandemic, some airports have conducted most of the Airport Assessment online. In this case, the medical kits are sent via FedEx.Exit ProcessDuring the Exit Process, the candidate may (or may not) receive a conditional job offer, depending on the airport's availability. Along with the offer, he/she will receive all the information regarding the job offer (location, salary, hours, etc.). He/she will be accepted on condition that he/she successfully passes the medical, drug, and Background Check.Did our tips help you pass the Airport Assessment? Do you want to share your experience to encourage other candidates? We would greatly appreciate receiving any comments, testimonials, and experiences so that we can improve and help all candidates succeed like you did. The TSA test medical evaluation is a three-stage process, including a hearing test, drug test, and physical exam. Below, we will explain each stage in greater depth so that you know exactly what to expect and become the best Transportation Security Officer possible. To be accepted as a Transportation Security Officer demands a hearing level in each ear of 25dB or less. The test will check each ear at several frequencies, including 500, 1000, 2000, and 3000. If you do not pass this evaluation stage, you will be referred to an audiologist for further testing.It is essential to mention that hearing aids and cochlear implants can be used on the job, provided that the applicant underwent an assessment by an audiologist first. This test discerns your ability to understand others in a noisy setting. This test uses a loudspeaker placed just one meter away from the applicant, with the test giver speaking at a hearing level of 60dB, while the noise you must hear is set at 50dB. Meaning, the noise around you (the speaker) is louder than the noise or speech you must concentrate on. The screening process continues with a physical examination that tests many health factors. Let's take a look at some of the physical exam elements.Vital Signs: Height and weight, temperature and pulse, breathing rate, and blood pressure.ENT: Checking the face, ears, nose, throat, and neck for any extra fluid.Gastrointestinal: The abdomen is checked for tenderness or rigidity.Cardiovascular: Blood tests along with heartbeat inspections.Respiratory: Ensure you breathe at a regular rate of 12 to 20 breaths per minute.Additional checks will include Diabetes, sleep disorders, neurological disorders, psychiatric disorders (such as anxiety, depression, Posttraumatic stress, etc.), and more. Pick up a 50-pound object multiple times.Stand for over 6 hours without rest.Walk over three miles every shift.Squat, bend and kneel to conduct pat-downs. While all the tests are important, it could be said that considering the pressures of the job, special attention should be paid to blood pressure. A Transportation Security Officer - TSO must maintain a minimum consistent blood pressure of no more than 140/90 and a pulse rate of 90bpm. Failure to meet those rates will result in disqualification with room for an appeal. The drug test TSA uses is called a five-panel urine test, which is preferred by most government agencies and covers the most used drugs, includingTHC (Marijuana)CocaineOpiatesPhencyclidine (PCP)AmphetaminesIt is important to note that yearly drug tests will continue after hiring for every TSA agent. At this time, some TSA agents are given surprise hair follicle and breathalyzer tests, as drugs remain in your hair for up to 90 days.As far as we know, they do not use fingernail or toenail tests, which can detect drugs for up to six months and years, respectively. As part of the medical exam, you will be provided with a form to fill out. Although it may seem trivial, filling out the form correctly is an integral part of the TSO hiring process background check. Let's take an overview of the content on the form. The questionnaire starts by asking you a wide range of general questions about your medical background. For instance, you will be asked about any past mental health and treatments, have you had any injuries and received compensation, or about past or current medical prescriptions. The history questions will focus on the following to gather information.Vision - Did you have eye surgery or experience a total loss in any eye?Hearing - If you need or have hearing aids?Respiratory - If you have had shortness of breath, bronchitis, or asthma, among others.Gastrointestinal - diarrhea or constipationCardiovascular - Past heart issues, including high blood pressure, Palpitations, or chest pains.Hepatic - Liver disease, jaundice, or history of cirrhosis Finding a job can be a lengthy and challenging journey, often stretching over months and requiring multiple pre-employment tests and interviews. With our Premium Membership, you'll have the support you need every step of the way. While results are usually accurate, mistakes can happen. If you feel the results are incorrect, you may file for an appeal. However, you must provide medical documentation stating the contrary. For instance, if your glasses number is too high, you can go to an eye doctor to prove your real vision.Once you send in the documentation, you should receive a response within several business days, although sometimes it can take longer.Once you are cleared as fit, you will once again be considered. The entire purpose of the hiring process at the TSA is to ensure that one can fulfill all the tasks as best possible. Considering that a job offer will entail a lot of physical strength and stamina, they must ensure that your body is 100% ready! The job will entail physical exercises, like -Standing for hours on end, serving as a pat-down screener, bending, squatting, and stooping. Additionally, you need to climb stairs and ladders, open bags, and zippers while unpacking and repacking bags. As we mentioned above, this is the last major hurdle before you are placed in a ready