



Expense of Physical Ability/Agility Testing

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
Municipal Technical Advisory Service
1610 University Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37921-6741
865-974-0411 phone
865-974-0423 fax
www.mtas.tennessee.edu

Table of Contents

Expense of Physical Ability/Agility Testing.....	3
--	---

Expense of Physical Ability/Agility Testing

Reference Number: MTAS-1216

Unfortunately many local decision makers look at the expense of physical ability testing in terms of the number of police and firefighters serving the city times the individual cost of administering a medical examination. As an example, a police department with 20 officers times \$400 each for medical examinations represents an expenditure of \$8,000 annually, and an equal number of firefighters would represent another \$8,000 annually, for a total of \$16,000 for medical examinations. It is “penny wise and pound foolish” to view this expense as \$18,000 for the examinations and their is no cost for not administering the examinations. The long-term cost for not administering the examinations may be added expense for insurance premiums, adverse court decisions costing much more than the cost of administering tests, increased worker’s compensation, increased overtime pay, and perhaps long-term disability or death of its valuable employees.

DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.

Source URL (retrieved on 07/09/2020 - 2:58am): https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/reference/expense-physical-ability_agility-testing



Municipal Technical Advisory Service
INSTITUTE for PUBLIC SERVICE