

TOMPKINS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE VACANCY

Inclusion Through Diversity

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**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

TITLE: Recycling Driver

SALARY: \$23.45/hour starting rate, \$24.69/hour hire rate

TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT: Part Time

ISSUE DATE: 12/18/25

THE FINAL DATE TO FILE APPLICATIONS: 01/15/26

DATE THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM POSTING: 01/16/26

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.

Tompkins County Recycling and Materials Management is currently seeking applicants for a Recycling Driver for its Food Scraps Recycling program. This position is an integral component of the department's successful food scraps recycling program, ensuring that food waste is diverted from the landfill for composting and returned to a valuable soil amendment. The incumbent will mainly perform residential curbside food scrap collection, while providing additional support for the department's food scrap recycling program and other department initiatives. Please note that this part-time position has a 20-hour work week, and benefits include, medical, dental, paid time off and paid holidays.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Graduation from high school or possession of a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) **AND** one (1) year of full-time paid (or the equivalent part-time) experience working in the solid waste, recycling, and/or composting environmental operations, facility and grounds maintenance, or motor equipment operations.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

The candidate must possess a valid New York State Driver's License at the time of application and maintain such license for the duration of employment. Failure to maintain the required license may result in termination of employment.

Training will be provided by the Department of Recycling and Materials Management (RMM). Must be 21 years or older to apply.

Tompkins County is committed to Equity and Inclusion. We encourage those with similar values to apply.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

The incumbent works under the general supervision of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Coordinator with leeway for independent judgment when carrying out the details of the job. Work involves responsibility for the safe and efficient operation of various types of vehicles in connection with the collection of materials from RMM programs. This includes, but is not limited to, collection of source-separated food scraps from residential curbside and drop spot locations, County Office Buildings, some apartment complexes, and non-profit organizations, as well as collection of public space recycling locations throughout the county. This position will also serve as an attendant to receive residential food scraps at several drop spot locations and provide information to participants. This position requires regularly scheduled reoccurring weekend hours. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Operates vehicles for the collection and delivery of recyclable material including food scraps;
- Complete all daily required route paperwork as required by supervisor;
- Performs manual labor, such as loading trucks, moving totes, shoveling snow, and performing routine cleaning at drop spot and public space recycling locations;
- Performs a variety of regular recurring operational tasks in connection with collection;
- Drivers are responsible for the safe and economical operation and care of their vehicles;
- Assures preventative maintenance and cleaning for equipment and vehicles;
- Responsible for receiving, tracking, storing and distributing recycling supplies and equipment;
- Assist in the implementation of new food scrap drop spot locations;
- Assists with training of new food scrap drop spot consultants;
- Assists in scheduling drop spot attendants;
- Measures contamination levels at all food scrap drop spots, County buildings and public space recycling locations;
- Performs minor repairs to drop spot sheds as required;
- Assist in maintaining current and new public space recycling locations;
- Assists in the implementation of new recycling and food scraps programs;
- Collects data for tracking and reporting systems;
- Assists staff with illegal dumping cases, including material collection;
- Provides public information about recycling and food scrap composting;
- Must be available to work weekends and flexible hours;
- Good knowledge of the operation of trucks and other similar automotive equipment;
- Ability to understand and follow simple oral and written directions;
- Willingness to work in all weather conditions;
- The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Working knowledge of the principles, practices and regulations related to recycling and composting;
- Knowledge of Federal, State and Local laws and regulations related to recycling and composting;
- Good knowledge of methods and practices for receiving, storing, maintaining and issuing supplies and equipment;
- Excellent oral and communication skills;
- Strong ability to operate a pickup truck, trailer, box van or other vehicles as needed. Does not require a commercial driver's license (CDL);
- Strong ability to work safely;
- Ability to work efficiently;
- Ability to work effectively with the public, contractors, municipalities, consultants and co-workers;
- Ability to work an irregular work week (work week will include Saturday); as well as willingness to work scheduled holidays with commensurate time off;
- Dependability, mental alertness and courtesy is required;
- The employee's physical and mental conditions are commensurate with the demands of this position, either with or without reasonable accommodation;
- Must be able to regularly and repeatedly move, load and unload heavy carts, equipment and materials.

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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