



*Open Competitive
Exam Announcement*

ACCOUNT CLERK-TYPIST – Continuous Recruitment

Revised: July 2010

CAREFULLY read the following:

WRITTEN TEST WILL BE HELD PERIODICALLY. Contact our office for tentative dates.

<u>APPLICATION DEADLINE:</u>	Applications are accepted continuously. <i>Review the information and instructions at the end of this announcement!</i>
<u>APPLICATION FEE:</u>	\$15 must accompany your application for <u>each</u> examination. Check or Money Order should be made payable to the <i>Tioga County Treasurer</i> . Application fees are <u>non-refundable</u> . Applications without fee will not be considered for exam. <i>Please see next page for additional information on application fee.</i>
<u>TIME AND PLACE OF WRITTEN EXAM:</u>	Examinations are administered on a continuous basis. Approved candidates will be notified by admission letter seven to ten days prior to written test when and where to appear for this examination. Exams may be scheduled during weekdays. Be sure to bring the admission letter with you the day of the exam. If you have not received an admission letter 3 days before the date of the exam, call 687-8204.

<u>LOCATION OF WORK</u>	<u>MINIMUM SALARY</u>	<u>VACANCIES</u>
COUNTY DEPARTMENTS	\$22,375 - \$23,075 (CEA GRADE IV)	ANTICIPATED
SCHOOL DISTRICTS	VARIES	ANTICIPATED
MUNICIPALITIES	VARIES	ANTICIPATED

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS: Candidates **ARE NOT** required to be legal residents of Tioga County immediately preceding the date of the written test. Preference **may be** given to residents of the civil division in which the vacancy exists. When preference in certification is given to residents of a municipality pursuant to subdivision 4a of Section 23 of the Civil Service Law, an eligible must have been, at the time of certification and for at least four months prior thereto, a resident of such municipality in order to be included in a certification as a resident of such municipality.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EITHER

(a) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma including, or supplemented by, the successful completion of a course in maintaining financial accounts AND typing or data entry; **OR**

(b) Two years of full-time paid experience or its part-time equivalent in financial record keeping and typing or data entry; **OR**

(c) An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (a) and (b) above.

Special Requirements for Appointment in School Districts and BOCES: *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.*

You MUST specifically state how you meet these requirements when completing the application. Unless otherwise noted, qualifications must be met at time of application.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

The work involves responsibility for performing clerical duties, operating a personal computer, mainframe computer and/or typewriter, utilizing standardized account keeping practices in maintaining and reviewing financial accounts and records. Employees in this class are given detailed instructions for new or difficult assignments. General supervision is received from a higher ranking accounting or administrative employee. Excepting the ability to maintain financial records, this class is equivalent to that of Typist. Does related work as required.

ELIGIBLE LISTS:

Successful candidates will have their names placed on the eligible list in order of their final score. Candidate scores from different testing dates will be interfiled on the eligible list. A candidate's eligibility for appointment begins on the date their name is added to the eligible list and they will remain eligible for appointment for one (1) year from the date, unless their eligibility is extended by the Personnel Officer as provided for in Civil Service Law. Appointments from an eligible list must be made from the three highest standing candidates willing to accept appointment.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES FOR THIS POSITION ARE AVAILABLE TO REVIEW UPON REQUEST

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

- 1. Clerical Operations with Letters and Numbers:** These questions test your skills and abilities in clerical operations involving alphabetizing, comparing, checking and counting. The questions require you to follow the specific directions given for each question which may involve alphabetizing, comparing, checking and counting given groups of letters and/or numbers.
- 2. Arithmetic Computation without Calculators:** These questions test your ability to do addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Questions may also involve fractions, decimals, averages, and percents. You may NOT use a calculator or any other type of calculating device to answer these questions or any other questions in the written test.
- 3. Arithmetic Reasoning:** These questions test your ability to solve an arithmetic problem presented in sentence or short paragraph form. You must read the problem, understand the situation presented, decide what must be done to solve it, and apply the appropriate arithmetic operation(s) in the appropriate order in order to determine the correct solution. Knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division is necessary. Questions may also involve the use of percents, decimals, and fractions.

