

# TOMPKINS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

Inclusion Through Diversity



## PROMOTIONAL

Tompkins County Department of Human Resources Office  
125 E. Court Street  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 274-5526

**Tompkins County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply**

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**TITLE:** Police Sergeant (Promotional - Dryden)

**EXAM NO:** 77451

**SALARY:** \$26.77 per hour

**TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT:** Full-time permanent.

**EXAM DATE:** 06/10/17

**ISSUE DATE:** 04/13/17

**THE FINAL DATE TO FILE APPLICATIONS:** 04/28/17

**DATE THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM POSTING:** 06/11/17

**RESIDENCY:** : Candidates must have been legal residents of Tompkins County or one of the six adjoining counties (Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Schuyler, Seneca, Tioga) for at least one month immediately preceding the date of application and maintain residency. For Examinations: The eligible list resulting from the examination will be established in accordance with the final earned numerical ratings of passing candidates regardless of residence. A municipality or district may exercise its right under section 23-4-a. of Civil Service Law to request a certification of eligible candidates who have been residents of that municipality or district for at least one month prior to appointment. After the names of residents have been exhausted, Tompkins County must then certify the names of non-residents on the list.

**THE USE OF A QUIET HAND HELD CALCULATOR IS PROHIBITED FOR THIS EXAMINATION.**

### **LOCATION OF POSITIONS/VACANCIES:**

There is currently one full-time vacancy in the title of Police Sergeant located in the Village of Dryden. **The eligible list resulting from this departmental promotion examination may be used to fill any appropriate full-time, part-time, and/or temporary vacancies that may occur during the life of the eligible list.** This is a departmental promotion opportunity and we are only considering permanent competitive class Police Officers who work in the Village of Dryden at this point in time.

### **QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE FOR TAKING THE PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATION:**

This will be a departmental promotion examination limited to current employees of the Village of Dryden. No later than the final filing date announced, candidates for this examination must currently hold, and have continuously have held, at least two years of permanent or contingent permanent **competitive class status** in the title of Police Officer with the Village of Dryden.

### **SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT:**

No one shall be appointed as a Police Sergeant unless he/she has previously been appointed as a Police Officer from an eligible list established according to merit and fitness as provided by Section Six of Article Five of the constitution of the State of New York or has previously served as a member of the New York State Police (Civil Service Law, Section 58, effective September 1,

1984).

**NOTE:** Section 209 (q), Subsection 1-a, of the General Municipal Law must be met before permanent status as a Police Sergeant can be conferred.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:**

This is supervisory law enforcement work involving responsibility for the police work of officers and for the performance of specialized duties. A Police Sergeant has immediate charge of officers on an assigned shift and, depending on the size and organization of the police department, may also be the ranking officer with overall responsibility for the department. The work is performed in accordance with instructions received from the Police Chief or other superior officer or directly from the Mayor when the Police Sergeant is the ranking officer. Supervision is exercised over the work of police officers through inspections and the assignment of duties. Supervision may also be exercised over clerical or other staff. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

- Supervises the activities of police officers on an assigned shift, or on all shifts if highest ranking officer in department;
- Patrols a specific district or beat in a radio cruising car, on foot, or on a motorcycle;
- Checks police officers in the performance of duties and makes suggestions for better execution of work;
- Takes charge of and/or participates in traffic detail;
- Reviews the daily report submitted by police officers;
- Acts as a detective when assigned;
- Reports any breach of duty or inefficiency;
- Books prisoners, informs them of constitutional rights and sees that correct charges are placed;
- Watches for and makes investigations of wanted and missing persons, stolen cars and property;
- May supervise and participate in details to maintain order at public gatherings;
- Takes, files and classifies fingerprints and photographs;
- Operates radar and communication equipment;
- Makes daily reports of activities.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

- Good knowledge of modern principles and practices of police work;
- Good knowledge of laws and ordinances governing local police work;
- Good knowledge of the geography of the area;
- Ability to instruct and direct subordinates in police work;
- Skill in the use of firearms;
- Ability to be courteous and firm with the general public;
- Initiative and resourcefulness;
- Good judgment in emergencies;
- The employee must possess physical strength and agility;
- The employee's physical and mental condition shall be commensurate with the demands of the position.

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**Complete Scope of the examination and Expanded subtest descriptions:**

1. Law enforcement methods and practices

These questions test for knowledge of accepted police methods and practices and/or their application to situations in the police field. The questions are a sampling of the various knowledge that police personnel may be required to possess in the course of their day-to-day work-related activities.

2. New York State Laws

These questions test for knowledge of the laws in effect on January 1, 2017 that law enforcement personnel may encounter in the course of their day-to-day work-related activities. The questions are a sampling of job-related sections of the Penal Law, Criminal Procedure Law; Vehicle and Traffic Law, Family Court Act and other laws relevant to law enforcement in New York State.

### 3. 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.

### 4. Understanding and interpreting written material

These questions test how well you comprehend written material. You will be provided with brief reading selections and will be asked questions about the selections. All the information required to answer the questions will be presented in the selections; you will not be required to have any special knowledge relating to the subject areas of the selections.

### 5. Preparing written material in a police setting

These questions test for the ability to prepare the types of reports that police personnel write. Some questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately. They consist of restatements of information given in note form. You must choose the best version from each set of four choices. Other questions test for the ability to organize paragraphs. They consist of paragraphs with their sentences out of order. For each of the paragraphs you must choose, from four suggestions, the best order of the sentences.

### P. E. R. C. Statement

The final rating key for this examination will be established by the State Civil Service Commission prior to the testing date, upon recommendation of a committee of police experts who will review all the questions for appropriateness and accuracy. There will be no review of the questions by candidates. The committee was selected with the assistance and endorsement of the Police Conference of New York, Inc., the New York State Association of PBAs, Inc., and the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

A Guide for the Written Test for Police Supervisors/Investigators is available at the New York State

website: [www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm](http://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm) . Candidates not having access to a computer or the internet may request copy of the test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found elsewhere on this announcement.

### **SENIORITY:**

One point will be added to each passing score for every five years of permanent classified service according to the following schedule:

Less than one 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

etc. . .

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Falsification of any part of the "Application for Employment" will result in disqualification.

Accepted candidates will be notified when and where to appear for the examination. If you do not receive your notice to appear at least three days before the date of the written examination, call Tompkins County Department of Human Resources at 274-5526. If an application is disapproved, due notice will be sent. This department does not make formal acknowledgment of the receipt of an application or take responsibility for non-delivery or postal delay.

Applicants must answer every question on the application form and make sure that the application is complete in all respects. Incomplete applications will be disapproved.

**ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL, VETERANS OR DISABLED VETERANS** desiring to claim additional credit will request the Veterans Credits application form, at any time between the date of application for examination(s) and the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible list. You must meet the requirements set by NYS for these credits and they may be used only once. **YOU MAY NOT CLAIM ADDITIONAL CREDITS AFTER THE ELIGIBLE LIST HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. IT IS THE CANDIDATE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO REQUEST THE VETERANS CREDIT APPLICATION FORMS AND TO SUBMIT THESE FORMS AND ANY SUPPORTING PAPERWORK BEFORE THE ELIGIBLE LIST IS ESTABLISHED.**

Tompkins County's written examinations are prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations, which deal with the rating and review of the examinations apply.

The duration of the eligible lists may be fixed for a minimum of one and a maximum of four years and may be extended beyond four years if there has been a restriction against the filling of vacancies in that title.

The candidates must complete a separate "Application for Employment" for each open-competitive and/or promotional examination that the candidate is eligible to take.

All experience required meeting the acceptable training and experience is full-time experience. (Part-time experience will be credited on a prorated basis).

Appointment from an eligible list must be made from the top three candidates willing to accept the appointment.

Tompkins County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. As part of its efforts to provide employment opportunities to the physically handicapped, Tompkins County Civil Service has adopted a rule permitting the employment of qualified physically handicapped persons without competitive examination (pursuant to Section 55 of Civil Service Law). If you meet the minimum qualifications for this position and wish to know more about this rule, please contact the Tompkins County Department of Human Resources Office.

Unless otherwise notified, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, and 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.

**CROSS-FILING - APPLYING FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS WHEN EXAMINATIONS ARE SCHEDULED ON THE SAME DATE:** When applying for examinations across multiple jurisdictions - all of which are scheduled on the same day - you must submit a Tompkins County Cross-Filing Form. This form must be submitted no later than 4:30 PM on the final filing date of the examination. On this form, list each examination that you are taking and then tell us where you would like to sit. The purpose is to ensure that all of the test materials for the various examinations that you are taking will be available in one location. If you do not provide the cross-filing form to us by the final filing date, we cannot ensure that we can accommodate your desire to cross-file. If any of the examinations are State level examinations, you must sit at the State test center. You will still need to complete the Tompkins County cross-filing form. If sitting at the State site, the State will notify you of when and where to report for your examination(s) and you should bring all admittance letters to the State site. If you are not taking a State examination, bring all admittance letters to your chosen testing site. If you have any question please call Tompkins County Department of Human Resources Department (607) 274-5526. The Cross File form is located at <http://www.tompkins-co.org/personnel/CivilSrvForms/index.html>

**FOR RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION AND HANDICAPPED PERSONS:** If special arrangements for testing are required, please indicate this on your application.

**ALL CANDIDATES FOR EMPLOYMENT FOR POSITIONS IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND BOCES GOVERNED BY TOMPKINS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE MAY HAVE THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL REQUIREMENT. PER CHAPTER 180 OF THE LAWS OF 2000, AND BY REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, TO BE EMPLOYED IN A POSITION DESIGNATED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOCES AS INVOLVING DIRECT CONTACT WITH STUDENTS, A CLEARANCE FOR EMPLOYMENT FROM THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS REQUIRED.**

In conformance with Section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, children of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duties 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 firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duties 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.

**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.

TOMPKINS COUNTY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, 125 EAST COURT STREET, ITHACA, NY 14850