

OSWEGO COUNTY



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

EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK

EXAMINATION NUMBER: 60373 (Open to the Public)
76286 (Promotional - Open to Oswego County, Town, Village, School District and Special District Employees Only)

EXAMINATION DATE: Saturday, February 10, 2024

LAST FILING DATE: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 (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.

2024 COUNTY PAY RATES: \$18.85 per hour for **County of Oswego Office Personnel Unit** members. Promoted members will receive a salary adjustment per Section 21.6 of the CO-OP agreement.

\$20.14 per hour for **Oswego County Sheriff's Silver Star Association** members. Promoted members will receive a salary adjustment per Section 28.6 of the Sheriff's Silver Star Association agreement.

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

JOB DESCRIPTION: This is moderately difficult clerical work involving independent performance and supervision of financial accounts and record keeping, including keyboarding. The work may require decision making as to methods to be used and classification of records and accounts. The incumbent works under general supervision and may supervise and train lower level clerical workers. This position differs from Account Clerk in that the duties are more complex, the level of responsibility is higher, and there may be supervisory responsibility. The incumbent does related work as required.

OPEN-COMPETITIVE 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, municipality, or Oswego County departments 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.

VACANCIES: A promotional examination for this title will be held at the same time as the open-competitive exam. The list resulting from the promotional exam will be certified prior to the open-competitive list when filling vacancies.

PROMOTIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must be permanently employed as an Account Clerk or an Account Clerk-Typist in either a permanent competitive class position or a non-competitive class position, designated in accordance with Section 55a of the Civil Service Law, in an Oswego County department, town, village, school district or special district on a continuous basis for twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date of the exam; **OR** be permanently employed for twelve (12) months in either a permanent competitive class position or a non-competitive class position, designated in accordance with Section 55a of the Civil Service Law, immediately preceding the date of the exam, in an Oswego County Department position grade five (5) or below **AND** meet the open-competitive minimum qualifications as listed below. Employees within the promotional unit of an Oswego County department, town, village, school district, or special 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. Completion of sixty (60) semester credit hours which must have included at least 6 credit hours in accounting, math, or closely related field; **OR**
- B. Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma and two (2) years of experience maintaining financial accounts or records by posting figures to appropriate accounts, reconciling debits and credits, processing payroll, processing vouchers or bills, or verifying calculations; **OR**
- C. Three (3) years of experience as described in "B" above; **OR**
- D. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of "A," "B," and "C" above.

NOTE: An associate's degree or higher in accounting equates to "A" above.

NOTE: Your degree or credit hours must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree or credit hours were awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. You may contact the Human Resources Department for a list of acceptable companies who provide this service. You must pay the required evaluation fee.

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.

Positions within the Child Support Unit at the Department of Social Services:

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Per the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and in compliance with the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 6103 (p)(4)(c), employees with access to Federal Tax Information (FTI) must undergo a criminal background investigation, fingerprinting, and verification of citizenship/residency. **NOTE:** A criminal record does not necessarily disqualify from employment or access to FTI, an individualized determination will be made as to how any conviction would impact suitability to handle FTI.

Positions within the Health Department:

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Participation in Public Health emergency preparedness drills and responses may be required. Select immunizations may be required at time of appointment or at any time throughout the course of employment according to New York State Department of Health or other oversight agency requirements.

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

Name and number checking: These questions test for the ability to distinguish between sets of words, letters, and/or numbers that are almost exactly alike. Material is usually presented in two or three columns, and you will have to determine how the entry in the first column compares with the entry in the second column and possibly the third. You will be instructed to mark your answers according to a designated code provided in the directions.

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.

Arithmetic computation with calculator: These questions test for the ability to use a calculator to do basic computations. Questions will involve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. You may also be asked to calculate averages, to use percents, and to round an answer to the nearest whole number. **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**.

Working with office records: These questions test your ability to work with office records. The test consists of two or more sets of questions, each set concerning a different problem. Typical record keeping problems might involve the organization or collation of numerical data from several sources; maintaining a record system using running balances; or completion of a table summarizing data using totals, subtotals, averages and percents. **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**.

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 4:00 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 4:00 p.m. on the last file date or they will not be accepted.

OSWEGO COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.

ISSUED: December 6, 2023
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 4:00 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.