

Please Post Conspicuously

**OTSEGO COUNTY ANNOUNCES AN OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR
Probation Director Group A 60053600**

SALARY: \$87,928- \$107,468

EXAMINATION DATE: June 27, 2026

LAST DATE TO FILE: Applications must be received by the Otsego County Personnel/Civil Service Department or postmarked no later than May 28, 2026.

VACANCIES: The eligible list resulting from this examination will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in Otsego County Probation Department under the jurisdiction of the Otsego County Personnel/Civil Service Department.

FILING FEE: A fee of \$15.00 is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your application. If applying online you may submit your payment online or you can make money order payable to County of Otsego and write the examination title(s) and examination number(s) on your money order. **PERSONAL CHECKS AND CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

NO EXCEPTIONS. As no refunds will be made, 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. No determination of eligibility will be made prior to filing of applications.

APPLICATION FEE WAIVER: A waiver of the application fee will be allowed if you are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household. In addition, a waiver of the 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. This form can be obtained at the Personnel/Civil Service Department or on our website at www.otsegocountyny.gov

ALTERNATE TEST DATE POLICY: Under specific circumstances an alternate test date may be arranged in accordance with established policy. Your request and verifiable documentation should be submitted at least one week prior to the test date or in case of emergency no later than 4:30 PM on the next business day following the test. A copy of the Alternate Test Date Policy is available on the County's website at www.otsegocountyny.gov, or by calling the Personnel/Civil Service Department at 607-547-4239. **IN NO CASE SHALL THE EXAMINATION BE GIVEN LATER THAN THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.**

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT/PREFERENCE: There are no residency requirements for this examination. However, preference in appointment may be given to successful candidates who have been residents of Otsego County for at least one month immediately preceding the scheduled date of the written examination.

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.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION-DISABLED PERSONS-MILITARY MEMBERS: Applicants whose religious beliefs or military service prevent their taking examinations on the scheduled date and disabled candidates who require special accommodations to take the test should 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 the Otsego County Personnel/Civil Service Department as soon as possible before the test date. If you apply for an examination during the filing period, but are on active military duty on the date the examination is scheduled, you 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 (10) days before the test date.

VETERAN'S CREDIT: Active service members, veterans or disabled veterans desiring to claim additional credit may submit an "Application for Veterans Credits" accompanied by the form DD-214 prior to the establishment of the eligible list. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT THE FORM DD-214 IS SUBMITTED TO THIS DEPARTMENT. FAILURE TO SUBMIT A COPY OF YOUR DD-214 TO THIS DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY ELIGIBLE LIST WILL RESULT IN NO ADDITIONAL CREDIT BEING GRANTED.** No credit may be granted after the establishment of the list. It is the responsibility of the candidate to provide appropriate documentary proof indicating that the service was in time of war, as defined in Section 85 of 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 department 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.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is the sole management level position in a Group A probation department. The incumbent is responsible for planning, organizing, directing, coordinating and controlling the activities of the department in a manner which ensures the provision and maintenance of effective probation services in accordance with established laws and regulations. The work is performed under the general oversight of the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives. The incumbent typically reports to the chief executive officer of the county. This position differs from that of a Probation Director (Group B, C or D) in that a Probation Director (Group A) is employed in the smallest probation department. A Probation Director (Group A) is a Peace Officer pursuant to Criminal Procedure Law, section 2.10 and may carry a firearm in the performance of his/her duties. Does related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university or one accredited by the New York State Board of Regents to grant degrees, with a Bachelor's degree or higher including or supplemented by thirty (30) credit hours in the social or behavioral sciences and two (2) years of experience as a probation supervisor or equivalent experience in a probation agency.

