

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH



GAME

Warden



WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A GAME WARDEN

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is looking for the next generation of Game Wardens. The people in this role can be found patrolling the lands and waters of the state day and night.

The field of wildlife law enforcement demands a strong personal commitment and self-motivation. Wardens are responsible for a variety of different tasks with little direct supervision.

A Game Warden's normal work week is 40 hours and often includes irregular hours, overtime, travel, overnight trips, working weekends, and holidays yet flexible enough to spend time with your family. The job requires working outdoors, often in inclement weather.

In addition to law enforcement, duties of a Game Warden include: educate the public about wildlife and wildlife management, conduct wildlife surveys, capture problem animals, investigate wildlife damage to crops and property, assist in wildlife relocations, and help to develop new regulations.



QUALIFICATIONS TO APPLY

Game Wardens must complete a wildlife written exam and pass physical performance standards required by the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy including:

- psychological exam
- medical screening exam
- extensive background investigation

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in any field with at least twelve (12) credit hours that pertain to the essential duties and responsibilities of this position. Any combination of education from an accredited college or university and/or direct experience in this occupation totaling four (4) years may substitute for the required education.

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<https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov>



PAY & PROMOTIONS

Employees hired in this role will be placed at \$25.205 per hour (\$52,426 annually) for their first year of training.

Upon completion of Recruit Training, Wardens will be placed in their district at a starting rate of \$28.975 per hour (\$60,268 annually).

Promotional opportunities include Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Major, and Colonel.

With these leadership promotions also comes an increase in annual salary and district or area location assignment.

BENEFITS

New Mexico provides a Total Compensation benefit package that includes employer-paid medical insurance contributions, retirement contributions, paid vacation days, sick days, and holidays. Qualified family members may also be covered under certain benefit plans.

State retirement plans allow Wardens to retire at 25 years of service and provides a lifetime pension to the employee and/or beneficiary.



WHAT TRAINING WILL YOU RECEIVE?

- New Mexico Police Officer Certification
- Wildlife law and crime scene investigations
- Wildlife restraint and immobilization
- Advanced firearms training
- Basic boat operations
- Officer water survival
- Hunter Education Instructor Certification

WHAT SKILL SETS ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

- Interest in Wildlife Conservation
- Positive attitude & strong work ethic
- Ability to work independently
- Service-minded to help others
- Physical and mental toughness
- Comfortable in extreme conditions
- Strength working in teams
- Willingness to learn new skills

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for Game Warden recruits are accepted once a year due to the 11-month training program.

To apply for the next recruitment class, visit the NMDGF website for training materials, a hiring timeline, and access to the State Personnel Office application system at www.wildlife.dgf.nm.gov/enforcement/career-advancement/

BECOME A LEADER

ENJOY NEW EXPERIENCES

EXPLORE NEW PLACES