



**HAMILTON COUNTY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT**

102 COUNTY VIEW DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 174, ROUTE 8, COURTHOUSE  
LAKE PLEASANT, NEW YORK 12108  
PHONE: (518) 548-6375 | FAX: (518) 548-3108

**Announces a Civil Service examination for the following:**

**No. 89402010 Open-Competitive**

**\*\*\* PRINCIPAL ACCOUNT CLERK \*\*\***

Hamilton County departments and the towns, villages and school districts located within Hamilton County

**LAST FILING DATE:**  
DECEMBER 12, 2024

**EXAMINATION DATE:**  
JANUARY 18, 2025

**APPLICATIONS:** Examination applications must be obtained and filed with the Hamilton County Personnel Department. The Department recommends that you do not wait until the last day to file your application. When received in our office after 4:30 p.m., on the last filing date, the application will be rejected and returned to the applicant. The correct examination number and title must appear on the application form. EVERY question on the application should be answered and complete in all aspects. This Department does not acknowledge receipt of applications or take responsibility for non-delivery or postal delay. Failure to notify this office of a change of address may result in disqualification for examination or certification for appointment following examination. Any application you may have previously filed will not gain you admittance to this exam and will not be used to obtain additional information. You must file a separate Application for Examinations during the official period as set forth in this announcement.

**DISQUALIFICATION OF EXAMINATION APPLICATIONS:** When an application for an examination is disapproved by the Director of Personnel, the candidate will be given ten (10) calendar days to appeal this determination. Your appeal must clearly demonstrate that you meet or exceed the minimum qualifications as set forth on the examination announcement. Additional information must be pertinent, detailed and accurate. Your appeal must be in writing, addressed to the Personnel Office, P.O. Box 174, Lake Pleasant, NY 12108, and received in this department no later than 4:30 p.m. of the tenth calendar day. If the tenth calendar day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the candidate will have until 5:00 p.m. that following Monday to submit their appeal.

**LOCATION OF POSITIONS/VACANCY:** All positions/vacancies as they occur in Hamilton County departments and the towns, villages and school districts located within Hamilton County.

**ELIGIBLE LIST:** The eligible list will remain in existence for a period of one (1) year, unless extended by the Personnel Officer to a maximum of four (4) years. When a list has existed for more than one year, it may terminate upon the establishment of a new list. This list will be used to fill all appropriate full-time or part-time competitive vacancy occurring in an agency under the jurisdiction of the Hamilton County Personnel Officer, anytime during the life of the eligible list.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** May be made if you require a religious accommodation, are a disabled person, or deprived of participation on the scheduled date due to active military service. Specific information must be requested when filing your application.

**APPLYING FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS WHEN EXAMINATIONS ARE SCHEDULED ON THE SAME DATE:** If you have applied for any other civil service examinations to be given on the same test date for employment with New York State or any other local government jurisdiction excluding New York City, you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site.

If you have applied for both State and Local government examinations, you must make arrangements to take all your examinations at the State examination center by calling (518) 474-6470 in the Albany area or toll free at 1-877-697-5627 (press 2, then press 1), no later than two weeks before the test date.

If you have applied for another local government examination with another local civil service agency, call or write to each civil service agency to make arrangements. You must make your request for these arrangements no later than two (2) weeks before the date of the examinations. You must notify all local government civil service agencies with who you have filed an application of the test site at which you wish to take your examination. For this examination call (518) 548-6375 or write to the Hamilton County Personnel Office, P.O. Box 174, 102 County View Drive, Lake Pleasant, NY 12108.

**PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY AT A HEIGHT REACHABLE BY PEOPLE IN WHEELCHAIRS AND WITH OTHER MOBILITY IMPAIRMENTS – REMOVE AFTER LAST FILING DATE**

**2025 Salary:** Varies by Location

**RESIDENCY:** Candidates must, at the time of examination and at least one (1) month prior thereto, be a resident of Hamilton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Herkimer, Saratoga, St. Lawrence, Warren or Washington County. Preferences in appointment from open-competitive lists may be given to candidates who have been residents of the locality in which appointment is to be made for four (4) months prior to the date of the written test.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES (Illustrative but not exhaustive):**

- Plans, assigns and reviews the maintaining and checking of a wide variety of financial records and reports and instructs employees in the specialized details of the work;
- Oversees and assists in the classification of a complex variety of receipts and expenditures and the distribution of costs according to prescribed codes;
- Directs the audit of varied accounts, claims and records and the preparation of reports thereon;
- Assists in the preparation of annual operating budgets and insures the maintenance of necessary financial controls;
- Complies, prepares, and analyses a variety of complex financial and statistical records and reports;
- Oversees the receiving and accounting for large amounts of money in payment for a variety of bills, taxes and related obligations;
- Revises, systematizes and installs account keeping methods and procedures;
- Reconciles ledgers of revenue received with bank statements;
- Conducts correspondence in connection with financial matters;
- May supervise the preparation of purchase orders and the securing of bids from vendors;
- Operates calculator, computer terminal and other related office machines.