TEST GUIDES AND RESOURCE BOOKLETS - Are not offered for every examination. Access the following site to research all available study guides: <http://www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm>

QUALIFYING TYPING AND DATA BASE PERFORMANCE TESTS – When possible, the performance tests will be held PRIOR to the written test. Should you fail the first typing and/or data base test, a second test will be offered to you either immediately or within 10 days. You must pass the performance tests and written test both to be considered for appointment. Listed below is important information regarding the typing performance test:

- The performance test is a test in keying speed and accuracy. It utilizes a standard keyboard and is given on a personal computer. The computer program requires no prior knowledge of the software. The instructions for taking this test are presented as part of the computer program.
- The test is five minutes long and is preceded by a three-minute practice session. Candidates enter (“key” or “type”) as much of that passage as they can during the time available.
- In order to pass the test, candidates must enter the text at a rate of **35 words per minute**, with at least 96% accuracy. For example, if a candidate enters the text at 35 wpm, the maximum allowable number of errors is 7. (Note: A word is defined as five characters. The rating formula divides the total number of characters entered by five to determine the number of words entered.)

The data base performance test will be a qualifying (pass/fail) test. Listed below is important information regarding the data base performance test:

- The test will be a performance test that will require you to use a conventional personal computer (PC) with a standard keyboard to perform various clerical tasks using pre-established databases. The databases will be of a generic variety, you do not need any present knowledge of these databases in order to do well on the test. When you begin the testing program, you will receive graphic on-screen instructions that tell you how to use the databases and how to take the test.
- The test will consist of three parts. In Part One, you will be required to add, delete and update various records in a database. In Part Two, you will be required to look up records in a database and write down selected information from the records onto printed forms. In Part Three, the computer will present questions about the information that you wrote down in Part Two. You will enter your answers directly into the PC. Your rating on this test will be based on the amount of material you complete and on the accuracy of your work.

TYPING AND DATA BASE PERFORMANCE TEST WAIVER - If a candidate is employed by Tioga County, or a public agency or jurisdiction served by Tioga County and presently holds permanent or contingent permanent competitive status in a title for which passing of a performance test in typing at **35 wpm** or higher or receiving a passing score on the data base test was required for appointment, the performance test(s) may be waived.

The Tioga County Personnel & Civil Service Office will allow a waiver of the performance typing test and/or data base performance test should a candidate provide valid documentation that they have tested and passed a typing performance test at the announced rate of speed or higher and/or data base performance test in Tioga County or any other Civil Service Agency in New York State within the past one (1) year from the date of the written exam.

WAITING PERIOD AFTER FAILING THE TYPING TEST BEFORE A NEW APPLICATION CAN BE SUBMITTED – If a candidate is unsuccessful on a typing performance test and/or data base performance test, the written test will not be administered and the candidate must wait a minimum of six (6) months before re-applying for the same examination. However, if after the unsuccessful typing performance test and/or data base performance test, the candidate qualifies on another performance test and is eligible for a typing and/or data base waiver, the candidate may use the waiver and re-apply for this written test without waiting the required six months.

RETESTING – Once you have participated in the written examination, you will not be permitted to participate in the same written examination for a period of at least six (6) months. **Under no circumstances will a candidate be allowed to take more than four (4) typing and/or data base tests within a six (6) month period.**

TERMINATION OF PROGRAM – Tioga County reserves the right to terminate this continuous recruitment program and re-establish the periodic type of examination.

USE OF CALCULATORS: The use of a calculator is **NOT** allowed for this exam.

APPLICATION FEE: A fee of \$15.00 is required for each separately named or numbered examination for which you apply.

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER payable to **TIOGA COUNTY TREASURER** and write the examination name(s) or number(s) on your check or money order. If paying by cash, please bring your payment(s) directly to the Tioga County Office of Personnel & Civil Service. As no refund will be made, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified. A check returned for insufficient funds may disqualify your application and result in further action and/or service charges.

AN EXCEPTION TO THE APPLICATION FEE requirement will be made for the following:

1. Promotional exams;
2. Provisional Tioga County employees who have held a permanent position prior to provisional appointment in this title;
3. Exam candidates receiving public assistance from a State or local Social Service Agency, and / or who are currently unemployed. Individuals wishing to claim this waiver of fee must request and fully complete the **Application Fee Waiver Form** prior to the filing deadline. All information is subject to later verification and if found to be fraudulent, are grounds for barring appointment.

Applications may be obtained from and submitted to the Tioga County Office of Personnel and Civil Service.

Tioga County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

ADDITIONAL EXAMINATION CREDIT – 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 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.

ALTERNATIVE TEST DATE: When a candidate is aware of a conflict prior to the scheduled test date, the candidate should notify the Personnel and Civil Service Office in writing as soon as possible. For emergency situations that occur on the scheduled written test date, the candidate must notify the Personnel Office no later than three (3) days following the Saturday on which the written test was held. This request may be made by a member of the immediate family or household in the event of a death in the immediate family or a serious illness. An expanded Tioga County Personnel and Civil Service policy on Alternate Test Dates is available at the Personnel Office.

