



# CLINTON COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

For Property Tax Enforcement Specialist  
(Treasurer) (PROM)

Clinton County is an  
ADA, EOE Employer

## Examination No.: #71-387

Issued: 03/13/2024  
Salary Range: \$51,207 - \$64,178  
Closing Date for Filing: 04/12/2024  
Calculators: Recommended  
(See General Instructions)  
Examination Date: 06/01/2024

## CONTACT

(518) 565-4676  
137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901  
clintoncountygov.com

## VACANCIES

The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used to fill present and future vacancies that may occur at the Clinton County Treasurer's Office.

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates must meet the minimum qualifications at time of examination. All experience must be paid experience unless otherwise noted.

Employees must be currently employed in the competitive class or a 55-a designated position in the Treasurer's Office and must have served continuously on a permanent basis immediately preceding the date of the written test for two (2) years as a Senior Tax Clerk/Typist.

## 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>.

The Clinton County Department of Personnel must receive applications by **04/12/2024**. Applications received after this date will not be accepted.

## DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

This work involves responsibility for coordinating, directing, and participation in all aspects of tax collection and delinquent tax enforcement function pursuant to New York State and local tax laws. The incumbent in this position is responsible for carrying out carefully defined procedures related to the preparation, collection, calculation, and receipt of current and delinquent taxes, all aspects of the in rem foreclosure process and auction, and bankruptcy proceedings. The work is performed under the general supervision of the Property Tax Enforcement Supervisory and the Clinton County Treasurer, with leeway allowed for the exercise of independent judgement in carrying out the details of the work. Supervision is exercised over the work of subordinate staff performing tasks related to tax collection and delinquent tax enforcement. The incumbent does related work as required.

## SENIORITY POINTS:

Points will be added to an eligible score as follows:

Less than 1 year	0 Points
1 year up to 6 years	1 Point
6 years up to 11 years	2 Points
11 years up to 16 years	3 Points
16 years up to 21 years	4 Points
21 years and up	5 Points

Rating of seniority is based on the length of continuous permanent classified service.

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### WRITTEN TEST

#### **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.

#### **Real property acquisition, appraisal, negotiations, relocation, property management and applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations**

These questions test for knowledge of terms, principles and processes relating to the State of New York's ability to acquire and sell real property. They cover such subjects as the role of negotiators in real property acquisition; right of landowners and tenants when the State acquires property; factors influencing property value determinations and rent determinations; types and characteristics of leasing agreements; eligibility for relocation payments and calculation of payment amounts; and management of State property as an asset, including disposition. The information needed to answer some of these questions can be found in the Eminent Domain Procedure Law, Environmental Conservation Law, Public Lands Law and State Highway Law.

#### **Supervision**

These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices employed in planning, organizing, and controlling the activities of a work unit toward predetermined objectives. The concepts covered, usually in a situational question format, include such topics as assigning and reviewing work; evaluating performance; maintaining work standards; motivating and developing subordinates; implementing procedural change; increasing efficiency; and dealing with problems of absenteeism, morale, and discipline.

#### **Understanding and interpreting Real Property Tax Law**

These questions test for the ability to read, interpret and apply the New York State Real Property Tax Law. You will be provided with brief reading selections based on or taken from the New York State Real Property Tax Law, followed by one or more questions. All the information needed to answer the questions is contained in the reading selections. No prior knowledge of the subject is required.

The subject matter of the selections may not be specific to the titles for which we are testing. The purpose of these questions is only to test for the ability to read and interpret this type of material at an appropriate level of difficulty.


### MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY:

If you have applied to take a written test announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same test date as this written test, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than two weeks before the test date, so they can make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site.

If you have applied to take a written test announced by New York State scheduled to be held on the same test date as this written test, you must notify us no later than two weeks before the test date. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center. Be sure to check "Yes" in the Conflicting Exams Section on the first page of your application and include in the Remarks Section on page four the titles of the exams you are scheduled to take and whether they are offered by another Local agency or New York State.

If you are taking two Local exams, indicate in which county you want to take the exams. If you are taking a Local and a State exam, you must take the exams at the State site. You must call our office at 565-4676 no later than two weeks prior to the examination date to confirm that arrangements have been made for you to take all the examinations at one test site. You will be advised by letter when and where to report for your examinations.

