

**ASSESSOR'S AIDE**  
**EXAM #69-874 (OC)**

**FEBRUARY 29, 2012**  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE**

**MARCH 17, 2012**  
**EXAMINATION DATE**

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED BY APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE**  
**A NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE PROCESSING FEE**  
**MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION**  
**\$15.00 MONEY ORDER ONLY -- PAYABLE TO ONEIDA COUNTY**

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**STARTING SALARY/RANGE:** Varies by Civil Division

**VACANCIES:** The eligible list, established as a result of this examination, will be used to fill any appropriate vacancies which may occur in this title 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 in order 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:** Either:

- (A) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma; **AND** one year of clerical experience working with real property assessment records, real estate values or title searching techniques; **OR**
- (B) Two years of experience as defined in (A).

**NOTE:**

- 1. Applicants must meet the minimum qualifications at time of application.
- 2. Further verification may be requested from candidates to verify their academic qualifications.

**DUTIES:** Responsible for performing a variety of clerical tasks in assisting the Assessor with collecting, processing and recording data on individual properties for taxation. The work is performed under the general supervision of the Assessor in accordance with established policies and procedures. The incumbent performs related work as required.

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

- 1. **Coding/Decoding Information-**These questions test for the ability to follow a set of coding rules. Some questions will require you to code information by converting certain information into letters or numbers. Other questions will require you to decode information by determining if the information that has already been converted into letters or numbers is correct. Complete directions will be provided; no previous knowledge of or training in any coding system is required.
- 2. **Name and Number Checking-** These questions test for the ability to distinguish between sets of words, letters, and/or numbers that are almost exactly alike. Material is usually presented in two or three columns, and you will have to determine how the entry in the first column compares with the entry in the second column and possibly the third. You will be instructed to mark your answers according to a designated code provided in the directions.
- 3. **Public Contact Principles and Practices-** These questions test for the ability to interact with other people, to gather and present information, and to provide assistance, advice, and effective customer service in a courteous and professional manner. Questions will cover such topics as understanding and responding to people with diverse needs, perspectives, personalities, and levels of familiarity with agency operations, as well as acting in a way that both serves the public and reflects well on your agency.
- 4. **Real Property Terminology, Documents and Forms-** These questions test for a knowledge of terminology, documents, and forms pertaining to real property. While some questions ask for only straight definitions, others are situational questions which require the use of real property terms to determine the answer to the questions.

5. **Understanding and Interpreting Written Material**-These questions test how well you comprehend written material. You will be provided with brief reading selections and will be asked questions about the selections. All the information required to answer the questions will be presented in the selections; you will not be required to have any special knowledge relating to the subject areas of the selections.

**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**.

**STUDY GUIDE:** The New York State Department of Civil Service has not prepared a Test Guide for this examination. However, candidates may find information contained in the publication "How to Take a Written Test" helpful in preparing for this examination. This publication is available online at: [www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm](http://www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.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 make arrangements 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**.

### **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **APPLICATIONS:** Unless otherwise indicated on this announcement, the candidate will complete one "Oneida County Application for Employment" form for each examination he/she wishes to take. **NO COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Applicants must answer every question on the application form, 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 Dept. of Personnel. This office reserves the right to reject all applications received after the last filing date.
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/DISABLED PERSONS/MILITARY MEMBERS:** Please indicate on your application if special arrangements for testing are needed. Military Services Members: See instructions and information E on application.
4. **ALTERNATE TEST DATES:** In certain circumstances that fall under the Alternate Test Date Policy established by this department, an alternate test date may be arranged.
5. **EMERGENCIES:** If an emergency prevents you from appearing for the examination please notify this office no later than 10:00 AM on the Monday following the test date. (Tuesday, if Monday is a holiday), providing verifiable documentation of the reason.
6. **VETERANS:** See instructions and information F on application.
7. **ADMISSION NOTICE:** See instructions and information C on application. **IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR ADMISSION NOTICE THREE DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF THE WRITTEN OR PERFORMANCE TEST, NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IMMEDIATELY.**
8. **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 and a maximum period of four (4) years. Changing conditions may make it advisable to certify to future vacancies at higher or lower salaries than those announced.
9. **COLLEGE DEGREE/CREDIT:** 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 web site: [www.cs.state.ny.us/jobseeker/degrees.cfm](http://www.cs.state.ny.us/jobseeker/degrees.cfm) . You will be responsible for the required evaluation fee.

10. 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.
11. 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.
12. **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.
13. **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.
14. **APPLICATION FEE WAIVER:** A waiver of application fee will be allowed if you are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household. In addition, a waiver of application fee will be allowed if you are determined eligible for Medicaid, or receiving Supplemental Security Income payments, or 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 by the close of business on the Application Deadline as listed on the Examination Announcement. If you can not download this form by clicking on its title, the form is available at the Oneida County Department of Personnel, 800 Park Avenue, Utica, NY 13501. You may also call (315) 798-5726 or write to the Oneida County Department of Personnel to request a copy.**
15. **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 for future examination for a two year period. (per Oneida County Civil Service Rule IX)

Issued: 02/07/12

**ONEIDA COUNTY EXAM ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE ACCESSED ON OUR WEBSITE:**  
[www.ocgov.net](http://www.ocgov.net) .

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