The above examples of duties are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: (Either)** On or before the date of the examination, to be eligible for this examination, applicant must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's degree or greater, in accounting, business or a closely related field and two (2) years of experience maintaining financial accounts and records; or
- B) Completion of sixty (60) credit hours at a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university which must have included at least twelve (12) credit hours in accounting or bookkeeping and two (2) years of experience maintaining financial accounts and records; or
- C) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and four (4) years of experience in maintaining financial accounts and records; or
- D) An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of A), B), and C) above.

*According to Civil Service Law, §54 which became effective September 4, 2024, applicants who are within 12 months of meeting the minimum age or attaining the minimum educational requirements following the date of examination, may take the civil service exam, but will be restricted from certification until such a time that the minimum age or educational requirements are met.*

All experience required to meet the minimum qualification section is PAID.

Part-time experience will be pro-rated as follows:

16-23 hrs./wk....1/2 time    24-31 hrs./wk....3/4 time    32+ hrs./wk....full-time

If qualifying by A or B (education options), a copy or photocopy of your official academic transcript showing courses taken and degree conferred (if a degree is required) must accompany your application. If submitting a photocopy, this office must be able to verify it is an official transcript. Your transcript does not have to be submitted in a sealed envelope from the Registrar's Office. If your transcript, as previously described, does not accompany your application, your application will be disqualified and you will be given ten (10) days to submit documentation to substantiate your qualifications. If you fail to provide a copy or photocopy of your official transcript within the ten (10) day period, you will not be allowed to participate in the examination.

Your degree and/or college credit must have been awarded by a regionally accredited college or university or one recognized by the NYS Education Department as following acceptable educational practices. If your degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency from a member company of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services, Inc. (NACES). You can write to the Personnel Office for a list of NACES members who provide this service. You must pay the required evaluation fee.

**SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION:** The written, multiple-choice test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and/or abilities in the following areas:

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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**.

4. 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.

A Guide for the Written Test for **Higher Level Account Clerical** is available at the New York State website: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>. Candidates not having access to a computer or the internet may request a copy of the test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found elsewhere on this announcement.

**CALCULATOR POLICY:** Quiet, hand-held, solar or battery-powered calculators are RECOMMENDED. Devices with typewriter keyboards, "Spell Checkers", "Personal Digital Assistants", "Address Books", "Language Translators", "Dictionaries", or any similar devices are prohibited.

**AT THE EXAM THE USE OF CELLULAR PHONES, BEEPERS, ETC. ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

**VETERANS' CREDITS:** Veterans, Disabled Veterans, or candidates currently in the armed forces claiming the additional credit allowed veterans in competitive examination, must apply for such credit while filing their examination application or at any time between the date of the application but prior to the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible list. The time periods, for which veterans' credit is permitted, are defined on the examination application. To receive additional veterans' credit you must file a separate Veterans' Credit Application including acceptable supporting documentation for each examination. Veterans' Credit is added only to the score of the examination when the candidate's passing grade is 70 or higher.

**CHILDREN AND SIBLINGS OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY CREDIT:** In conformance with Sections 85-a and 85-b of the Civil Service Law, children and

siblings of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive an additional ten (10) points in a competitive examination for original appointment in the same municipality in which his or her parent, sister or brother has served. If you are qualified to participate in this examination and are a child or sibling 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 (2) 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. Children and Siblings of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duty credit is added only to the score of the examination when the candidate's passing grade is 70 or higher.

**RATING AND REVIEW:** This written examination is being prepared by the New York State Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23.2 of the Civil Service Law and Section 7.1 of the State's Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

**NOTICE TO APPEAR:** Approved applicants will receive an Admission Notice for the written examination providing the location and time. Late arrivals will not be admitted into the exam room under any circumstance. Please contact this office if you have not received an Admission Notice for the written examination four (4) days prior to the date of the examination by calling (518) 548-6375.

**EMERGENCIES:**

If an emergency prevents you from appearing for the examination, please notify this office no later than 10:00 a.m. on the Monday following the test date, providing verifiable documentation of the reasons.

***Weather Emergencies:*** In the case of adverse weather conditions, any delay or cancellation will be on the voice mail message of the Personnel Office at (518) 548-6375 between 6:30 and 8 AM on the date of the examination.

**HAMILTON COUNTY DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, MARITAL STATUS, SEX, RELIGION, AGE OR DISABILITY IN EMPLOYMENT OR THE PROVISIONS OF SERVICES.**

ISSUED: 11/8/24