



## CIVIL SERVICE BULLETIN

# Civil Service Foreign Language Proficiency Preference Points

**Bulletin Number:** 2016-CS02  
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### PURPOSE

This bulletin establishes guidelines for the Civil Service Administration in the processing of preference points for candidates who have successfully passed a foreign language proficiency assessment, in any language other than English for the King County Sheriff's Office Deputy Sheriff positions.

### REFERENCES

[Chapter 41.14 RCW Civil Service for Sheriff's Office](#)

[King County Code](#)

[King County Civil Service Rules](#)

[Model Civil Service Rules for Washington State Local Governments, P. Stephen DiJulio, Foster Pepper PLLC, Third Edition](#)

### BACKGROUND

In aligning with the [King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan](#), and in partnership with the King County Sheriff's Office Human Resources Unit, the Civil Service Administration is applying foreign language proficiency preference points to those who successfully pass the foreign language assessment at level 9 or higher. The purpose of this decision is to increase diversity in our applicant pool. The preference points are equivalent to a 10% preference of the candidates overall passing score for certification on the eligibility list. Each candidate can only use one preference type per hire or promotion. They cannot be combined.

All Deputy candidates are required to pass the written and oral board examination before the foreign language assessment will be offered. The Civil Service Administration will contact passing candidates who request foreign language proficiency preference points to schedule an assessment within three business days of passing their oral board interview examination. Once the score is received from the testing service, the Civil Service Administration will notify the candidate of their preference status.

### GUIDELINES

#### **[RCW 41.14.100](#) Qualifications of applicants for position.**

An applicant for a position of any kind under civil service, must be a citizen of the United States who can read and write the English language

[RCW 41.14.060](#) and [King County Civil Service Rules](#) provide rules and regulations for the recruitment and certification of Civil Service positions

### QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Refer all questions or comments via e-mail to Mei Barker, Civil Service Administrator at [Mei.Barker@KingCounty.gov](mailto:Mei.Barker@KingCounty.gov).