



**SOCIAL WELFARE EXAMINER**  
**EXAM #70-098 (PROM)**  
**ONEIDA COUNTY ANNOUNCES**  
 PROMOTIONAL CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

**APRIL 26, 2024**  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE**

**JUNE 15, 2024**  
**EXAMINATION DATE**

- APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 04:30 PM ON THE APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE
- EXAM FEES HAVE BEEN WAIVED FOR ALL CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN 2024, PER RES. 2023-371

**STARTING SALARY/RANGE:** \$41,639 (22W) Oneida County Government

**VACANCIES:** There are twenty-six (26) 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.**

In accordance with Section 52 of the Civil Service Law, preference in appointment will be given to employees permanently employed in any Oneida County department in which a vacancy occurs, after which appointments will be made from among all eligibles employed in Oneida County departments.

Appointments to a School, Library, Town, Village, or other civil division will be limited to those persons holding full-time, permanent competitive status within the civil division only.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates must meet minimum qualifications on or before the date of examination.

Candidates must have permanent, full-time competitive status for a period of **twelve (12) months as an Intake Processing Specialist, OR twenty-four (24) months as a Community Services Worker or Senior Account Clerk, OR thirty-six (36) months as an Account Clerk or Clerk** in the Oneida County Department of Family and Community Services immediately preceding the date of this examination.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Certain assignments made to employees in this class will require access to transportation to meet field work requirements in a timely and efficient manner.

**DUTIES:** This position involves responsibility for determining the eligibility of a client for the various programs administered by a local social services district, and for processing the assistance to be granted in accordance with established policies and procedures. The incumbent performs related work as required.

**SENIORITY CREDIT:** Computation of seniority points will begin from the date of original entry in the permanent, full-time classified service of the jurisdiction in which promotion is sought, followed by continuous service, preceding the establishment of the eligible list. Points will be added to an eligible score, as follows:

|                                 |          |                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|
| *Less than 1 year -             | 0 points | *Over 16 years up to 21 years - | 4 points |
| *1 year up to 6 years -         | 1 point  | *Over 21 years up to 26 years - | 5 points |
| *Over 6 years up to 11 years -  | 2 points | *Over 26 years -                | 6 points |
| *Over 11 years up to 16 years - | 3 point  |                                 |          |

**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. INTERPRETING AND APPLYING WRITTEN SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAM MATERIALS, AND USING BASIC ARITHMETIC IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE:**

You will be presented with written passages related to Social Services policies and procedures and be asked to interpret their meaning and/or apply this material to hypothetical case situations. Secondly, you will be given sets of written instructions and regulations regarding such Social Services programs as cash assistance, medical assistance, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. You must read and understand the instructions given, including schedules of arithmetic figures, and apply these instructions to hypothetical case problems. Some questions require using arithmetic to compute the correct amount of assistance. Previous knowledge of Social Services programs or the eligibility process is not required.

**2. RECORDING CASE NOTES:**

You will be given several sentences from a typical case report paragraph and one additional sentence. You must determine the best place in the paragraph to put the additional sentence to make the report coherent and meaningful.

**3. INTERVIEWING:**

You must apply principles and techniques of interviewing to such problems as asking and answering questions, explaining requirements, and helping the client understand his or her responsibilities, helping the client feel at ease, structuring and controlling the interview, reacting appropriately to inconsistencies, dealing with a variety of feelings of clients, maintaining confidentiality, and identifying the need for and making appropriate referrals. In addition, some questions may deal with contacting or interacting with other community organizations and agencies to benefit the client or the public.

**CALCULATORS ARE ALLOWED:** 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:** A Guide for the Written Test for **Social Welfare Examiner** is available on the New York State website 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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**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. Apply online at: <https://oneida-portal.mycivilservice.com/post/exams>
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 \*\***