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OTSEGO COUNTY ANNOUNCES AN OPEN-COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR

Principal Social Welfare Examiner #60072660

SALARY: $52,26 - $62,546
EXAMINATION DATE: January 09, 2027
LAST DATE TO FILE: Applications must be received by the Otsego County Personnel/Civil Service Department or postmarked no later than December 4, 2026.
VACANCIES: The eligible list resulting from this examination will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in the Otsego County Department of Social Services 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 WIL 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 an administrative position involving responsibility for planning, coordinating, supervising and managing the performance and activities of a group of employees, a unit or section depending on the organizational structure of the agency for determining financial eligibility for the various programs administered by the local Social Services district. Duties, though similar to those of a senior social welfare examiner, are broader in scale, are performed with more independence and involve a greater variety

of related functions and the exercise of supervision over a greater number of subordinates. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Director of Income Maintenance. Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

a) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college with a Bachelor's Degree or higher and two (2) years of full time experience or its part time equivalent in examining, investigating or evaluating claims for assistance, veterans or unemployment benefits, insurance or a similar program operating under established criteria for eligibility, interviewing; one (1) year of which shall have been in a supervisory capacity. OR;

b) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college with an Associate's Degree and four (4) years of full time experience or its part time equivalent as defined in (a) above. OR;

c) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and six (6) years of full time experience or its part time equivalent as defined in (a) above. OR;

d) An equivalent combination of training or experience as defined by the limits of (a), (b) and (c) above.

Notes:

1. Degree(s) must be awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the US Department of Education/US Secretary of Education. If the degree was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, the candidate must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the internet at http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm . Candidates will be required to pay the evaluation fee.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Verifiable part-time experience will be pro-rated toward meeting full-time experience requirements.

The use of Calculators is ALLOWED 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. **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. **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.
5. **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 online 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: November 2, 2026

OTSEGO COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

PHONE: 607-547-4239 **www.otsegocountyny.gov**