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So you want to be a Security Officer?

NJ has in effect the Security Officer Registration Act (SORA) which requires that all companies providing security services be licensed and that all the officers that work for them are also licensed. Within a few years everyone working security will be required to be licensed, not just those working for security companies.

In order to work for a security agency you must have a NJ SORA license. Please read everything before you apply for your license.

1. The first step is to register with the NJ State Police and get your temporary certificate (cost: \$75.00). You can do this on the State Police Website at: <https://eapps.njsp.org/applicant/logon.do> Once you do this you have 30 days to complete the next two requirements.
2. The second requirement is to complete 24 hours of training with a NJSP certified instructor. Again, this must be done within 30 days. Each instructor sets his/her own rates for the class. Only an individual can be licensed as an instructor, not a company. You can look up instructors by county on the state police website.
3. You must also be fingerprinted by Sagem Morpho (<https://www.bioapplicant.com/nj/WhatToBring.aspx>). Again you will need to do this within 30 days (the cost is \$70.25) and you can make your appointment at the same time you get your temporary license.
4. You can work while you have the 30 Day Temporary License but if you fail to complete any of the requirements (training and fingerprints) you need to register for another 30 Day Temporary Certificate and you cannot work until you complete all the requirements.
5. All licensing decisions are made by the NJ State Police. When you are fingerprinted a criminal history check will be done based on your fingerprints. Those persons with a record of conviction for a crime of the 4th – 1st degree and/or a record of drug convictions will most likely not be licensed. But again, that is up to the State Police not your SORA training instructor. Questions regarding this should be directed to the NJ State Police Private Detective Unit.
6. You Must Make Sure that you have your training and fingerprints done within the 30 Day Window or you must start the process over.

TRAINING

Under SORA you are required to take a 24 hour training course (before your 30 day temporary license expires) which includes (but is not limited to) the following:

Homeland Security/Counter Terrorism

Communication & Emergency Response (ICS)

Cargo Theft /Theft Prevention

Limits on Use of Force and Detention of Suspects

Ethics/Professional Conduct

First Aid/CPR/AED

and any other subjects deemed necessary in the interest of public safety.

In order to take the class you need the following:

A temporary license number and a government issued photo ID. Sorry but you cannot take the class unless you have the temporary license.

The photo ID is to verify that you are the person holding the license. Your photograph will be taken and uploaded to the State Police who will issue you a SORA Photo ID.

Even if your employer pays for it, the license belongs to the individual and cannot be transferred; your SORA license belongs only to you.

Each instructor runs their own class and sets their own prices. Advertised prices range from \$100 – 300.00 per class. Many have a minimum class size and will not even schedule a class until they have from 8-10 students. Usually the cheaper the class the larger the minimum class size required before the class will be given.

My classes are run for three (3) days, eight (8) hours per day. I also provide each officer the following:

1. Handout book with all of the material bound for your convenience.
2. A notebook and pen.
3. A certificate of completion
4. Fresh Coffee and pastry in the morning.

I run the class no matter how many persons are registered. You only have 30 days to complete this training from the date you get your temporary license and many times people can't wait until a class of 8-10 is formed before their license expires. Once I give you your class dates, the class will be given even if there is only one student.

I normally run my classes the last or next to last week of the month (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 – 4:30) but I have run classes at other times to accommodate those whose licenses are going to expire and have had their class canceled because there were not enough students or they simply never scheduled a class. ***Again, once you schedule your class and pay your deposit with me, your class will be given!***

Once you have completed your training you will also get access to the password protected section of my website where you can sign up for our current e-mail lists:

Job opportunities and SORA updates

I have been establishing relationships with Security Companies so that I can notify my grads of job opportunities and I also will notify you of any SORA updates you may need to be aware of. While you can remove your name from the list by clicking on the link in every e-mail, you can also put yourself back on by signing up on the website.

License Renewal

Your license must be renewed every two years. In addition to the renewal you must also attend a re-certification class, also given by a certified instructor. Instructors must have additional training as well to teach the re-cert class.

Information on re-cert classes will be posted as soon as it's available.