

AMENDED



Ontario County Department of Human Resources
3019 County Complex Drive
Canandaigua, NY 14424

www.ontariocountyny.gov ~ ~ (585) 396-4465

Vision: A vibrant community where every citizen has the opportunity to be healthy, safe and successful

Mission: Provide strategic and responsive public services that are fiscally responsible and sensitive to the diverse and changing needs of our community

OFFICE SPECIALIST II

Continuous Civil Service Exam held in Ontario County
(Open to the public)

Exam Number
49-CONT

Applications Accepted Continuously
(Monthly Exam)

Application Fee*
\$15.00 (Do not send cash)

Written test will be conducted on the third Wednesday of each month.

The application must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on the first Wednesday of that month.

*The non-refundable Application and Administrative Fees must be submitted at time of application (credit or debit card only).

A *Fee Waiver is available to candidates who meet the requirements.

The announcement issued on January 4, 2024 has been amended as follows:

The starting pay rate for Ontario County has been amended from \$34,457 (\$17.67/hr) to \$42,822 (\$21.96/hr).

Pay Rate: Ontario County 2024 starting salary \$42,822 (\$21.96/hr.). Municipalities covered by Ontario County* 2024 salary range: \$15.70 - \$24.87/hr. Actual Salary or Salary Range will vary by location.

* Please visit the [Ontario County Human Resources Home page](#) for a listing of schools, towns, villages and other agencies covered by Ontario County Civil Service.

Continue scrolling to see full announcement.

Michele O. Smith
Director of Human Resources

Office Specialist II
Exam No. 49-CONT
Issued: August 26, 2024



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Residency Requirements: Candidates must have their domicile of Ontario, Livingston, Monroe, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, or Yates County for at least one month immediately preceding the examination date.

➤ It is the applicants' responsibility to clearly show that they meet the minimum qualifications for the position.

Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma AND one (1) year of full-time paid, or its part-time equivalent, office clerical experience.

Substitution - Experience: Completion of one year of college with study in secretarial science, office technologies, business administration or closely related field may be substituted for the required experience as noted above; with 30 credit hours being equivalent to one year of experience.

Anticipated Eligibility: Applicants who lack thirty days, or less, of meeting the minimum qualifications by the date of the examination will be admitted conditionally to the examination. However, proof of the additional days' qualifications must be submitted prior to the establishment of the eligible list.

Vacancy: This examination is being held to establish an Eligible List to fill future vacancies in this title, which may occur during the life of the Eligible List. An eligible may receive only one Permanent appointment from this Eligible List. If an eligible accepts a Contingent-Permanent appointment their name will be removed from the Eligible List only for the department or agency in which she/he received the Contingent-Permanent appointment. Once appointed, there will be a probation period of 8 to 52-weeks based on performance of duties.

Eligible Lists established by Ontario County Department of Human Resources are used to fill vacancies in Ontario County Government, its Cities, Towns, Villages, School Districts, Fire Districts, and public libraries, the Finger Lakes Community College, Geneva Housing Authority, and the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES.

In accordance with Section 23-4 (a) of the Civil Service Law, **preference in appointment** may be given to residents in the jurisdiction where the vacancy exists. When preference in certification is given, an eligible must have been a resident of such municipality for at least one month prior to the date of certification and must be a resident of such municipality at the time of certification and appointment. Applicants must list a home address to be considered for preference in certification.

Job Description: This is moderately difficult general office clerical work involving the use of computers and peripheral equipment to produce documents and reports that requires a general understanding of specific office rules, procedures, and policies. It calls for the greater exercise of independent judgment than an Office Specialist I. Work is performed under the general supervision of higher-level staff. Detailed instructions would be required only on specialized or unique projects. Oversight may be exercised over the work of lower-level office staff. Does related work as required.

Controlled Substance Screening: When you are offered a full-time or part-time, permanent or contingent permanent appointment at Ontario County, you will be required to complete a controlled substances screening prior to employment.

Background Investigation: Candidates may be subject to a thorough background investigation and psychological evaluation to determine suitability for appointment. Applicants may be required to authorize access to educational, employment, criminal history and other records check as part of such investigation. Criminal convictions or other offenses are subject to evaluation and may result in disqualification. Applicants will be required to submit the necessary fees for the fingerprint processing, where required.

Special requirement for appointment in school districts or BOCES: 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 BOCES as involving direct contact with students, a clearance for employment from the State Education Department is required.

