



NOTICE OF SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: WATER PATROL

Are you interested in working in the Natural Resources field?
Do you want to work in Law Enforcement?
Do you like working outdoors on boats?
Do you enjoy working with people?
Do you think you want a career as a Conservation Officer?

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Law Enforcement Bureau is looking for qualified, interested, and motivated individuals to serve as **Temporary, Seasonal Water Patrol Officers**. There are potentially **32 Seasonal Patrol Officer** positions located throughout the state at Iowa's popular lakes & river areas.

The deadline to apply for these positions is December 15, 2025. You must have your complete application submitted as **directed by that date**. Interviews will be held in **January**.

What does the Water Patrol do? Members of the Water Patrol team are temporary, summer employees of the DNR. These are positions of high responsibility. They help work toward a safe recreational environment for the public by enforcing the state's regulations; provide public assistance and safety education through personal contact and educational programs; respond to and assist in emergency situations; maintain equipment and storage facilities; and complete administrative duties as required (report writing, time and activity reporting, etc.).

- **Water Patrol duties include:** Patrolling of assigned areas on Iowa's lakes and rivers by boat and foot - checking for compliance with Iowa's navigation and fishing regulations.

What are the dates of employment? Water Patrol begins working in mid-May and usually works until Labor Day. They may sometimes return for court appearances or to work some fall weekends. New Patrol members must attend several days of training and then start patrolling at their duty station on Memorial weekend.

What is the work schedule like? Water Patrol works a 40-hour work week, with two weekdays off per week. The exact schedule varies by location and is assigned by the Supervisor, but all work **weekends** (including all the holiday weekends of Memorial Day, July 4, & Labor Day) and often evenings, late nights, and in all types of weather.

What does the job pay? \$16.50/hour (10/2025 figure)

What are some of the requirements?

- Must **follow all application instructions fully**.
- Must be available for all interviews (mid-January) and training (held on weekdays, typically beginning mid-May).
- A valid motor vehicle operator's license.
- Must be a United States citizen or legally able to work in the United States.
- Certification through **Iowa's Boating Safety Education Program** (ONLY by those hired; certification must be obtained before reporting for first workday and proof must be provided; certifications are NOT required in order to apply.)
- Submission to and clearance of a thorough background check. (By applying you are consenting to this background investigation).
- Current CRR/First Aid/AED Certification issued through American Red Cross or the American Heart Association. (If hired, certification must be obtained before reporting for first workday and proof must be provided.)
- Minimum age: 18.
- Graduated from or currently enrolled/on break between semesters of college, or about to enter first semester of college from high school.



- Ability to work alone, with the public, in a law enforcement capacity, in all conditions, **on weekends, and including holidays and nights.**

Why should I apply to join the Seasonal Patrol? This job provides an excellent opportunity to learn more about the role of law enforcement in protecting Iowa's resources and recreationists. It is also an interesting, diverse, and often challenging and demanding position. The rewards are knowing you have made a difference in serving the resources and the public and learning more about your own role and capabilities in the natural resources law enforcement field. Serving with the Seasonal Patrol is an excellent way to gain experience, but it **does not** guarantee any future employment.

How do I apply or find more information? More specific information on these positions and a copy of this informational sheet are available at: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/about/employment#seasonal-and-temporary-employment-opportunities>.