



# **SENIOR SUPPORT** **INVESTIGATOR** **EXAM #68-027 (OC)**

**ONEIDA COUNTY ANNOUNCES**  
CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**OCTOBER 13, 2023**  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE**

**DECEMBER 2, 2023**  
**EXAMINATION DATE**

- **APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 04:30 PM ON THE APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE**
- **A \$15.00 NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE PROCESSING FEE MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION**
- **METHODS OF PAYMENT: MONEY ORDER (PAYABLE TO ONEIDA COUNTY) or CREDIT CARD PAYMENT (IF APPLYING THROUGH THE ONLINE APPLICATION PORTAL)**

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**STARTING SALARY/RANGE:** \$43,074 Oneida County Government

**VACANCIES:** There are three (3) vacancies in the Oneida County Department of Family and Community Services, Oneida County, NY. **The eligible list, established as a result of this examination, will be used to fill any appropriate vacancies which may occur in these titles under the jurisdiction of the Oneida County Commissioner of Personnel.**

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT: NONE** - When preference in certification is given to residents of a municipality pursuant to subdivision 4-a of Section 23 of the Civil Service Law, an eligible must have been a resident of such municipality for at least one month prior to the date of certification to be included in a certification as a resident of such municipality and must be a resident of such municipality at the time of appointment.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates must meet minimum qualifications at time of application. Either:

- (A) Successful completion of sixty (60) semester credit hours at a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university, of which at least thirty (30) credit hours were completed in social work, sociology, psychology, business management or criminal justice, **AND** two (2) years of experience in social service-type programs examining, investigating, or evaluating claims and/or complaints for assistance, veterans, or unemployment benefits or a similar social service-type program operating under established criteria for eligibility; **OR**
- (B) Successful completion of thirty (30) credit hours at a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university, of which at least fifteen (15) credit hours were completed in social work, sociology, psychology, business management or criminal justice, **AND** three (3) years of experience in social service-type programs examining, investigating, or evaluating claims and/or complaints for assistance, veterans, or unemployment benefits or a similar social service-type program operating under established criteria for eligibility.

**NOTES:**

1. Candidates **MUST** submit copy of transcripts, if qualifying under (A) or (B).
2. Further information may be requested from candidates to verify academic qualifications.
3. Degree(s) 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 the degree was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, the candidate must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the Internet at <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. Candidates will be required to pay the evaluation fee.

**DUTIES:** Employees in this class perform advanced work to determine the location and financial status of legally responsible parents whose families are in receipt of public assistance, as well as, non-public assistance clients, or to determine the nature of the support obligations to be pursued against parents whose families are applying for public assistance and non-public assistance families. The incumbent performs related work as required.

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**SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION:** There will be a written test which you must pass to be considered for appointment. The written test will be designed to evaluate knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in such areas as:

**1. ADVISING AND INTERACTING WITH OTHERS:**

These questions test for the ability to interact with other people to gather and present information and to provide assistance and advice in a courteous and professional manner.

**2. PREPARING WRITTEN MATERIAL:**

These questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately, and to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly. For some questions, you will be given information in two or three sentences followed by four restatements of the information. You must then choose the best version. For other questions, you will be given paragraphs with their sentences out of order. You must then choose, from four suggestions, the best order for the sentences.

**3. ARITHMETIC REASONING:**

These questions test your ability to solve an arithmetic problem presented in sentence or short paragraph form. You must read the problem, understand the situation presented, decide what must be done to solve it, and apply the appropriate arithmetic operation(s) in the appropriate order, to determine the correct answer. Knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division will be necessary. Questions may also involve the use of percents, decimals, and fractions. 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.

**4. INTERVIEWING:**

These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices employed in obtaining information from individuals through structured conversations. These questions require you to apply the principles, practices, and techniques of effective interviewing to hypothetical interviewing situations. Included are questions that present a problem arising from an interviewing situation, and you must choose the most appropriate course of action to take.

**CALCULATORS ARE RECOMMENDED:** Unless specifically prohibited, candidates are permitted to use QUIET, hand-held, solar- or battery-powered calculators **ONLY**. Devices with typewriter keyboards, such as cell phones, computers or devices which can be hooked up to a computer, spell-checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries and any similar devices are **PROHIBITED**.

**TEST GUIDE:** The New York State Department of Civil Service has not prepared a test guide for this examination. However, candidates may find information in the publication 'General Guide to Written Tests' helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available online at: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING FOR MULTIPLE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS  
SCHEDULED ON THE SAME DATE**

If you have applied for other civil service exams in another jurisdiction (state, county, city) scheduled on the same date, **YOU** must decide to take all the exams at one test site. Submit a completed **CROSS-FILER NOTIFICATION** form to our office at time of application. If you have applied for a State exam, **YOU MUST** take all exam titles at the state exam site. You will be advised on your admission letter when and where to report for your examinations. If you have any questions, please contact the Oneida County Department of Personnel at **315-798-5726** and where to report for your examinations. If you have any questions, please contact the Oneida County Department of Personnel at **315-798-5726**.

