

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish
Fall 2025 – Game Warden Recruit Hiring Timeline

Job Announcement Information

September 3rd: Job Announcement Posting Start Date

October 18th: Job Announcement Posting End Date

The Selection Process

- November 1st-2nd: Physical Pre-Assessment Testing (see physical standards below 6,000 feet) and Wildlife Written Exam (see sample test for study tips): Albuquerque
- November 3rd-4th: Formal interviews: Albuquerque
- December 1st-2nd: Pre-employment Background Investigation (if applicant passed physical pre-assessment testing): Albuquerque
- December 3rd: Psychological Examination (if selected to continue the process): Albuquerque
- December 4th: Body Armor fitting (if given a conditional job offer): Albuquerque
- December 5th: Medical Examination (if selected to continue the process): Albuquerque

Training You'll Receive in 2026

- January 3rd: Start date. Report for duty at the NMDGF Southeast Area Office in Roswell at 6:30 AM (MST).
- January 7th: Southeastern New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy Basic Police Officer Physical Pre-Assessment (same physical standards as completed on November 1st-2nd, 2025): Hobbs
- January 12th-22nd: Recruit Basic Firearms Training: Hagerman
- January 26th: Southeastern New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy Basic Police Officer Training (#A-25-53), Commencement- Hobbs
- May 22nd: Southeastern New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy Basic Police Officer Training (#A-26-55) Graduation- Hobbs
- May 26th-June 5th: Recruit School Block 1 (Chapter 17 Law): Roswell
- June 8th-26th: Recruit School Block 2 (Evidence, Computer Aided Dispatch, Radio Procedures, Vehicle Stops, Checkpoints, Artificial Wildlife, Computer Resources, Search Warrant Procedures, Crime Scene Investigations, Hunter Education Instructor, Wildlife Restraint, Immobilization and Euthanasia, Simulated Law Enforcement Confrontation Training): Roswell
- June 28th-29th: Officer Water Survival: Hobbs
- July 1st-3rd: Boating Basics: Elephant Butte Lake or Navajo Lake

Field Training

- July 11th *: Report to your assigned Field Training Officer (FTO) for 14 weeks of field training
- August 1st *: Recruits will get their district duty station assignments and can begin preparing to find housing etc. Prior to receiving district assignments, Recruits will select their top 3 preferred district choices from a list of all vacant districts at that time. The Department's Field Operations Division Administration will consider preferences before assigning them to district, which could be anywhere in the state. However, the assigned district will be based on Department needs.
- November 21st *: Upon successful completion of training, Recruits will be promoted to District Wildlife Officer and will be stationed in their own district.

**These are approximate dates. The exact date will be situation/recruit dependent and may vary from this schedule.*

Please call or email Lt. Andrew Armendariz with any questions about becoming a Game Warden, the hiring process or to schedule a ride along with an officer in any area of the state.

Andrew Armendariz

Lieutenant- Field Operations Division

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

Cell Phone – (505) 690-9563

Email – Andrew.Armendariz@dgf.nm.gov