

****REISSUE****

WARREN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION
Announces

OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION
For
SECRETARY I

LAST FILING DATE: May 10, 2018

EXAMINATION DATE: June 2, 2018

LOCAL NO. 368

**NON-REFUNDABLE \$7.50 APPLICATION FEE REQUIRED
(CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY – NO CASH)**

LOCATION/VACANCIES: This examination is being held to establish an eligible list to fill present and future vacancies that may occur in any agency administered by Warren County Civil Service.

RESIDENCY: A candidates must have been a legal resident of Warren County or a contiguous county (Essex, Hamilton, Saratoga, Washington) for at least four months immediately preceding the date of the exam. Preference in appointment may be given to those candidates who reside in the district or municipality where the vacancy occurs.

SALARY: Varies with agency.

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

- 1) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college, university or business school with an Associate Degree in Secretarial Science, or
- 2) Two (2) years of full time paid clerical experience, or its part time equivalent, which included typing and use of personal computer and common applications as a major function of the job.

DUTIES: (illustrative only)

Utilizes computer programs and web-based applications such as word processing spreadsheets, calendar, email and database software to perform work assignments;

Utilizes a variety of automated systems equipment to produce such materials as correspondence, reports, contracts, specifications and/or data;

Screens callers and visitors to determine the nature of the inquiry, answers questions on established policy and procedure and/or refers to appropriate party or office;

Assists in maintaining routine office contacts, screening material submitted for compliance with policies and procedures before forwarding it to superior for action or decision;

Collects information to be used as a basis for reports and memoranda and prepares summaries and reports of various phases of the school's programs;

Opens, reviews, and distributes incoming mail in accordance with staff assignments and attaches appropriate background material to correspondence;

Schedules and arranges meetings, conferences and appointments and assembles and coordinates background material;

Independently prepares routine correspondence;

Keeps a complex record of activities of the agency using existing software;

Maintains inventory records and may assist in purchases of office equipment and supplies;

Performs a variety of related duties in carrying out the work of the office;

May act as a receptionist.

SUBJECT 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 communications.
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 a knowledge of the correct placement of punctuation marks in sentences.
3. **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, you will be given a passage to proofread and asked questions about how to correct the errors in the passage.
4. **OFFICE RECORD KEEPING:** These questions evaluate your 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 the organization or collation of 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 knowledge of generally agreed-upon practices governing the handling of situations which stenographers, 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 work flow; 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.

NOTE: The New York State Department of Civil Service has published a test guide intended for candidate preparation use for this particular examination. This test guide contains important test-related information as well as sample test questions similar to the questions that will be used in this written test.

The New York State Department of Civil Service is making a copy of this test guide and other related information available on its web site at: <http://www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm>. In addition, a copy of this test guide can also be obtained at our local civil service office. Please stop in the office at the Warren County Municipal Center or call this office at 518-761-6440 for more information on how to obtain a copy of this guide.

NOTE: *Candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held solar or battery powered calculator.* Devices with typewriter keyboards, Spell Checker, Personal Digital Assistants, Address Books, Language Translators, Dictionaries, or any similar devices are PROHIBITED. No books or reference material will be allowed into the examination site. A calculator or slide rule may facilitate the performance of routine calculations but is not necessary to answer questions on this examination. CELL PHONES ARE PROHIBITED.

HOW TO APPLY: Applications and information may be obtained from the Warren County Department of Civil Service Administration, or from the web site: www.warrencountyny.gov/civilservice. Application/exam fee must be submitted to the Warren County Civil Service Administration before the close of business at 4:30p.m. on the last filing date listed on the Examination Announcement. Applications received via U.S. Mail will be accepted only if postmarked on or before the last filing date. You are responsible for completing **ALL** sections of the official application. To receive credit for experience on a job, basic information such as address, name and title of supervisor, hours in the workweek, final salary, etc. must be shown. Ambiguity and vagueness **WILL NOT** be resolved in your favor.

APPLICATION FEE: An application processing fee as specified on this announcement must accompany the application. **CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY** must be payable to **WARREN COUNTY TREASURER**. **DO NOT SEND CASH**. **YOU MUST LIST THE EXAM NUMBER ON THE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER**. You are responsible for comparing your qualifications with the minimum qualifications posted on this examination announcement. **THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS** if your application is disapproved.

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 the Exam Fee Waiver and Certification section on the application or submit the "Application**

for Fee Waiver and Certification” form with your application by the close of business on the Last Filing Date as listed on the Examination Announcement.

Veteran’s Credits: Veterans or disabled veterans who may be eligible for additional credits must check the appropriate areas on the application and also submit a separate **Application for Veteran’s Credits** and supporting documentation. Applications and information on veteran’s credits may be obtained at the Warren County Department of Civil Service Administration.

NOTE: 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, notify this office of this matter when you submit your application for examination

Saturday Sabbath Observers – Physically Challenged Individuals – Active Military Members: Applicants whose religious beliefs or military service prevent their taking examinations on the scheduled date and candidates with a disability who require reasonable accommodations to take the test must clearly indicate the need for special arrangements on their Application. Candidates who are called to military service after filing an Application should send requests for an alternate test date to our Office as soon as possible before the test date. Military Service Members who apply for an examination during the filing period but are on active military duty on the date the examination is scheduled may request a military make-up examination. If you are on active duty or discharged after the filing period has begun, you may apply for the examination up to ten days before the test date. You must submit with your application the type of special arrangements or reasonable accommodations requested accompanied by all supporting documentation.

Multiple Exams Scheduled for the Same Date: If you have applied with any other local Civil Service agency for any other examination held on the same day, you must make arrangements with each agency to take all your examinations at one test site no later than two weeks before the test date. If you have applied for both State and Local examinations, you must make arrangements with this agency to take all your examinations at a State examination center no later than two weeks before the test date. If you have questions please contact Warren County Civil Service at (518) 761-6440.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. Positive identification will be required at the test site.
2. Falsification of any part of the "Application for Employment" will result in disqualification.
3. Applicants must answer every question on the application form and make sure that the application is complete in regard to meeting the minimum qualifications for this examination. There will be no refund of the application fee should your application be disapproved. Time and place of the examination will be mailed to candidates whose application has been approved, one week before examination date.
4. Where a degree is required for minimum qualification, do not send transcript unless required on this announcement.
5. Appointments from an eligible list must be made from the top three candidates willing to accept appointment. All eligible lists will be established for a maximum of four years or the establishment of a new list. It is probable that a number of titles will have an insufficient number of candidates and examinations for these titles will be held on a more regular basis with eligible lists being replaced within the four-year period. Candidates are advised to review our examination postings at our web site: www.warrencountyny.gov/civilservice . Candidates will NOT be notified should eligible lists expire within the four-year period.
6. It is the responsibility of the candidate to notify the Warren County Department of Civil Service of any change in name and/or address. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved.
7. The passing grade for this examination is 70. Background checks may be required for appointment.
8. The salary of this position is subject to change from time to time, or may be different in agencies serviced by the Warren County Department of Civil Service; vacancies may, therefore, be filled at a higher or lower salary than the one announced.
9. SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND 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.
10. BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: Applicants may be required to undergo extensive investigation of criminal history and background, which may include a fingerprint check, to determine suitability for appointment. Costs related to such investigation may be borne by the applicant. Failure to meet the standards of investigation may result in disqualification.

This written test is being prepared and rated by the N.Y.S. Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the N.Y.S. Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of examinations will apply to this exam.

ISSUED: April 4, 2018

**Patricia C. Nenninger
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WARREN COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER
View all examination announcements on line at: www.warrencountyny.gov/civilservice