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**For further information contact: ONEIDA COUNTY DEPT. OF PERSONNEL, 800 PARK AVE., UTICA, NY 13501  
TELEPHONE: (315) 798-5726  
AMANDA L. CORTESE-KOLASZ, COMMISSIONER**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**EMERGENCY CANCELLATION OF EXAMINATIONS:** Tune to – Spectrum News; WUTR; WKTV; Radio Stations 96.1, 96.9, 97.9. **OR** Like and Follow us on Facebook at ‘Oneida County Civil Service’.

1. **APPLICATIONS:** Candidate must complete a separate Oneida County Civil Service Application for each Civil Service Examination or employment opportunity that they are applying for. Applicants must answer every question on the application and make sure that the application is complete in all respects. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE DISAPPROVED.** All applications shall be filed with the Oneida County Department of Personnel. Applications received after the last filing date will be rejected.
2. **ADDRESS CHANGE:** Failure to notify this office of a change of address may result in disqualification for examination or certification for appointment following examination. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved.
3. **RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS/MILITARY/DISABILITY:** Please indicate on your application if special exam arrangements for testing are needed. Please review instruction F on the civil service application for further instructions.
4. **ALTERNATE TEST DATES:** Please review ‘The Alternate Test Date Policy’ located on our website at <https://ocgov.net/departments/civil-service/rules-and-policies/>.
5. **VETERANS:** Please review instruction G on the civil service application.
6. **ADMISSION NOTICE:** Applications are reviewed for qualifying status. If your exam application is disapproved, you will be notified of the reason and given an opportunity to amend your application. All amendments to applications are due by the amendment due date listed on your disapproval letter. **IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE AN ADMISSION LETTER THREE (3) DAYS BEFORE THE EXAM DATE, PLEASE CALL: (315) 798-5726.** Collect calls will not be accepted.
7. **ELIGIBLE LISTS:** Appointments from an eligible list must be made from the top three candidates willing to accept appointment. The duration of an eligible list may be fixed for a minimum period of one (1) year **OR** up to a maximum period of four (4) years depending on examination type. Changing conditions may make it advisable to certify to future vacancies at higher or lower salaries than those announced.
8. **FOREIGN EDUCATION:** High school from other than U.S. schools may be verified by a transcript and against college-entry requirements in the corresponding country. Applicable documentation must be submitted. If your degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies providing this service may be obtained in person from the Oneida County Department of Personnel, by mail (include a self-addressed, stamped envelope) **OR** on the New York State Department of Civil Service website: [www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm](http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm). You will be responsible for the required evaluation fee.
9. Federal and State Law prohibit discrimination because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, marital status or genetic predisposition or carrier status.
10. This examination is being prepared and rated in accordance with section 23(2) of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Law, Rules, and Regulations dealing with the preparation and rating of examinations, as well as establishment and certification of eligible lists for positions in the classified service, will apply to this examination.
11. **ADDITIONAL CREDIT:** In conformance with section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, **children of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duty** shall be entitled to receive an additional ten points in a competitive examination for original appointment in the same municipality in which his or her parent has served. If you are qualified to participate in this examination and are a child of a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty in this municipality, please inform this office of this matter when you submit your application for examination. A candidate claiming such credit has a minimum of two months from the application deadline to provide the necessary documentation to verify additional credit eligibility. However, no credit may be added after the eligible list has been established.
12. **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION:** 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.
13. **APPLICATION FEE WAIVER:** A waiver of the application fee will be allowed if you are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household. In addition, a waiver of the application fee will be allowed if you are determined eligible for Medicaid, receiving Supplemental Security Income payment, receiving Public Assistance (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/Family Assistance or Safety Net Assistance) or are certified Job Training Partnership Act/Workforce Investment Act eligible through a State or local social service agency. **All claims for application fee waiver are subject to verification. If you can verify eligibility for application fee waiver, complete a Request for Application Fee Waiver and Certification form and submit it with your application. The form is available on our website <https://ocgov.net/departments/civil-service/forms/> and in the Oneida County Department of Personnel, 800 Park Avenue 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Utica, NY 13501. You may also call (315) 798-5726 to request a copy.**
14. **EXAMINATION ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Failure to appear for two (2) consecutive examinations administered by Oneida County Civil Service within an 18-month period will result in disqualification from future examination for a two-year period, per Oneida County Civil Service Rule IX.

**ONEIDA COUNTY EXAM ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE ACCESSED ON OUR WEBSITE:** <https://ocgov.net/departments/civil-service/>

**\*\* ONEIDA COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER \*\***