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## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Each candidate must complete an application and file it with the Clinton County Dept. of Personnel, Clinton County Government Center, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, NY, as soon as possible after the announcement of the exam but not later than the closing date. **Be sure you answer every question before filing your application. An incomplete application may be disapproved.**

2. The Clinton County Dept. of Personnel will notify you by email, when and where to appear for the exam. If you fail to receive an email letter at least seven days prior to the exam date, you should contact the Clinton County Dept. of Personnel immediately. No one will be admitted to the exam without the official admittance letter. The Department will also send due notice if an application is rejected. The Department does not make formal acknowledgment of the receipt of an application.

3. Restrictions on employment may exist for candidates who are under 18 years of age.

4. Unless otherwise stated, all candidates are required to be legal residents of Clinton County for one month immediately preceding the date of exam. Appointing authorities may give preference to legal residents of their jurisdiction.

5. VETERANS: To learn about your rights regarding Civil Service exams, request a copy of Clinton County's "Veterans' Rights For Exams" Summary from the Clinton County Dept. of Personnel or visit our website: [clintoncountygov.com](http://clintoncountygov.com).

6. VERIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS: Appointing authorities may investigate or call candidates for an interview to determine whether they are qualified for appointment.

7. When the written exam is prepared and rated by the NYS Dept. of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law, the provision of the NYS Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating and review of exams apply.

8. The Dept. will establish eligible lists in the order of final rating for successful candidates and will establish lists for a period of 4 years.

9. RETIREMENT SYSTEM: It is mandatory that persons appointed to full-time positions in a political subdivision participating in the NYS Employees' Retirement System, join the system on appointment. For other employees, membership is optional.

10. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Candidates requiring special arrangements for testing must indicate this on their application form or write to the Department not later than the last date for filing.

11. RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: The Department is not responsible for the arrival of applications if not personally delivered to this office. Therefore, you should contact the Department on or before the final date for filing to verify receipt.

12. USE OF CALCULATORS: 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. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

13. FOR NON-CITIZENS: At the time of appointment, you must be a legal alien authorized to accept employment in the United States and you must maintain such status throughout the term of your employment with Clinton County.

14. ALTERNATE TEST DATE POLICY: Clinton County has an Alternate Test Date Policy, which allows a candidate to participate in the exam other than the set exam date. The alternate test date must be set during the week following the exam date. At no time can an exam be set later than one week following the exam unless NYS Civil Service provides prior approval. If you are unable to take the exam on the set exam date, contact this office for information regarding the policy. For emergency situations, which may occur on the exam date, you must contact the Clinton County Dept. of Personnel no later than 5 o'clock p.m. on the Monday following the exam.

15. WEATHER CONDITIONS: Clinton County will attempt to hold scheduled exams regardless of weather conditions. If an exam is cancelled due to extreme weather conditions, it will be announced on our website: [clintoncountygov.com](http://clintoncountygov.com) – Personnel Dept. – Exam Weather Alert.

16. Clearance from the Commissioner of Education will be required for positions that are designated by school districts as having direct contact with students.

17. You may wish to retain a copy of your application since we are unable to provide copies of exam applications.

18. POLICE OFFICER OR FIREFIGHTER SURVIVOR CREDITS: Per Section 85-a of Civil Service Law, children of firefighters or police officers killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive an additional ten points in a competitive exam for which they qualify for original appointment in the same municipality in which his/her parent served. The parent is deemed to have "served" in a municipality if he/she was employed by or worked primarily in that municipality. If you qualify, inform this office when you submit your application for exam. A candidate claiming such credit has a minimum of 2 months from the application deadline to provide the necessary documentation to verify additional credit eligibility. No credit may be added after establishment of the eligible list.

19. BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: Applicants may be required to undergo and pay for a state and national criminal history background investigation, which includes a fingerprint check, to determine suitability for appointment. Failure to meet the standards for the background investigation may result in disqualification. Fingerprints to be used in performing the background checks would be collected from applicants pursuant to regulations promulgated by the DCJS, which will perform the state background check. DCJS will also submit the fingerprints to the FBI for the completion of the national background check. Individuals found to have criminal histories that bar their appointment to the position sought would then be disqualified by the municipal civil service agency pursuant to Section 50(4) of Civil Service Law.

20. Clinton County is in compliance with ADA requirements.