NOTE:

1. Course work at the graduate degree level in social work, social sciences, education, administration, law, criminal justice, or a related field may be substituted for work experience for a maximum of one (1) year of experience.
2. Social science includes areas of study concerned with humans living in relation to other humans in a social environment and such as anthropology, criminal justice, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology and sociology. Behavioral science is a subset of social science characterized by observation of the behavior of living organisms and focused on human social behavior such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, counseling, criminal justice, gerontology, human behavior, social work/social welfare and vocational rehabilitation.
3. Applicants may be approved conditionally to take civil service examinations if the minimum educational requirement is met within twelve (12) months from the examination date.
4. As proof of satisfactory completion of the minimum educational requirement, conditionally approved candidates are responsible for submitting appropriate documentation within twelve (12) months of taking the exam.
5. Names of conditionally approved candidates will be restricted on the eligible list and will not be certified for appointment(s) until appropriate documentation is received.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Possession of a current driver's license and acceptable driving record is required at time of appointment. A valid New York State license must be maintained throughout employment or ability to otherwise meet the transportation requirements of the position.
2. Incumbents in this position are required to reside within the County of Otsego at all times during their employment in this title pursuant to Section 3-b of the Public Officer's Law.
3. Individuals whose duties and responsibilities include the use of a firearm must also complete training pursuant to Criminal Procedures Law, Section 2.30(3).

The use of Calculators is RECOMMENDED for this examination.

SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION: A written test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and/or abilities in the following areas:

1. **ENSURING EFFECTIVE INTER/INTRA AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS** - These questions test for understanding of techniques for interacting effectively with individuals and agencies, to educate and inform them about topics of concern, to clarify agency programs or policies, to negotiate conflicts or resolve complaints, and to represent one's agency or program in a manner in keeping with good public relations practices. Questions may also cover interacting with the staff of one's own agency and/or that of other agencies in cooperative efforts of public outreach or service.
2. **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.
3. **UNDERSTANDING AND INTERPRETING WRITTEN MATERIAL** - These questions test for the ability to understand and interpret written material. You will be presented with brief reading passages and will be asked questions about the passages. You should base your answers to the questions **only** on what is presented in the passages and **not** on what you may happen to know about the topic.
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**.
5. **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION** - These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices involved in directing the activities of a large subordinate staff, including subordinate supervisors. Questions relate to the personal interactions between an upper level supervisor and their subordinate supervisors in the accomplishment of objectives. These questions cover such areas as assigning work to and coordinating the activities of several units, establishing and guiding staff development programs, evaluating the performance of subordinate supervisors, and maintaining relationships with other organizational sections.
6. **ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNIQUES AND PRACTICES** - These questions test for a knowledge of management techniques and practices used in directing or assisting in directing a program component or an organizational segment. Questions cover such areas as interpreting policies, making decisions based on the context of the position in the organization, coordinating programs or projects, communicating with employees or the public, planning employee training, and researching and evaluating areas of concern.

Test guide: 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 'General Guide to Written Tests' helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available on line at: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>

PREPARATION/RATING OF EXAMINATION: This examination will be prepared and rated in accordance with Section 23 (2) of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Services Law, rules and regulations dealing with the preparation and rating of examinations will apply to this examination.

ADMISSION NOTICES: Approved candidates will receive admission letters indicating the date, time, and location their exam is scheduled no later than two weeks before the scheduled exam date. It is the responsibility of the candidate to notify the Personnel/Civil Service Department of any change in name or address. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved.

CROSS-FILING: If you have applied for any other civil service examination to be given on the same test date for employment with New York State or any other local government jurisdiction excluding New York City, you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site. If you have applied for both State and local government examinations, you must make arrangements to take all your examinations at the State examination center by calling (518)-474-6470 no later than two weeks before the test date. If you have applied for other local government examinations, call or write to each civil service agency to make arrangements no later than two weeks before the date of the examinations. You must notify all local government civil service agencies with which you have filed an application of the test site at which you wish to take your examination.

APPLICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS may be obtained by writing or calling the Otsego County Personnel /Civil Service Department, 197 Main Street, Cooperstown, New York 13326. (607) 547-4239 or downloaded from the County's website at www.otsegocountyny.gov.

NOTICE: ONLY APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE OTSEGO COUNTY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS EXAMINATION. RESUMES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR YOUR APPLICATION BUT WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY AS AN ADDITION TO YOUR APPLICATION. ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION MUST BE CONTAINED IN 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 Otsego County Personnel Department reserves the right to accept or to reject applications/fees submitted/postmarked after the last announced filing date. The Otsego County Personnel Department is **NOT** responsible for lost or misdirected mail. **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.**

Dated: March 20, 2026

OTSEGO COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

PHONE: 607-547-4239

www.otsegocountyny.gov