



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

SECRETARY I (COUNTY)

Civil Service Exam held in Ontario County
(Interdepartmental Promotional)

Exam Date
February 28, 2026

Exam Number
70010-690

Application Deadline
January 27, 2026

*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.

***Open to all employees in Ontario County Departments. In accordance with Section 52 of Civil Service Law, employees in the department where a vacancy occurs will be certified first for appointment after which appointment will be made from the remaining candidates on the list.**

Pay Rate: Ontario County 2026 salary range: \$54,756.00 - \$79,620.00 (\$28.08/hr - \$40.83/hr).

Vacancy: The Ontario County Office for the Aging currently has one (1) vacancy which will be filled from the Eligible List resulting from this examination.

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 26-weeks based on performance of duties.

Qualifications: County Values: All employees of Ontario County are expected to uphold and exhibit the County's shared values and behaviors to achieve the County's Vision and Mission.

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

Minimum Qualifications: Immediately preceding the examination date, candidates must possess Permanent Competitive status in the position of Human Resources Clerk, Office Specialist I, Office Specialist II, Senior Clerk, Typist for one (1) year OR Senior Clerk (HELP Program) for 2 years in any Ontario County Department.

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.

Job Description: An employee in this class is responsible for independently performing complex clerical operations and administrative support tasks for a department head, administrative officer, or program manager. This position requires greater independent judgement and more thorough knowledge of an office's organization and the rest of the time on complex administrative tasks to ensure the efficient workflow of an office. Employees in this class work under general supervision with wide leeway for independent judgement. Oversight of clerical subordinates may be exercised. Does related work as required.

In accordance with Civil Service Law, Section 52.10(a) which became effective September 4, 2024, time served provisionally immediately preceding permanent appointment shall count towards meeting the time in title and the employee shall be eligible to take the promotional examination.

Qualifying Experience for Appointment: Successful candidates will be eligible for appointment from the eligible list when they meet the time described in the minimum qualifications above.

In accordance with Civil Service Law, Section 52.10(b) which became effective September 4, 2024, time served provisionally immediately preceding permanent appointment shall count towards meeting the time in title that an employee needs to meet for appointment from an eligible list.

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.

Subjects of Examination: a test designed to evaluate knowledge, skill and/or abilities in the following areas:

- 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 a knowledge of the correct placement of punctuation marks in sentences. You will be presented with sets of four sentences from each of which you must choose the sentence that contains a grammatical, usage, or punctuation error.
- Keyboarding practices** -These questions test for a 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, there will be a passage to proofread followed by questions on how to correct the errors in the passage.
- Spelling**-These questions test for the ability to spell words that are used in written business communications.
- 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**.
- 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.

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 on line at: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>.

USE OF CALCULATOR IS RECOMMENDED. 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. Cell phones, Smart Watches 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 <https://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.

SENIORITY CREDITS (POINTS) WILL BE ADDED TO A SUCCESSFUL ELIGIBLE'S SCORE AS FOLLOWS:

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

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 by 11:59 p.m. on **January 27, 2026**.

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 seven days prior to the examination date, you should contact the Department of Human Resources immediately.

Most written tests are held on Saturdays. 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.

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.

Any member of the **Armed Forces** of the United States of America, who having duly filed an application to compete in a scheduled competitive examination for Civil Service employment by the State of New York or any of its subdivisions and who due to active military duty is deprived of the opportunity to compete in such examination shall be provided with an opportunity to compete, under terms and conditions deemed appropriate by the State Department of Civil Service or Municipal Commission, by way of a special military make-up examination.

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: <https://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

Secretary I (County)
Exam No. 70010-690
Issued: December 29, 2025