



PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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Reflecting Canada's increasing participation in international affairs and the heavy burden of work placed on the Department of Government concerned with foreign policy, the Civil Service Commission is seeking to recruit for the Department of External Affairs a possible maximum of from thirty to forty qualified young men and women to serve as Foreign Service Officers.

These officers are to be selected following examinations to be conducted by the Civil Service Commission in various parts of Canada. Women are eligible on the same basis as men. In order to take the examinations, which are both written and oral, candidates must file an application with the Civil Service Commission not later than January 6th, 1949. The written test for eligible candidates will be held during the week ending January 29th, 1949. A candidate who passes the written tests will later be given an oral examination.

The examinations are for the first two grades of Foreign Service Officer. Candidates for the Grade 1 examination must be between 23 and 31 years of age on June 1st, 1949; candidates for Grade 2 between 31 and 35.

As successful applicants may someday have to represent their country abroad, it is essential that they know Canada. Applicants must, therefore, be British subjects who have resided in Canada for at least ten years. The period of service in the armed forces of Canada counts as residence in Canada.

A degree from a university of recognized standing is required, and preference is given to those who have done post-graduate work in one or more of the following subjects: political science, geography, history, economics and law. Training in diplomatic work is carried out by the Department. Additional credits are given to those with a knowledge of foreign languages.

Candidates who qualify in the examinations are placed on probation for one year. During the first year they are given the opportunity of demonstrating that they have the capacity to become competent and suitable officers.

Under statute, preference in appointment is given to those who have served overseas in the armed forces. However, it is likely that posts will be available for all who qualify, whether they have overseas preference or not.

Particulars as to how candidates should file their applications are given in notices issued by the Civil Service Commission and displayed in Post Offices throughout Canada.