****APPLYING FOR MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY (Cross-Filing):** You must notify all agencies with which you have filed an application of the test site at which you wish to take your examination(s). 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 (877) 697-5627 (press 2, then press 1), **no later than two weeks prior to the test date.**

If you have applied for examinations in more than one Local government (City or County agencies), you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site. You must make your request for these arrangements **no later than two weeks prior to the test date.**

For Tioga County examinations, the Multiple Exam Notice form must be completed. This form is available in the Tioga County Personnel & Civil Service Office, online at www.tiogacountyny.com, or by calling (607) 687-8207. **If you do not submit your Multiple Exam Notice form two weeks prior to the test date, you may NOT be allowed to sit at the test site you have selected. If you appear at a test site but did not designate this location as your test site on your form, you may NOT be allowed to take your examination(s) at that location.**

APPOINTMENT from an eligible list must be made from the top three candidates willing to accept the appointment. The resulting eligible list will be used to fill current or future appropriate vacancies within Tioga County's jurisdiction.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION and Additional Screenings: Candidates may be subject to a thorough background investigation. If requested, applicants will be required to authorize access to educational, financial, employment, criminal history, or other records. Depending upon the position sought, conviction of a felony, misdemeanor or other offense may bar appointment. At the discretion of the appointing authority, candidates may be subject to additional screenings as a term and condition of employment, including but not limited to: fingerprinting, psychological, or drug testing. Applicants may be required to submit the necessary fees for the fingerprint processing. **Per Tioga County Civil Service Rule IX (3):** A record of disrespect for the requirements and processes of law may be grounds for disqualification for examination or, after examination, for certification and appointment.

DISQUALIFICATION: Any applicant may be disqualified for examination, or after examination, for certification and appointment that is not in compliance with the standards and requirements set forth in Section 50 (4) of the Civil Service Law.

ELIGIBLE LIST: In accordance with Section 61 (1) of the Civil Service Law, and as determined by the Tioga County Office of Personnel & Civil Service, the eligible list resulting from this examination **may** be used to fill vacancies in similar related titles.

EVALUATION OF FOREIGN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION: If your degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States or its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A listing of acceptable companies which provide this service may be obtained from the following: www.cs.state.ny.us/announ/mainpages/degrees or by contacting the Tioga County Personnel Office. You will be responsible for the required evaluation fee.

EXAM HOLDINGS: In the instance where both a *promotional* and an *open-competitive examination* are held for the same title, a mandated *promotional list will be used first* to fill any positions. If you meet both the *promotional* and *open-competitive minimum qualifications*, you must file a separate application and pay any required fee(s) for each exam in order to be considered.

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

FALSIFICATION of any part of the “Application for Employment” will result in disqualification.

FEES: Candidates must submit a separate application fee or Application Fee Waiver form for each open-competitive examination that the candidate is applying to take.

FORMAT: The test may be in written form or it may be administered on a personal computer (PC). The type of test will be stated on the admission notice.

FORMS: Civil Service Applications, Fee Waivers and Cross-File Notification Forms may be obtained from, and must be filed with the **Tioga County Office of Personnel & Civil Service, County Office Building, 56 Main St., Owego, NY 13827**. Request applications by mail, in person or from internet. www.tiogacountyny.com

NOTIFICATION: If an application is disapproved, 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*. If the candidate does not receive either a disapproval letter or an admission notice mailed to the address listed on his/her application **3 days before** the date of the exam, call 687-8204.

RATING: This written and/or training and experience 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 and/or training and experience examination.

RESPONSIBILITY: You are responsible for completing all sections of the official application. *Ambiguity and vagueness will NOT be resolved in your favor*.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: Religious Accommodation - Handicapped Persons - Military Personnel - If special arrangements for testing are required, please contact the Tioga County Office of Personnel & Civil Service.

VETERANS OR DISABLED VETERANS desiring to claim additional credit must request and file an Application for Veterans' Credit at any time between the date of application for examination(s) and the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible list. These credits may only be used once. Effective January 1, 1998, the State Constitution was amended *to permit a candidate currently in the armed forces to apply for and be conditionally granted veterans' credit in examination*. *You may not claim veterans' or disabled veterans' credits after the Eligible List has been established*. It is the candidate's responsibility to request and submit an Application for Veterans' Credit before the Eligible List is established. Veterans' credits will only be added to passing examination scores.