

appropriation made for such purpose, appoint such employees as are deemed necessary by him for the efficient administration of the Department. All appointments shall be made from a list of eligible persons prepared by the Commissioner of Personnel in accordance with the Merit System.

(b) Qualifications. No person shall be appointed to the Department unless he is a bona fide resident of the State of Maryland on the date of his appointment and possesses the character, educational, and other qualifications established by the Superintendent pursuant to Section 15. An employee who has been discharged from the Department is not qualified for reappointment. A police employee who has resigned from the Department for any reason other than entry into the military service is not qualified for reappointment; but the Superintendent may prescribe by rule for the reappointment, to a rank not higher than the next lowest noncommissioned rank, of a police employee who resigned in good standing if such person meets the requirements then prescribed for initial appointment. EXCEPT THE SUPERINTENDENT MAY PRESCRIBE BY RULE FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF A POLICE EMPLOYEE WHO RESIGNED IN GOOD STANDING IF SUCH PERSON MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS THEN PRESCRIBED FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENT. UNDER NO CONDITIONS SHALL ONE BE REAPPOINTED TO A RANK HIGHER THAN HE PREVIOUSLY HELD.

18. Probationary status.

All police employees, including persons appointed to the Department for training prior to regular assignment as a police employee, shall remain in a probationary status for a period of two years from the date of appointment to the Department. Civilian employees shall remain in a probationary status for the period prescribed by the Merit System. The Superintendent may discharge an employee in probationary status for any cause which he, in his sole discretion, deems sufficient.

19. Promotion.

(a) Generally. All promotions shall be made by the Superintendent.

(b) Police employees. No police employee shall be appointed or promoted to any rank, except one which requires technical knowledge, unless he shall have filled the rank immediately below that to which he is promoted; but as to any noncommissioned rank which contains less than twenty-five police employees, the Superintendent may by rule direct that it is unnecessary to fill such rank for purposes of promotion. Promotion to any noncommissioned rank shall be made in the manner prescribed by rule. Promotion to any commissioned rank, except Deputy Superintendent, shall be made from among those persons appearing in any position on a list of eligible persons prepared by the State Commissioner of Personnel in accordance with the Merit System.

(c) Civilian employees. Promotions of civilian employees shall be made in the manner provided by the Merit System.