

COLUMBIA COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
401 STATE ST., HUDSON, NEW YORK 12534
Phone: 518-828-6622
www.columbiacountyny.com

Please Post Conspicuously



Issue Date: 12/12/11
County #2749

Columbia County Civil Service Commission
announces an open-competitive examination for:

INDEX CLERK #68805

Date of Examination: March 17, 2012

Last Filing Date: February 11, 2012

Filing Fee: Fee for this examination is \$15.00
PERSONAL CHECKS ARE NO
LONGER ACCEPTED
(See reverse side for instructions)

Residency: A candidate must be a resident of
Columbia County for (4) four months prior to the date of the
examination.

Vacancy: The eligible list established from this
examination will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in the
Columbia County Clerk's Office ONLY.

Salary: 32,837.00* \$27,911.00-

Salary subject to wage increase in 2012 per CPI with a **minimum increase of 2.50% and a maximum increase of 2.75%*

Duties of the position: The work involves responsibility for indexing various documents which relates to the ownership of real property filed with the County Clerk. An employee in this position would be expected to operate electronic information systems; perform duties within the scope of specific laws, office rules, and procedures relating to the indexing and filing of legal documents and would possess a good knowledge of the laws governing the indexing and recording of deeds, mortgages, wills and other legal documents and the rules relating to the indexing; correct terminology used and the type of documents filed in the County Clerk's office; The work is performed under the general supervision of the County Clerk and may involve supervision of a few subordinate clerical employees; Employee would be expected to do related work as required. Typical work activities may be: Works extensively with the public; Prepares alphabetical, geographical or other indexes of deeds, mortgages, liens, court proceedings, actions, wills, decrees and other legal documents presented for filing; Compares index with original documents to assure correctness and completeness; Returns documents to owners after recording, when necessary; Files cards and keeps necessary records; Compiles reports relative to these documents as needed; Operates electronic information systems on a regular basis; May assist in other clerical activities related to the normal operation of the County Clerk's office. good knowledge of the correct

terminology used and the type of documents filed in the County Clerk's office;; ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions; ability to work accurately and rapidly and to follow a prescribed routine on a daily basis; ability to perform all the necessary clerical aspects of the position.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Applications may be obtained from Columbia County Civil Service, 401 State St., Hudson, NY 12534 Phone: 518 828-6622. Applications will be accepted for filing during OFFICE HOURS ONLY Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm or via mail...Applications postmarked on the last filing date will be accepted. Applications received/postmarked after the last filing date will not be accepted.

Note: Sabbath observers/disabled persons/military members: If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.

VETERANS CREDITS: Disabled and non-disabled veterans who establish their eligibility for additional credits and are successful in the exam are entitled to have 10 and 5 points respectively (5 and 2 ½ points of credits in the case of promotional examination), added to their earned scores provided they have not used such credits to obtain permanent appointment or promotion. You will be allowed the option of waiving these credits after the completion of the examination. Effective 1/1/98 the State Constitution was amended to permit a candidate currently in the armed forces to apply for and be conditionally granted veteran's credit in exams. Any candidate who applies for such credit must provide proof of military status to receive the conditional credit. 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 veterans' credit.

"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 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."

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS: Candidates must be a resident of Columbia County at the time of exam and for four months prior to the date of the examination, unless otherwise stated on the front of the announcement. Preference in appointment may be given to Columbia County residents or residents of each civil division. (CS Law Section 23.4) when opened to contiguous counties. It is the responsibility of the candidate to file a Change of Address Notification Form (available @ Civil Service or @ www.columbiacountyny.com and all supporting documentation as necessary. Information provided will be reviewed at a monthly commission meeting. Date of address change on Eligible list will be effective the date of the commission meeting after information has been reviewed. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved.

RATING & REVIEW: Unless the announcement states otherwise, this written examination is being prepared and will be rated by NYS Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the NYS Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with preparation and the rating of exams will apply to this written examination.

TRANSCRIPTS: Whenever college transcripts or diplomas are required, they should be submitted with the application for the examination.

EXAM NOTICES: The Commission does not acknowledge receipt of the application, but all applicants will be notified of the disposition of their application. Approved candidates will be notified at least four days in advance of the place, date and hour of the examination. Every candidate should bring his/her Social Security Number to the exam. Do not interpret a notice to appear for the exam to mean that you have been found to meet fully the announced requirements. Applicants are admitted to the exam on the basis of statements made in the application. These statements may not be reviewed and/or verified until after the exam has been held. At that time those candidates not meeting the requirements will be disqualified. Candidates who are disqualified after taking the exam will not receive a score. If you have not received a notice to appear for the written test three days before the date of the test, you should call 828-6622.

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, cell phone calculators or any similar devices are prohibited.

ELIGIBLE LIST: The lists established as a result of examinations will remain in existence for a minimum of one (1) year maximum of (4) four years. When an Eligible List has been in existence for less than one year and a new list for the same position or group of positions is established, the names of the persons remaining on the old list shall have preference in certification over the new list until such old list is one year old. Changing conditions may make it advisable to certify to future vacancies at higher or lower salaries than announced.

FILING FEES: A filing fee as indicated on the front will be required with your application. Please write the examination no. and your social security no. on your money order, certified or bank check. Please be advised that NO REFUNDS will be made, therefore, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those exams for which you are qualified. **MAKE MONEY ORDERS/BANK OR CERTIFIED CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Columbia Co. Treasurer & mail to Civil Service with your application. Cash is accepted (exact change would be preferred). PERSONAL CHECKS WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED.**

APPLICATION WAIVER FEE: 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 by the close of business on the Application Deadline as listed on the Examination Announcement.** Copies of the Application Fee Waiver and Certification forms are available at the Civil Service Office, 401 State St., Hudson, NY 12534 (518) 828-6622 or on our web site at www.columbiacounty.ny.com.

MULTIPLE EXAMS: If you have applied for any other Civil Service exams (for this date) for employment with NYS or any other local government jurisdiction, you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site no later than two weeks before the test date. If you need an alternate test date, see Alternate Test Date Policy @ www.columbiacounty.ny or call this office at (518) 828-6622 prior to the examination.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A candidate must meet the qualifications on or before the last filing date.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS & QUESTAR III: 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 Questar III 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.

NOTE: Evaluation of foreign post secondary education is required. Please ask for a listing of private/not-for-profit agencies who evaluate foreign credentials. You must obtain an independent evaluation of your education to verify the equivalency of same to the minimum qualifications. This must be presented with your application at time of filing.

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As per civil service law 23.4, preference in appointment may be given to residents of each civil division.

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3/17/12

Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma **and** 18 months of clerical experience.

Series Name: Office Operations

Subjects of examination: A written test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas:

1. Coding/decoding information:

These questions test for the ability to follow a set of coding rules. Some questions will require you to code information by converting certain information into letters or numbers. Other questions will require you to decode information by determining if the information that has already been converted into letters or numbers is correct. Complete directions will be provided; no previous knowledge of or training in any coding system is required.

2. Name and number checking:

These questions test for the ability to distinguish between sets of words, letters, and/or numbers that are almost exactly alike. Material is usually presented in two or three columns, and you will have to determine how the entry in the first column compares with the entry in the second column and possibly the third. You will be instructed to mark your answers according to a designated code provided in the directions.

3. Office record keeping:

These questions test your ability to perform common office record keeping tasks. The test consists of two or more "sets" of questions, each set concerning a different problem. Typical record keeping problems might involve the organization or collation of data from several sources; scheduling; maintaining a record system using running balances; or completion of a table summarizing data using totals, subtotals, averages and percents. You should bring with you a hand-held battery- or solar-powered calculator for use on this test. You will not be permitted to use the calculator function of your cell phone.

4. Public contact principles and practices:

These questions test for the ability to interact with other people, to gather and present information, and to provide assistance, advice, and effective customer service in a courteous and professional manner. Questions will cover such topics as understanding and responding to people with diverse needs, perspectives, personalities, and levels of familiarity with agency operations, as well as acting in a way that both serves the public and reflects well on your agency.

5. 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.

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 "How to take a written test" helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available on line at: www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm

Use of calculators is ALLOWED

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