

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
CLASS SPECIFICATION

CANINE SPECIALIST

POSITION CODE: 06500  
Effective: 7-1-79

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under general supervision, performs canine handling duties covering detection of drugs, explosives, weapons, tracking and recovery for the Department of Corrections; using canines, searches for crime scene evidence; preserves and records evidence for use in legal proceedings.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Continuously trains canines in the multi-service areas of obedience, obstacles, tracking and recovery and in the detection of drugs, explosives, and weapons.
2. Handles canine in the detection of drugs, explosives, and weapons and in tracking and recovery; handles canine in searches of employees and residents.
3. Handles canine in the search for crime scene evidence; preserves and records evidence for use in legal proceedings.
4. Maintains and prepares accurate training, performance, and health records and reports of the canine.
5. Assists in developing and revising training aides, facilities and equipment used in the Department of Corrections Canine Corp Program.
6. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above.

## CANINE SPECIALIST (Continued)

### DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

#### Education and Experience

Requires knowledge, skill and mental development equivalent to the completion of four years of high school, plus completion of approved specialized schools in canine training such as the Military Patrol - Detector Dog School, Drug and Bomb Dog School, training dog schools, or search and rescue canine training school.

Requires three years work experience in training dogs for a military, security, or law enforcement agency.

#### Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires extensive knowledge of training principles, capabilities and limitations of dogs.

Requires extensive knowledge of the proper methods for caring, grooming, and feeding of dogs.

Requires working knowledge of common canine disease and/or injuries and accepted methods for treatment and control.

Requires working knowledge of canine breed traits and capabilities.

Requires working knowledge of the methods and procedures used in canine search and rescue work.

Requires ability to train dogs to obey verbal and nonverbal commands under various conditions.

Requires ability to participate fully in training or field exercises under all weather conditions requiring considerable physical exertion for extended periods of time.

Requires ability to maintain control in emergency situations.

Requires ability to understand dog behavior.

Requires ability to prepare and maintain simple records and reports.