

# Fallon County Job Description

Fallon County is committed to affirmative recruitment and diversity in employment opportunity. It is the policy of Fallon County to provide equal opportunity to all persons seeking or having access to its employment, services and activities, which is free from restriction based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation or disability. Applicants with disabilities who need accommodation with the application or selection process should contact Fallon County's Human Resources, at (406) 778-8164.

**Job Title: Detention Officer**  
**Department: Sheriff's Office**  
**Location: Baker, Montana**  
**Job Status: Full Time, Non-exempt**  
**Reports to: Fallon County Sheriff**

## **Job Overview:**

This position oversees and maintains custody, care and control of inmates incarcerated at the Fallon County Detention Center to ensure the safe and orderly operation of the facility.

*This position requires unsupervised contact with incarcerated individuals and is subject to a criminal background check; successful candidates may not hold felony criminal convictions that could have resulted in imprisonment in a federal or state penitentiary or convictions for violent crimes. Subject to a motor vehicle background check. This position will serve a one (1) year probationary period.*

*Training is provided for this entry-level position in a wide range of areas. Successful applicants will be required to attend a four (4) week Correction Detention Officer Basic training at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy in Helena, Montana.*

## **Essential Functions:**

**Supervision of Inmates** – Supervise, monitor and maintain awareness of the movement and location of adult male and female inmates housed in the Detention Center by conducting physical round every thirty (30) minutes and head counts every hour; maintain daily logs as required. Physical rounds may be conducted on a more frequent time period to meet the needs of the Center and inmates. Employ cameras, video monitors, intercom system and radios as secondary means of visual supervision and communication with inmates and other staff members. Initiate disciplinary reports and incident reports. Process inmates in and out of facility by conducting visual searches, fingerprinting, photographing and entering personal data into facility specific program. Conduct cell and inmate searches. Check cells for contraband when vacated. Dispense prescription and over the counter medications in accordance with established protocol. Transport inmates to scheduled appointments. Escort inmates to court hearings; may serve as bailiff. Utilize approved physical restraint techniques and nonviolent crisis intervention techniques in response to emergency situations; may perform basic first aid on sick or injured inmates. Ensure prompt and appropriate assistance to inmates in the event of injury, illness or trauma. Court testimony based on knowledge, observation of or engagement with inmates.

**Basic Commissary and Laundry** – Heat and serve prepared meals. Order prepared, frozen meals from local vender. Order basic toiletries and other approved commissary items from approved vender. Gather, launder, fold and prepare bedding and inmate clothing for distribution.

**Department Support** – Answer phones and route calls to appropriate department or person; respond to visitors and answer questions about detention center policies and procedures. Perform variety of basic office tasks including but not limited to filing and shredding. Clean and organize various portions of Detention Center and Sheriff's Office including cells and storage areas. Complete perimeter checks for safety and security of the

Detention Center and Courthouse. Conduct civil fingerprinting as requested. Enter data into Swift system. If the jail is empty for extended periods, may be assigned tasks in other departments.

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

*Accountability, Active Listening, Attention to Detail, First Aid, Commitment, Communication – Oral and Written, Computers, Dependable, Detention Operations, Flexibility, Foresight, Initiative, Interpersonal Skills, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention, Professionalism, Sensitivity and Teamwork:* This position must communicate both orally and in writing accurately and effectively, utilizing appropriate grammar and spelling. Proficient in Word and data entry. Must listen actively to ensure effective and correct communication; able to interact with variety of personalities. Listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences. Accurate writing skills, utilizing appropriate grammar and spelling. Knowledge of detention facility operations, principles and practices. Initiate contact to clarify issues or problems in a timely manner; terminate fights and other physical disruptions. Ability to resolve questions or concerns with courtesy and respect. Utilize a variety of non-violent crisis intervention skills including negotiation and non-lethal weapons. Display mature judgment under stressful conditions. Ability to act with initiative, common sense, and good judgment. Recognize contraband. Ability to discern sensitive information and maintain confidentiality of criminal justice information. Ability to offer sworn testimony in court proceedings. Serve as an example of professional conduct to inmates and coworkers. Establish and maintain effective working relationships with other Fallon County employees and staff from outside agencies. Must be mature, flexible and able to command respect and confidence of inmates and staff, philosophically committed to the objectives of the Fallon County Detention Center.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

The above knowledge, skills, and abilities are typically acquired through a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be a citizen of the United States of America, reside within Fallon County and be at least eighteen (18) years of age. Not been convicted of a crime which could have resulted in imprisonment in a federal or state penitentiary. Be of good moral character, as determined by a thorough background screen. One (1) year related work experience is preferred. Must be able to pass a post-employment physical and be able to perform Non-violent Crisis Intervention techniques and physical interventions including the use of physical restraints. Must possess or be eligible for a Montana driver's license and obtain within 30 days of employment.

**Salary Schedule:**

The starting wage for this position is \$19.00 per hour; after successful completion of the required Correction Detention Officer Basic training, will increase to \$20.00 per hour. Upon reaching permanent employee status after one year of employment, increase to \$21.00 per hour. Successful applicants who have successfully completed CDOB will start at \$20.00 per hour.

**Hours of Work:**

Fallon County Detention Center is a 24 hour facility with varying shifts, typically may be scheduled for twelve hours at a time. Once beginning a shift, may not leave facility until shift is completed or has obtained prior approval from the Sheriff.

**Physical and Environmental Demands:**

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to speak and hear to communicate well with inmates, other Detention Center staff, visitors and other law enforcement and emergency response personnel. Regularly required to utilize vision to view inmates, monitor video screens, conduct searches, monitor inmate activities and utilize general office equipment. The employee is frequently required to stand, walk on uneven surfaces, sit, bend, and reach with hands and arms. May be required to climb or balance and

stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; may involve physical interaction with inmates utilizing techniques taught and trained at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. May be required to lift up to 50 pounds. Maintaining strong physical health is strongly encouraged. Must be physically and legally able to drive a vehicle.

***The specific statements shown in each section of this description are not intended to be all inclusive. They represent typical elements and criteria considered necessary to perform the job successfully; employees are routinely required to address emerging employer requirements in alignment with individual work units and assignments of jobs. This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee; it is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer change.***