

**CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION OFFICER
SELF ASSESSMENT**

Take Command of Your Career! Protect America – Apply to the US Customs & Border Protection.

This personal self-assessment tool is a series of questions which will help you make an informed decision about whether being a Customs and Border Protection Officer (CBPO) is the right career for you.

First, ask yourself: “Would I enjoy....

- | | YES | NO |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Work that involves physical and mental challenges? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Work that is adventuresome, exciting, and rewarding? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Forming lifelong friendships with an elite group of people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Learning about and living in new and different cultures? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Working in an organization known for its intense camaraderie and loyalty? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Working on a team? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Working outdoors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Detecting and preventing terrorists and weapons of mass destruction from entering the United States? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Facilitating the orderly flow of legitimate trade and travelers? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Having a career that is more of a way of life than a job? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Next, ask yourself: “Would I be willing to...

- | | YES | NO |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Work irregular and unscheduled hours and overtime, including shift work, weekends, nights and holidays? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Wear a prescribed uniform and conform to established grooming standards? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Attend a rigorous 18-week physical and academic training program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center near Brunswick, Georgia? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Be exposed to all kinds of weather and environmental and hazardous conditions (protective equipment would be provided)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Execute orders or follow policies that may conflict with my personal or religious beliefs?” | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Conduct personal searches of individuals who are members of my own sex? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Interact with people who may be very angry or resentful towards me? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Travel for conferences, training, or special operations? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Arrest or assist in the arrest of individuals in violation of law(s)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Testify under oath to the circumstances of an arrest that I participated in? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- | Finally, ask yourself: “Could I meet these kind of requirements... | YES | NO |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Qualify with, carry, and maintain proficiency in the use of firearms? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Never have been convicted of a crime of violence? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Be able and willing to use deadly force (e.g., your firearm) to protect my life, the lives of fellow officers, or the lives of innocent bystanders if I found myself in a life-threatening” situation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Be able to engage in strenuous physical exertion, such as heavy lifting, crouching or crawling in restricted areas, climbing, and running? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Be a U.S. citizen with a valid driver’s license under the age of 40? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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If you answered **YES** to most or all of the questions, that is a good indication that becoming a Customs and Border Protection Officer (CBPO) could be the right career for you. Please visit the U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s website at http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/careers/customs_careers/officer/ for more detailed information about BPAs, including how to apply for a BPA position, qualifications, pre-examination study guides, etc.

If you answered **NO** to a lot of the questions, you should think carefully about your decision at this time to apply for a BPA position. Other careers at the Department of Homeland Security may be more to your liking, so you may want to visit the Department’s website at <http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/careers/index.shtm>.

Thank you for your interest in the U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Equal Employment Opportunity: The Department of Homeland Security is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will make reasonable accommodations to the known disability and/or sincerely held religious practices of a qualified applicant or employee if it would not impose an "undue hardship" on the operation of the Department. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation would be made on a case-by-case basis.