Subjects of Examination: Written test designed to test for knowledge, skills and/or abilities in such areas as:

1. **Spelling** – These questions test for the ability to spell words that are used in written business communication.
2. **Grammar / Usage / Punctuation** – The grammar and usage questions test for the ability to apply the basic rules of grammar and usage. The punctuation questions test for the knowledge of the correct placement of punctuation marks in sentences.
3. **Keyboarding Practices** – These questions test for knowledge of preferred practices in such areas as letter format, capitalization, hyphenation, plurals, possessives, word division, word and figure style for numbers, and common proofreading marks. In addition, you will be given a passage to proofread and then be asked questions about how to correct the errors in the passage.
4. **Office Record Keeping** – These questions test for the ability to perform common office record keeping tasks. The test consists of two or more “sets” of questions, each set concerning a different problem. Typical record keeping problems might involve organizing or collating data from several sources; scheduling; maintaining a record system using running balances; or completion of a table summarizing data using totals, subtotals, averages and percents.
5. **Office Practices** – These questions test for a knowledge of generally agreed-upon practices governing the handling of situations which office support staff, typists, and secretaries encounter in their work, as well as knowledge of efficient and effective methods used to accomplish office tasks. The questions will cover such topics as planning workflow; setting priorities; dealing effectively with staff, visitors, and callers; filing and retrieving information; safeguarding confidentiality; using office equipment; and making procedural decisions and recommendations which contribute to a well-managed office.

A link to the New York State Civil Service web site to obtain a Study Guide for this examination is on our website at www.ontariocountyny.gov/humanresources. Candidates not having access to a computer or the internet, may request a copy of the test guide by calling, or writing Ontario County Department of Human Resources, 3019 County Complex Drive, Canandaigua, NY 14424, (585) 396-4465.

Candidates are allowed 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. Cell phones, SmartWatches or any similar electronic devices are prohibited. You may not bring books or other reference materials. **You will not be permitted to use the calculator function of your cell phone.**

EMERGENCY CANCELLATION OF EXAMS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON:

Ontario County Human Resources Webpage at <http://www.ontariocountyny.gov/94/Human-Resources> and NOTICE will be emailed to all approved Applicants no later than 7:30 AM the day of the scheduled exam.

Applications and further information may be obtained by visiting the ONTARIO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES website at www.ontariocountyny.gov/HumanResources. Completed applications and application fees must be electronically submitted.

Applications will be accepted continuously, with tests being scheduled by Ontario County Department of Human Resources on the third Wednesday of every month. Successful candidates will be Ranked on the Eligible List by the order of final written scores, regardless of the date on which they took the test. A Candidate's name will remain on the Eligible List for a duration of one year. **Candidates may apply for the examination once in the first half of the calendar year and once in the second half of the calendar year.**

The Ontario County Department of Human Resources reserves the right to terminate this special recruitment program and reestablish the periodic type of examination.

It is the candidates' responsibility to keep their contact information (email address, phone number & USPS mailing address) current. The Address Change Form can be found at the Ontario County Department of Human Resources website: www.ontariocountyny.gov/HumanResources. To be considered for preference in certification based on residency, you must include the city and/or town/village and school district you live in. All communication is done electronically through the applicant provided email address.

If candidate **fails to receive an admission letter** at least three days prior to the examination date, you should contact the Department of Human Resources immediately.

If you cannot take the test on the announced test date due to a conflict with a religious observance or practice, check the box under "**Religious Accommodation**". We will make the arrangements for you to take the test on a different date (usually the following business day).

Disabled Persons: If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.

*The required **NON-REFUNDABLE application and administrative fees** must be submitted at time of application. If your application is disapproved, the fees will not be returned to you. Do not send cash, check or money order. If you are approved and do not appear for the examination, you forfeit the fees as no refunds will be made. In accordance with Civil Service Law, Section 50.5(b), an exception to the fee requirements will be made only for persons who are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household or who are receiving public assistance. The Fee Waiver Form can be found at the Ontario County Department of Human Resources website: www.ontariocountyny.gov/HumanResources.

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 maximum 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.

Veterans' Credits: Honorably discharged veterans may apply for additional points to be added to their final passing score on civil service examinations. The *Application for Veterans Credits*, the *Authorization for Disability Record*, and additional information regarding the requirements are available on our website at: www.ontariocountyny.gov/HumanResources. Completed forms must be received by this office before the Eligible List, from this examination, is established.

Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLFP) - The PSLF Program is intended to encourage individuals to enter and continue to work full-time in public service jobs. Under this program, you may qualify for forgiveness of the remaining balance on your (Direct Loan) loans after you have made 120 qualifying payments on those loans while employed full-time by certain public service employers. For more information about this program go to: <http://studentaid.gov>.

Ontario County is an **Equal Opportunity Employer** and, as such, offers equal opportunities for all qualified applicants with no discrimination as to age, race, color, creed, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, predisposing genetic characteristics, marital status, domestic violence victim status or disabilities and, in certain circumstances pursuant to Executive Law 296, conviction record. Any person with a disability requesting reasonable accommodations in order to participate in examinations will be accommodated.

This examination is announced and will be rated in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Law and Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of examinations will apply to this examination.

Michele O. Smith Director of Human Resources Office Specialist II Exam No. 49-CONT Issued: January 4, 2024
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