

BROOME COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL  
THIRD FLOOR, COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA  
60 HAWLEY STREET, PO BOX 1766  
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13902  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

## OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR ACCOUNTANT

Exam Number: 62-485

EXAMINATION DATE: January 9, 2010

LAST DATE TO FILE APPLICATION WITH PROCESSING FEE OR WAIVER\*: December 2, 2009

**\*Processing Fee:** Fifteen dollar (**\$15.00**) non-refundable check or money order is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required processing fee must accompany your examination application. **Only checks or money orders payable to the Broome County Commissioner of Finance will be accepted.** Please be sure to include applicant's name and examination number on your check or money order. A check returned for insufficient funds may disqualify your application and result in further action and/or service charges.

If your application is disapproved, the fee will not be refunded. Compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements specified on this announcement and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified. Be specific when completing the application; include all pertinent information including credit hours if applicable. Work experience must be paid unless otherwise specified. Part-time experience will be prorated.

**\*Only applications which are post-marked on or before the last date to file will be accepted. All interdepartmental mail must be received by the close of business on the last date to file. FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

**Admission notices will be mailed to all approved candidates approximately 8 days before the examination. If you do not receive your card by the Tuesday before the examination, please call 778-2185.**

**APPLICATION FEE WAIVER:** A waiver of application fee will be allowed if you are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household. In addition, a waiver of 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. Fee waiver forms are available at the Broome County Department of Personnel, the Department of Social Services or on line at [www.gobroomecounty.com](http://www.gobroomecounty.com).**

MINIMUM SALARY	VACANCIES**	LOCATION OF WORK
\$31,703-\$36,141 (08-09 rate; currently under negotiations)	1	BOCES
Varies	Anticipated	Various Towns, Villages and School Districts

**Eligible list:** The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used to fill vacancies, as they occur, in all Broome County departments, towns, villages, school districts, and special districts under the jurisdiction of the Broome County Personnel Officer.

\*\*Vacancies – Positions may be filled temporarily at this time; however, the resulting eligible list must be used to permanently fill the position.

**Residency:** There are no residency requirements for this examination. However, preference in appointment may be given to successful candidates who, at the time of examination, are legal residents of the locality in which appointment is to be made. For appointment within Broome County departments, preference **will** be given to candidates who are residents of Broome County at the time of examination except as stated in Resolution 07-84.

**DUTIES:** This position involves responsibility for maintaining the accounting records of a governmental agency according to established accounting procedures and practices. The incumbent oversees financial transactions, installation and maintenance of accounting systems, payroll procedures and preparation of reports and fiscal analyses. Work is performed under general direction of a higher level employee with leeway allowed for the exercise of independent judgment in planning and carrying out assignments. Supervision may be exercised over clerical support staff. Does related work as required.

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in accounting, business or public administration, economics or related field including or supplemented by 15 semester credit hours in accounting; OR
- B) Completion of a minimum of 60 semester credit hours at a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university including or supplemented by 15 semester credit hours in accounting and two years of accounting or auditing experience involving the maintenance of governmental agency books, involving appropriation accounting and the preparation of budget and financial reports; OR
- C) An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of A) and B) above.

**NOTE: Accounting** – professional level position which involves the art of recording, classifying, verifying and reporting financial data and presenting an analysis or interpretation of their significance. Its function is to provide quantitative information, primarily financial in nature, about economic entities that

economic entities that is intended to be useful in making economic decisions and in making reasoned choices among alternate courses of action. It includes the preparation of financial statements and schedules.

**Auditing** – the art of confirming financial statements for the purpose of expressing an opinion that these statements fairly represent the financial condition of the enterprise and its operating results, and further that these statements are presented to conform with generally accepted accounting standards in a consistent manner. Auditing is the art of documenting the veracity of financial data; it includes a critical review of internal controls, a systemic examination and verification of financial records and documents, and an appraisal of fiscal procedures and operations.

**Anticipated eligibility:** If you expect to complete the educational requirement by **August 31, 2010**, you can be admitted to this examination. If successful on the examination, you will not be certified for appointment until you have submitted proof of completion of the requirements to the Broome County Department of Personnel. Proof must be submitted by **October 31, 2010**; failure to do so will result in removal of your name from the eligible list. You must meet the experience requirement, if any, before the examination date.

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

**1. General accounting**

This is a test of general accounting principles and practices used in the preparation of financial statements, the recording and reporting of financial transactions, and the use of this information in financial decision-making. Candidates will be required to demonstrate a current knowledge of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Knowledge of computerized information systems as it applies to accounting may be required.

**2. General auditing**

This is a test of the principles and procedures involved in substantiating or examining transactions and financial statements. It will require a knowledge of auditing techniques and Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS). Knowledge of the use of computerized accounting or auditing systems as it pertains to auditing may be required. Specific questions relating to internal controls applicable to manual and computerized accounting systems may be included.

**3. 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.

**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.

Candidates must bring their picture ID and two sharpened #2 pencils to the examination. **USE OF CALCULATOR IS RECOMMENDED FOR THIS EXAMINATION.** Devices with typewriter keyboards, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries, or any similar devices are prohibited.

**Rating:** This written examination is being prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service, in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of examinations will apply to this written test.

**Applying for civil service examinations in multiple jurisdictions when examinations are scheduled on same date:**

If you have applied for any other civil service examinations 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 in the Albany area or toll free at 1-877-697-5627 [press 2, then press 1], no later than two weeks before the test date.

If you have applied for another local government examination with another local civil service agency, call or write to each civil service agency to make arrangements. You must make your request for these arrangements no later than two weeks before the date of the examinations. You must notify all local government civil service agencies with whom you have filed an application of the test site at which you wish to take your examination.

**Religious accommodation/handicapped candidates/military personnel:** If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.

**Military Personnel:** 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 make-up examination. Requests must be received no later than 60 days after leaving active service in most cases. Please contact the Broome County Department of Personnel for more information.

**Special Requirement for Appointment in School Districts and BOCES:**

Per 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.

**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.

**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 the Department of Personnel 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."

**General Information/Instructions:** A copy of the general instructions, announcement and applications may be obtained upon request to the Broome County Department of Personnel or from our website at [www.gbroomecounty.com](http://www.gbroomecounty.com).