pool and offered a TSA position and join this important anti-terrorist organization with a final job offer as a TSA Agent. Our TSA practice tests are made to mirror any possible version of the test- the exact questions you'll face in the new TSA exam, and the older X-ray and English tests that have still been given to candidates throughout the year. Although these testing materials included the English comp and X-ray practice mostly, it did also have some of the new test materials. I am glad I did it all. This was well worth the money. I went into the test prepared for both. Also, it got me ready for the pressures of testing. I don't think I would have passed the first time without it. I just got my tentative job offer letter so onward to the next steps! There does need to be a few more practice questions for the new style test version. Maia E. Gave me much more confidence on the material that would be on the test, and I did in fact Pass my exam! The practice test are extremely helpful to get in repetitions of what you might find. Just remember, you don't know what version of the exam you will receive, so studying all they have to give is helpful. I discovered my Version was 2D-3D shapes and speed image matching so I didn't have any X-Ray or grammar questions, so touching base on all the helpful material is a must.Connor M. Excellent study guide made everything so much easier.Migdalia D. All trademarks are the property of their respective trademark holders. None of the trademark holders are affiliated with JobTestPrep or this website. You're about to take the TSA airport assessment, and you're feeling a mix of nerves and excitement. After all, this is the test that will determine whether or not you get the job you've been wanting. But don't worry, by the end of this article you will feel more confident and prepared to take on the TSA airport assessment. In this article, we will discuss what the TSA airport assessment is, what to expect on the day of the assessment, and how to ace the assessment. So, how do I pass the tsa airport assessment? There's no one answer to this question since every TSA airport assessment is different. However, some tips to help you prepare for and ace your assessment include: making sure you have your glasses or contacts if needed, using your candidate dashboard to collect any needed information, preparing anecdotes to back up any answer you might give to an interview question, and being ready to describe your answers and explain how you would resolve an issue. Let's dig into it and see what's inside. The TSA Airport Assessment is the third step in the TSO hiring process. This is the portion of the hiring process when you can let your skills and qualifications shine. During the TSA Airport Assessment, you will undergo a series of tests, including a color vision test, a TSA standardized interview, and fingerprinting. You will also need to be in good medical health, as you will be required to take a urine test.To prepare for the TSA airport assessment, candidates should first familiarize themselves with the assessment process, study TSA procedures and policies, practice communicating with the public, and dress professionally. If you fail the TSA's Airport Assessment Computer-Based Test (CBT), you will be given a second chance to pass. If you fail the second time, you will not be able to continue with the Airport Assessment and your application will be terminated.The benefits of passing the TSA airport assessment include getting a job with the TSA, being able to travel without having to go through a security check, and being able to access certain areas of the airport that are off-limits to the general public.To improve your chances of passing the TSA airport assessment, make sure you know what you can and cannot pack in your carry-on luggage, that you are aware of the items that are prohibited, and that you take advantage of TSA PreCheck if you have it. The TSA Airport Assessment is a structured interview that evaluates an applicant's decision-making abilities and their ability to work in a team and with the general population. Drug screening and a medical evaluation that includes a vision screening, hearing exam, and a joint mobility exam are also part of the assessment. Applicants must also pass a background check. You should arrive at the TSA airport assessment and interviews in business attire. This means wearing a suit, dress shirt, dress pants, dress shoes, and any other clothing that would be appropriate for a business setting. You should avoid wearing casual clothing, such as jeans, t-shirts, or sneakers. The TSA CBT Test is not very difficult, however, the X-Ray section can be challenging for those who are not familiar with it. It is important to put in a little bit of effort to ensure that you pass the test. According to the provided information, it appears that only around 30% of applicants pass the TSA test. This means that a significant portion of people who take the test fail it. There could be a number of reasons for this, including not studying enough, not being familiar with the material, or simply not being good at tests. Whatever the reason, it seems that failing the TSA test is fairly common. The TSA is planning to implement a number of changes to airport security in the next few years, including the introduction of digital ID cards, the expansion of its PreCheck program, and improvements to its coordination with other DHS agencies. The results of the TSA airport assessment vary depending on the airport, but all candidates must successfully complete the assessment in order to be hired. To ensure that they don't fail the TSA airport assessment, passengers should be familiar with the requirements for screening and packing, and should make sure to add their KTN to their airline reservation. If you follow the tips above, you should have no problem passing the TSA airport assessment. Good luck! Related Post: