

Civil Service Commission, 1st March 1955

The Civil Service Commissioners hereby give notice that the following Regulations are published with the approval of the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury, viz. :—

REGULATIONS FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF EXPERIMENTAL OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT EXPERIMENTAL OFFICERS IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

1. Age.

For the Experimental Officer grade candidates must be at least 26 years and under 31 years of age on 31st December 1955, i.e., they must have been born on or after 1st January 1925, and on or before 31st December 1929.

Candidates for the Assistant Experimental Officer grade must be at least 18 years and under 28 years of age on 31st December 1955, i.e., they must have been born on or after 1st January 1928, and on or before 31st December 1937. But

(i) For each grade a candidate who has served or is serving on a regular (including a regular short-service) engagement in H.M. Forces may for this purpose deduct from his actual age the period of such service rendered before 31st December 1955. Service in H.M. Forces on a Duration of Emergency engagement or under the National Service Acts cannot be reckoned for this purpose.

(ii) The Commissioners may exceptionally, at their discretion, waive the maximum age limit for the Experimental Officer grade in favour of a candidate who has special qualifications or experience.

2. Sex and Marriage

(i) Both men and women may compete under these Regulations.

(ii) Married women who have formerly been established civil servants and have drawn marriage gratuity (other than those who resigned compulsorily on marriage and whose resignation took effect before 15th October, 1946, or who are widows or divorced, or who are separated from their husbands, or whose husbands suffer without hope of recovery from total physical or mental incapacity) will not be eligible unless they undertake to refund on appointment the marriage gratuity paid. Provided that this undertaking will not be required if the break between the first period of service (including any period of unestablished service immediately following the period in respect of which the gratuity was paid) and the date of re-establishment is more than seven years.

3. Nationality

Candidates must be British subjects. They must also satisfy one of the following conditions:—

(a) If natural-born British subjects, they must either:—

(i) have at least one parent who is or was at death a British subject; or

(ii) have resided in Her Majesty's dominions and/or been employed elsewhere in the service of the Crown for at least five years out of the last eight years preceding the date of their appointment.

(b) If naturalised British subjects, they must have resided in Her Majesty's dominions and/or been employed elsewhere in the service of the Crown for at least five years out of the last eight years preceding the date of their appointment.

(c) If not qualified under (a) or (b) of this paragraph they must satisfy the Commissioners that they are so closely connected with Her Majesty's dominions either by ancestry, upbringing or residence, or by reason of national service, that an exception may properly be made in their favour.

Provided that a candidate will not be eligible for an appointment under the Admiralty, War Office, Air Ministry or Ministry of Supply, unless he or she is a natural-born British subject and born within the United Kingdom or in one of the self-governing Dominions of parents also born within the United Kingdom or in one of the self-governing Dominions, except when the circumstances are such as to justify a departure from the general rule, in which case, provided the candidate satisfies the conditions prescribed by the preceding paragraphs, he or she may be admitted by special permission of the First Lord of the Admiralty, Secretary of State for War, Secretary of State for Air, or Minister of Supply, as the case may be.

4. Qualification.

Normally every candidate must be in possession of one of the undermentioned qualifications:—

(a) The Higher School Certificate with Mathematics or a science subject as a principal subject, or an equivalent qualification, or

(b) A General Certificate of Education in five subjects at the levels shown in brackets:—

(i) English language (Ordinary)

(ii) Two mathematical or scientific subjects (Advanced)

(iii) Mathematics (Ordinary), if no mathematical subject is offered in (ii)—except in the case of candidates who offer two biological subjects (Advanced) in (ii)

(iv) A scientific subject (Ordinary) if no scientific subject is offered in (ii)

(v) Balance of one or two subjects (Ordinary) at candidates' choice.

To assist candidates during the change-over period they will be admitted to this competition if they already possess a School Certificate and in addition obtain passes at the General Certificate of Education examination in two mathematical or scientific subjects at Advanced level.

(c) The Scottish Leaving Certificate with passes in five subjects, of which one must be English. Three of the passes must be on the higher grade, and two of these must be in mathematical or scientific subjects. (Passes at the Scottish Universities Preliminary Examination will be accepted as equivalent to passes in the Scottish Leaving Certificate); or

(d) The Senior Certificate of the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland showing passes in English Language; and

(i) passes in two Science subjects* at Advanced level, in Mathematics at Ordinary level, and in one other subject; or

(ii) passes in one Science subject* at Advanced level and in two Mathematical subjects at Advanced level, and in two other subjects; or

(iii) passes in three Mathematical subjects at Advanced level and in one Science subject* and in one other subject; or

*The Science subjects for this purpose are (a) Physics, (b) Chemistry, (c) Botany or Biology.

or (e) A Statement from the Scottish Education Department or the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland showing that they have attained a standard equivalent to that required by (a) or (b) above; or

(f) A university degree in a scientific or engineering subject or in Mathematics; or

(g) Graduate membership of any professional institution accepted by the Commissioners as appropriate (e.g., Institution of Civil Engineers, Institute of Mechanical Engineers, Institution of Electrical Engineers); or

(h) The Higher National Certificate; or

(j) The final certificate of a grouped course at the City and Guilds of London Institute in Tele-communications or Metallurgy; but

(k) Candidates who are not in possession of such certificate or equivalent qualifications may be admitted exceptionally by the Commissioners, at their discretion, if evidence of suitable experience on scientific research and development work can be produced; such candidates at present serving in a Government Department must be certified by that Department as being worthy of consideration.

Candidates over 22 (other than established members of the Assistant (Scientific) Class) will generally be expected to have a Pass Degree in an appropriate subject, or a technical qualification, e.g., a Higher National Certificate either in appropriate subjects or with appropriate endorsements.

5. Application.

A candidate may submit an application if he is not yet qualified under Regulation 4 but is sitting for a qualifying examination during 1955. If he is selected for interview and found acceptable he will not be declared successful until it is known from the result of his examination that he satisfies Regulation 4.

A candidate admitted under this concession will be expected to furnish documentary evidence of the result of the examination to the Commissioners as soon as possible.

A candidate may make one, and only one, application under these Regulations.

6. Health and Character.

Successful candidates must satisfy the Commissioners as to their health and character.