

CAREER OPPORTUNITY



SARATOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL

ISSUED 10/21/13

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY
SARATOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL ANNOUNCES
AN OPEN-COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR

ACCOUNTANT - SCHOOLS

EXAMINATION 68-728

ACCOUNTANT - SCHOOLS, Saratoga County. Currently there is one vacancy in the Shenendehowa Central School District. The results of the exam will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in all agencies under the jurisdiction of the Saratoga County Personnel Department.

SALARY: \$49,000

LAST DAY TO FILE IS DECEMBER 18, 2013

DATE OF THE EXAMINATION IS JANUARY 25, 2014

NOTICE: RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS-HANDICAPPED PERSONS: If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.

RESIDENTS: Candidates must have been legal residents of New York State for at least FOUR months immediately preceding the date of the test. Pursuant to subdivision 4a of Sec. 23 of the Civil Service Law, preference may be given to successful candidates who have been legal residents of the municipality to which the appointment is to be made for at least FOUR months preceding the date of the written test.

APPLICATION FEE: An examination fee of **\$10.00 (Residents and Non-residents)** is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your application. Check or money order only. Please **make checks payable to the Saratoga County Treasurer's Office, \$20 return check fee. This fee is non-refundable. You are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission stated in the "Minimum Qualifications" section of the examination announcement, and file for only those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.**

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. A copy of this document can be obtained from the Saratoga County Personnel office.**

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Employees in this class are responsible for keeping accounts for a school district as prescribes by the Commissioner of Education, the New York State Department of Audit and Control and applicable local finance laws. The work involves performing professional accounting work including the maintenance of accounting records, preparation of reports and the supervision of a higher ranking school district official and requires independent judgment on technical accounting problems but may be reviewed upon completion for overall standard performance and is subject to periodic audit. Supervision may be exercised over a number of clerical employees. The incumbent does related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a bachelor's degree in accounting, business administration, economics or related field including or supplemented by 24 semester credit hours in accounting; Or
- B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college or university with an associate degree in accounting, business administration, economics or closely related field including or supplemented by 18 semester credit hours in accounting and 2 years of experience in professional accounting or financial auditing; or

C. An equivalent combination of training and experience as outlined by the limits of (A) and (B) above.

THE WRITTEN TEST will be designed to measure knowledge, skills and/or abilities in such areas as:

1. **General accounting** -These questions test for knowledge of the general accounting principles and practices used in the preparation of financial statements, in the recording and reporting of financial transactions, and in financial decision-making. Candidates will be required to demonstrate a current knowledge of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Knowledge of computerized information systems as it applies to accounting may be required.

2. **General auditing** -These questions test for knowledge of the principles and procedures involved in substantiating and examining transactions and financial statements. It will require a knowledge of auditing techniques and Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS). Knowledge of the use of computerized accounting or auditing systems as it pertains to auditing may be required. Questions relating to internal controls applicable to manual and computerized accounting systems may be included.

3. **Preparing written material** -These questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately, and to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly. For some questions, you will be given information in two or three sentences followed by four restatements of the information. You must then choose the best version. For other questions, you will be given paragraphs with their sentences out of order. You must then choose, from four suggestions, the best order for the sentences.

4. **Understanding and interpreting tabular material** -These questions test your ability to understand, analyze, and use the internal logic of data presented in tabular form. You may be asked to perform tasks such as completing tables, drawing conclusions from them, analyzing data trends or interrelationships, and revising or combining data sets. The concepts of rate, ratio, and proportion are tested. Mathematical operations are simple, and computational speed is not a major factor in the test. **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.**

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 "How to take a written test" helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available on line at: www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES: "UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED, 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**.

ELIGIBLE LIST: A candidate's eligibility begins when his or her name is placed on the eligible list and continues for a minimum of one year.

SECTION 243-b Provides that any member of the armed forces of the United States who had duly filed an application to compete in a scheduled competitive examination, but was deprived of the opportunity to compete in a scheduled competitive examination due to active military duty be provided with a special military makeup examination

SECTION 85a OF THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW: 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

VETERAN CREDITS: For the purpose of claiming veteran credits on a Civil Service examination, an applicant must have served in the armed forces of the United States at any time during the following periods:

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| -World War II—December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946 | -Grenada – October 23, 1983 – November 21, 1983 |
| -Korean War—June 27, 1950 to and including January 31, 1955 | -Panama – December 20, 1989 – January 31, 1990 |
| -Vietnam Conflict—February 28, 1961 until May 7, 1975 | -Persian Gulf – August 2, 1990 to the end of such hostilities |
| -Lebanon – June 1, 1983 – December 1, 1987 | (not yet determined) |

For hostilities in Lebanon, Grenada, and Panama, the individual **must** have received the Armed Forces, Navy, or Marine Corps expeditionary medal.

Beginning January 1, 1998, the NYS Constitution allows members of the US Armed Forces who are on active duty (other than for training purposes) the right to request **extra War Time Veterans Credits** on civil service examinations prior to discharge.

If you are currently on active duty, you may request the addition of veteran's credits to your examinations score. You must request the extra credits on your examination application in the space provided. If you pass the examination, the credits will be added automatically. To use the extra credits at the time of appointment you must have received an honorable discharge, be a US citizen, and be a resident of New York State. The extra credits can only be used for one NY local Government permanent appointment.

SECTION 23.2: This entire examination is prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations, which deal with the rating of examinations, will apply.

APPLICATIONS: You may get application forms by writing, down loading from our website

www.saratogacountyny.gov, 518-885-2225 or by calling in person at the Saratoga County Personnel Department, 40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Time and place of the examination will be mailed to approved candidates one week before the date of the examination.

SARATOGA COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER