

OSWEGO COUNTY



HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
46 EAST BRIDGE STREET
OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126
PHONE: (315) 349-8209 + FAX: (315) 349-8254
oswegocounty.com/humanresources

*AMENDED EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNT CLERK

EXAMINATION NUMBER: 66052 (Open to the Public)
77209 (Promotional – Open to Oswego County and School District Employees Only)

EXAMINATION DATE: Saturday, February 5, 2022

LAST FILING DATE: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 (Applications will **NOT** be accepted after this date)

EXAM FEE: \$20.00 (FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE)
\$10.00 (Oswego County CSEA - CO-OP and Silver Star employees ONLY)

Checks or Money Orders should be made out to "Oswego County". Exam fees for applications completed through our online portal can be paid online with a Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express credit card. Cash will **NOT** be accepted.

***2022 PAY RATE:** \$20.98 per hour. Promoted County employees will receive a salary adjustment per the County of Oswego Office Personnel Unit Agreement.

OTHER SALARIES: The salary range in other agencies under the jurisdiction of Oswego County will vary depending on the school district where the appointment is made.

OPEN-COMEPTITIVE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS AND VACANCIES: There are no residency requirements for this exam, however, preference in appointment may be given to residents of the school district or Oswego County department where the vacancy occurs. The promotional list will be certified **prior** to the open-competitive list when filling vacancies for this title. **NOTE:** The cities of Fulton and Oswego and their school districts are **not** under the jurisdiction of the Oswego County Director of Human Resources.

PROMOTIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must have 12 months of permanent, continuous, competitive class, civil service status as a Senior Account Clerk **OR** 36 months of permanent, continuous, competitive class, or non-competitive class status, designated in accordance with Section 55a of the Civil Service Law, as an Account Clerk in an Oswego County department or school district immediately preceding the date of the exam. Employees within the promotional unit of an Oswego County department or school district where the vacancy occurs will be certified first for appointment. Your name will be certified for appointment only to the civil division/school district in which you are employed on the date of the examination. **Promotional candidates who wish to be eligible for positions in other jurisdictions should also apply to take the exam on an open-competitive basis.**

SENIORITY CREDITS: Rating of seniority is based on the length of permanent, continuous, classified civil service status up to a maximum of twenty years. Seniority credits of 0.2 per year will be added to an eligible score.

OPEN-COMPETITIVE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
Education, specialized background, training and experience.

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university with a bachelor's degree in accounting or a closely related field and one (1) year of experience maintaining financial accounts and records by posting figures to appropriate accounts, reconciling debits and credits, processing of payroll, vouchers and bills, and verifying calculations ; **OR**
- B. Completion of 60 credit hours at a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university which must have included at least 12 credit hours in accounting, math or a closely related field and three (3) years of experience maintaining financial accounts and records by posting figures to appropriate accounts, reconciling debits and credits, processing of payroll, vouchers and bills, and verifying calculations ; **OR**
- C. Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma and five (5) years of experience maintaining financial accounts and records by posting figures to appropriate accounts, reconciling debits and credits, processing of payroll, vouchers and bills, and verifying calculations; **OR**
- D. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of "A," "B," and "C" above.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, experience credited towards meeting the minimum qualifications must be paid work experience. Volunteer experience will only be credited if specified on the exam announcement.

JOB DESCRIPTION: The work involves responsibility for planning, assigning and supervising major account-keeping activities and independently performing difficult account-keeping functions. Work is performed under general supervision in accordance with outlined policies and procedures allowing for the exercise of independent judgment in planning and carrying out the details of the work. This class differs from that of Senior Account Clerk by the more complex nature of the assignments and the independence allowed in carrying out the work and/or by supervisory responsibilities over subordinate staff. The incumbent does related work as required.

SCOPE OF THE WRITTEN EXAM: A written test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas:

Understanding and interpreting written material: These questions test for the ability to understand and interpret written material. You will be presented with brief reading passages and will be asked questions about the passages. You should base your answers to the questions only on what is presented in the passages and not on what you may happen to know about the topic.

Fundamentals of account keeping and bookkeeping: These questions test for a knowledge of basic principles and practices of account keeping and bookkeeping. The questions test for recognizing account keeping and bookkeeping terms, concepts and relationships; recording financial transactions; and solving elementary problems in account keeping and bookkeeping.

Understanding and interpreting tabular material: These questions test your ability to understand, analyze, and use the internal logic of data presented in tabular form. You may be asked to perform tasks such as completing tables, drawing conclusions from them, analyzing data trends or interrelationships, and revising or combining data sets. The concepts of rate, ratio, and proportion are tested. Mathematical operations are simple, and computational speed is not a major factor in the test. You should bring with you a hand-held battery- or solar-powered calculator for use on this test. You will not be permitted to use the calculator function of your cell phone.

Supervision: These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices employed in planning, organizing, and controlling the activities of a work unit toward predetermined objectives. The concepts covered, usually in a situational question format, include such topics as assigning and reviewing work; evaluating

performance; maintaining work standards; motivating and developing subordinates; implementing procedural change; increasing efficiency; and dealing with problems of absenteeism, morale, and discipline.

Use of a calculator is **RECOMMENDED** for this exam.

TEST GUIDE: The New York State Department of Civil Service has published a Higher Level Account Clerical Series Test Guide intended for candidate preparation use for this particular examination. This Test Guide contains important test related information as well as sample questions similar to the questions that will be used in this written test.

The New York State Department of Civil Service is making a copy of this Test Guide and other related information available on its Website at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>. In addition, a copy of this Test Guide is available upon request from the Oswego County Human Resources Department or may be downloaded from the web at <http://www.oswegocounty.com/studyguides>.

PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS: College graduates with student loans may be eligible to have part of their loan paid for after being employed in a full-time position at Oswego County. Additional information is available at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>.

EXAM FEES: A non-refundable fee of \$20.00/\$10.00 is required for each separate examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your application. Please refer to the "Application for Exam or Employment" for information about fee waiver. Write the name of the exam(s) on your check or money order **payable to Oswego County** and submit the check or money order with your application. **Cash will not be accepted.** A \$20.00 charge will be imposed on checks returned for insufficient funds. When completing the application through our online portal you will have the option to pay online with a Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express credit card. You are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified. No refunds will be made to applicants who are disqualified, fail to appear, or if application is received after the last file date.

MULTIPLE EXAMS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY (CROSS-FILING):

- If you have applied to take exam(s) announced by another jurisdiction (county, city, state) scheduled on the same day as this exam, you must make arrangements (no later than two weeks before the date of the exam) to take all exams at one test site.
- If you have applied for both State and Local (county/city) government examinations, you must take all your examinations at the State examination center. You must notify the local government civil service agencies with whom you have filed an application of your intent to take both a State and Local exam on the same day. You will be advised by letter when and where to report for your examinations. You must bring all admission letters for all exams with you to the State site.
- If you have applied for multiple Local exams you must notify all local government civil service agencies with whom you have filed an application of the test site at which you wish to take your examination. For Oswego County examinations complete a "Cross Filer Notification" form, available at the Oswego County Human Resources Department or online at <http://www.oswegocounty.com/humanresources/forms>, and send to Oswego County Human Resources Department, 46 East Bridge Street, Oswego, NY 13126 or FAX to (315) 349-8254 or call (315) 349-8209. **If you are taking multiple exams on the same date with the Oswego County Human Resources Department only, you do not have to file a cross filer form.**

APPLICATION DEADLINE POLICY: Application/exam fee must be submitted to the Oswego County Human Resources Department or through the online portal before the close of business at 5:00 p.m. on the last file date listed on the Examination Announcement. Applications received via U.S. Mail will be accepted only if postmarked on or before the last file date. Applications that are received through inter-office mail, e-mail, or via facsimile must be received before the close of business at 5:00 p.m. on the last file date or they will not be accepted.

OSWEGO COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.

ISSUED: 12/13/2021
Julie A. Bell
Director of Human Resources

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Applications and additional information can be obtained at the Human Resources Department, Oswego County Office Building, 46 East Bridge Street, Oswego, New York 13126, or by calling (315) 349-8209, or on the web at <http://www.oswegocounty.com/humanresources>.
2. Applications postmarked after midnight of the **Last Filing Date** will not be considered eligible for this examination.
3. Falsification of any part of the "Application for Employment" will result in disqualification and possible legal action. Inquiries may be made as to character and ability and all statements made by candidates are subject to verification.
4. Applicants must answer every question on the application form. Incomplete applications will be disapproved.
5. Accepted candidates will be notified when and where to appear for exam. None will be admitted to the examination without the official admission notice. If an application is rejected, due notice will be sent. The department does **not** make formal acknowledgment of the receipt of an application.
6. If you have not received your notice to appear for the exam three days before the exam date, call (315) 349-8209.
7. If special arrangements for testing are required (i.e. religious observance, disability), submit written request describing your needs with the application form.
8. Unless otherwise noted, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, solar or battery powered calculators. Devices with typewriter keyboards, Spell Checkers, Personal Digital Assistants, Address Books, Language Translators, Dictionaries, or any similar devices are prohibited.
9. Active service members, veterans or disabled veterans desiring to claim additional credit may submit an "Application for Veteran's Credit" prior to the establishment of the eligible list. Forms are available upon request at the Human Resources Department.
10. Military Service members on active duty on the exam date may request a military makeup exam by calling (315) 349-8209. Members on active duty or discharged during the exam filing period may apply for the exam up to ten days before the exam date.
11. Per Section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, children of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duty are entitled to receive ten additional credits on an exam which may result in an original appointment in the municipality where the deceased parent served. Candidates eligible for additional credit should indicate this on their exam application.
12. Candidates who fail the examination, or who fail to appear for the examination as scheduled, will be eliminated from further consideration.
13. Under specific circumstances an alternate test date may be arranged in accordance with established policy. Your request and verifiable documentation should be submitted at least one week prior to the test date or in case of an emergency no later than 5:00 p.m. on the next business day following the test.
14. This examination is being prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of exams will apply to this examination.
15. Unless otherwise specified, the final rank order of the eligible list established as a result of the exam will be determined on the basis of the scores received on the written test, plus veterans and seniority credits where appropriate.
16. The eligible list will remain in force for at least one (1) year and may be extended by the Director of Human Resources for a maximum of four (4) years. Changing conditions may make it necessary to certify future vacancies at higher or lower salaries than those announced.
17. Special Requirement for Appointment in School Districts and CITI: Per Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, to be employed in a position designated by a school district or CITI as involving direct contact with students, a clearance for employment from the State Education Department is required.
18. In accordance with the Child Abuse Prevention Act of 1985, candidates for appointment to Oswego County government positions which involve regular and substantial contact with children will be required to complete a State Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment clearance form. Failure to complete this form may result in decertification of your name from this eligible list for appointments in Oswego County.
19. Applicants may be required to undergo a State and national criminal history background investigation, which will include a fingerprint check, to determine suitability for appointment. Failure to meet the standards for the background investigation may result in disqualification.