

CAREER OPPORTUNITY



SARATOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

ISSUED 4/26/2021

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY

SARATOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES ANNOUNCES AN OPEN
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR

PROBATION OFFICER

EXAMINATION #: 61-421

PROBATION OFFICER: Saratoga County. The results of this exam will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in all agencies under the jurisdiction of the Saratoga County Human Resources Department.

SALARY

\$53,668

LAST DATE TO FILE

May 18, 2021

DATE OF EXAMINATION

June 26, 2021

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.** \$20 returned check fee. **Please make checks payable to the Saratoga County Treasurer's Office.** *The \$10 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 only for those examinations for which you are "clearly qualified". Vague application will not weigh in applicants favor.*

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, or if you are an honorably discharged Military Veteran (DD214). **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 Human Resources Office or on our website at www.saratogacountyny.gov.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is the beginning position at the professional level in probation work. The duties require the application of modern social work techniques in making evaluations of adults or juveniles and in supervising persons on probation. A probation officer is called upon to exercise sound professional judgment in analyzing data and in making recommendations concerning court dispositions. They assist persons on probation and other persons whom the probation agency services. A probation officer works under supervision of a higher-ranking professional employee and may help to supervise the work of probation assistants, probation officer trainees, or volunteers. Does related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either...

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State College or University with a Master's Degree in Social Work, Education Administration, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Criminology, or a related field; **OR**
- B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State College or University with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, Criminology, Psychology, Sociology and two (2) years of experience in counseling or casework in a recognized agency adhering to acceptable standards in probation, parole, social services, psychiatric or medical social work.

THE WRITTEN TEST will be designed to test for knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in the following areas:

- 1. Advising and interacting with others.** These questions test for the ability to interact with other people in order to gather and present information and to provide assistance and advice in a courteous and professional manner.
- 2. Preparing written material.** These questions test for the ability to write the kinds of reports and correspondence required in criminal justice settings such as probation and parole. Some questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately. Others test for the ability to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly.
- 3. Evaluating conclusions in light of known facts.** These questions will consist of a set of facts and a conclusion. You must decide if the conclusion is proved by the facts, disproved by the facts or if the facts are not sufficient to prove or disprove the conclusion. The questions will not be specific to a particular field.
- 4. Applying written information.** These questions evaluate a candidate's ability to read, interpret and apply rules, regulations, directives, written narratives and other related material. You will be required to read a set of information and to appropriately apply the information to situations in various settings. All information needed to answer the questions is contained in the rules, regulations, etc. which are cited.

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

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:

World War II—December 7, 1941 to and including December 31, 1946

Korean War—June 27, 1950 to and including January 31, 1955

Vietnam Conflict—February 21, 1961 until May 7, 1975

Lebanon – June 1, 1983 – December 1, 1987

Grenada – October 23, 1983 – November 21, 1983

Panama – December 20, 1989 – January 31, 1990

Persian Gulf – August 2, 1990 to the end of such hostilities (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 a civil service examination prior to discharge.

If you are currently on active duty, you may request the addition of veteran's credits to your examination 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. According to Section 85 (4) (a) of the New York State Civil Service Law, extra credits may only be used once for an original appointment or promotion in the civil service of New York State or civil division thereof.

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 the Saratoga County Human Resources Department, 40 McMaster St., Ballston Spa, NY 12020, downloading from our website @ www.saratogacountyny.gov, calling 518-885-2225 or in person. Time and place of the examination will be mailed to approved candidates one week prior to date of the examination.