

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY

DELAWARE COUNTY PERSONNEL OFFICE ANNOUNCES
**OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR
SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM SPECIALIST
EXAM #64572**

Date Issued
September 22, 2022

Date of Examination
December 10, 2022

Last Filing Date
October 20, 2022

NOTICE: ONLY APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE DELAWARE COUNTY PERSONNEL OFFICE WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS EXAMINATION.

SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED

EXAMINATION FEE: A fee of \$15.00 is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required fee **MUST** accompany your application and be in our office by 4:30pm on the last filing date or you will not be approved to take the examination. Send or deliver your certified check or money order payable to the Delaware County Personnel Office. Write the examination number(s) on your check or money order. ******PERSONAL CHECKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.****** No refund of fees will be allowed whether or not you meet the minimum qualifications. You are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.

EXAMINATION FEE WAIVER: A waiver of examination fee will be allowed if you are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household. In addition, a waiver of examination 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 examination fee waiver are subject to verification. If you can verify eligibility for examination fee waiver, complete a "Request for Examination Fee Waiver and Certification" form and submit it with your application by the Last Filing Date as listed on the Examination Announcement. "Request for Examination Fee Waiver and Certification" forms may be obtained in the Personnel Office or online at www.co.delaware.ny.us click on departments and then personnel. Waivers will not be considered if filed after the last filing date.**

LOCATION OF POSITION: Delaware County Department of Social Services, Delhi, New York

SALARY: \$39,721 - \$42,408

DUTIES: The work involves the intake and on-going case management of applicants for and recipients of a variety of services provided by a local Social Services district. The case management activities performed by a Program Specialist are program oriented and normally do not include social casework and social work activities performed by a caseworker. This is technical work involving responsibilities for assessing applicant eligibility for all program types, including providing information to individuals and employees on insurance affordability programs and coverage options and assisting individuals and employees in applying for insurance coverage through the NY Health Exchange. Monitors on-going recipient compliance with program regulations. The work is performed under direct supervision with considerable leeway allowed in carrying out the details of the work. Does related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and either:

- A. One year experience in a New York State Social Services Department in a position involving duties and training comparable to those required of a Social Services Program Specialist.
- B. Two years' experience in examining, investigating or evaluating claims for assistance, veterans or unemployment benefits, insurance or a similar program operating under established criteria for eligibility; OR
- C. Three years' experience in interviewing, collecting and compiling data, account keeping or related work; OR
- D. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of A, B or C

NOTE: Study in a regionally accredited college or university or one registered by New York State or a business school registered by New York State may be substituted for the experience on a year for year basis.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Appointees will be required to possess a valid New York State motor vehicle operator's license and maintained during employment.

Candidates claiming college credits MUST submit a copy of their official transcript(s).

RESUMES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR YOUR APPLICATION BUT WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY AS AN ADDITION TO YOUR APPLICATION.

NOTE: Unless otherwise specified, all required experience must be full-time paid or its part-time paid equivalent. **You are responsible for submitting an accurate, adequate and clear description of your experience. Omissions or vagueness will NOT be interpreted in your favor.** Applicants for examination must meet all minimum qualifications on or before the examination date with no tolerances allowed. If an applicant lacks the required experience or has not completed all required training at the time he/she submits an application, but is serving in a qualifying position or will complete all required course work by the date of the examination, he/she may be approved conditionally to take an examination pending verification of successful completion of all experience and training requirements.

There are no residency requirements for this exam, however, preference in appointment may be given to legal residents of Delaware County.

A Guide for the Written Test for **Social Welfare Examiner** 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 copy of the test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found below on this announcement. Candidates who wish a copy of the Guide should call or write the Delaware County Personnel Office, One Courthouse Square, Suite #2, Delhi, New York 13753 (607-832-5678) or access our web site at www.co.delaware.ny.us click on departments and then personnel.

Scopes / Subjects of examination: A test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas.

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.

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 in order to make the report coherent and meaningful.

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 general public.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES: CALCULATORS ARE ALLOWED. Unless otherwise notified, you are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, solar/battery powered calculators. Calculators with typewriter keyboards, Spell Checkers, Personal Digital Assistants, Address Books, Language Translators, Dictionaries or any similar devices **are prohibited**. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

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, Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of examinations will apply to this examination.

Applications for examination can be obtained from the Delaware County Personnel Office, One Courthouse Square, Suite #2, Delhi, New York 13753. **ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION MUST BE CONTAINED IN YOUR APPLICATION. RESUMES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR YOUR APPLICATION BUT WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY AS AN ADDITION TO YOUR APPLICATION.** A separate application must be filed for EACH examination for which you apply. Applications must contain the correct examination title and/or number in order to be considered. The Delaware County Personnel Office reserves the right to accept or to reject applications/fees submitted/postmarked after the last announced filing date. The Delaware County Personnel Office is NOT responsible for lost or misdirected mail.

CROSS-FILING: APPLYING FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS WHEN EXAMINATIONS ARE SCHEDULED ON SAME DATE: If you have applied for other Civil Service examinations for employment with N.Y. State or other local governments, **YOU** must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site. **If you are taking a state exam you must sit at a State site.** If you have applied for an examination, in another County, City or State, which is scheduled to be given the same date as this exam, you must write our office and the Civil Service office in the other County/City or State and make arrangements to take both exams at either our test site or theirs. **You must make these arrangements with our office no later than the last filing date indicated on this announcement. You must advise our office in writing, by the last filing date contained in this announcement where you intend to take this exam.** Please note that State exams cannot be given at our test site. Candidates will be directed to submit evidence of their COVID-19 vaccination series or negative COVID-19 test result by visiting the New York State Department of Civil Service COVID-19 Vaccination/Testing Portal and following the instructions provided at: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/home/myaccount/vaccine-info.cfm>.

APPLICATION DEADLINE POLICY: All completed applications along with application fees or proofs of waiver must be submitted to the Delaware County Personnel Department by 4:30pm on the date of last file as listed on the Examination announcement. Applications received via U.S. Mail will be accepted only if received on or before the last file date. Applications that are received after the Application Deadline and are not received in the Personnel Department by the last file date will not be accepted.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS, ALTERNATE TEST DATES, MILITARY PERSONNEL: If you require reasonable accommodations as a disabled person, or special testing arrangements as one in need of religious accommodation, or are an alternate test date candidate (in accordance with Alternate Test Date Policy), or an active member of the military away from the area on the scheduled test date, clearly indicate this fact on the application. All such requests must be supported by appropriate documentation. If you are unable to take this examination due to an emergency situation, and you wish an alternate test date, you **MUST** call the Delaware County Personnel Office, with your request, by noon of the Monday following the test date.

*****Religious Accommodation*****Most written tests are held on Saturdays. If you cannot take the test on the announced test date due to a conflict with religious observance or practice, check the box under "Special Arrangements." We will make arrangements for you to take the test on a different date (usually the following Monday).

*****Handicapped Persons:*****If special arrangements for testing are required, please indicate this on your application.

*****Active Duty Military Personnel:*****Pursuant to Section 243b of the Military Law applicants who are unable to take this examination on the regular examination date because of active duty may be eligible to take a special military make up examination. If you are on active military duty and unable to take this exam on the regularly scheduled examination date, please indicate this on your application. You will then be sent additional information regarding a military make up examination.

*****Veterans or Disabled Veterans:***** Who are eligible for additional credit must submit an application for veteran's credit with their application for examination or at any time between the dates of their application for examination and the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible list. Applications for veteran's credit are available from this office. Veteran's credits can only be added to a passing score. Effective January 1, 1998, the State Constitution was amended to permit a candidate **currently in the armed forces** to apply for and be conditionally granted veteran's credit in examinations. Any candidate who applies for such credit must provide proof of military status to receive the conditional credit. **No credit may be granted after the establishment of the list.** It's the responsibility of the candidate to provide appropriate proof as defined in Section 85 of the Civil Service Law, and that the candidate received an honorable discharge or was released under honorable conditions in order to be certified at a score including veteran's credits.

*****Children of Firefighters and Police Officers Killed in the Line of Duty*****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.