

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY

ISSUE DATE 4/9/2024

GREENE COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE

411 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Room 340, Catskill, NY 12414
518-719-3253 --- www.greenegov.com

Announces an
OPEN-COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR
EXAM #86634 – PROBATION OFFICER

REFER TO GENERAL INFORMATION ON PAGE 3 BEFORE COMPLETING APPLICATION

LAST FILE DATE: MAY 9, 2024

EXAMINATION DATE: JUNE 15, 2024

(Postmarked on or before 5/9/2024, or hand delivered to Gr. Co. Civil Service Office no later than 4:30 p.m. on that day.)

PROBATION OFFICER: Administration of this exam does not imply there is a vacancy. Currently, there are **NO** vacancies in the **Greene County Probation Department**. The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used to fill future vacancies as they may occur within this department.

SALARY: \$29.66 PER HOUR

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS: Candidates must be legal residents of Albany, Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, or Ulster Counties for **at least one (1) month immediately preceding the date of the examination**. Preference in appointment may be given to Greene County Residents. (C.S. Law #23, Par 4, Sub Par A)

NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE A \$15.00 filing fee must be submitted with your application in the form of a check or money order. Credit cards can be accepted when filing applications in **person only**. Please be advised the service fee is 2.49% or a flat fee of \$1.50, whichever is greater, for each credit card transaction.

CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (By the date of the examination):

- A. Satisfactory completion of a Probation Officer 1 traineeship;
- OR**
- B. Possession of a graduate degree in social work, social sciences, education, administration, law, criminal justice, or a related field;
- OR**
- C. Possession of a Bachelor's degree or higher with at least thirty (30) credit hours in the social or behavioral sciences and two (2) years of experience in counseling, law enforcement, juvenile or criminal justice, education, or casework in a probation, law enforcement, juvenile or criminal justice, corrections, community corrections, parole, social services, mental health, social work or other public or private human services agency.

Note: Your degree must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/US Secretary of Education. If your degree was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies that provide this service can be found on the Internet at <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. You must pay the required evaluation fee.

Note: Coursework at the graduate degree level in social work, social sciences, education, administration, law, criminal justice, or a related field may be substituted for work experience for a maximum of one (1) year of experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a valid New York State driver's license is required at the time of appointment and must be maintained throughout employment.

Note:

Counseling Experience involves interviewing individuals and/or families, discussing and evaluating their problems (e.g. drug and alcohol abuse, family conflicts, disabilities), and developing and carrying out plans to resolve problems. Those who perform counseling duties work directly with individuals and/or families on an ongoing basis in order to assist them and monitor and evaluate their progress.

Law Enforcement Experience involves providing for public safety by maintaining order, responding to emergencies, protecting people and property, enforcing motor vehicle and criminal laws, and promoting good community relations as a member of a regional state park police or a police force, police department or other organization of a county, city, town, village, housing authority, transit authority or police district.

Education Experience involves teaching a curriculum to students or supervising/administering such a curriculum and those teaching it or experience as a guidance counselor, school or educational counselor, or instructional coordinator/curriculum coordinator in a criminal justice or juvenile justice setting.

Casework Experience involves activities directed toward enhancing a client's ability to cope with and solve problems, and the referral of clients to supporting resources and services. Functions include client assessment, problem identification, development, monitoring and revision of a service plan, motivational support, counseling, crisis intervention, referral to social and support services, and coordination of services.

Note: In addition to standardized Probation-specific training, the New York State Municipal Police Training Council requirements for Peace Officers mandate the completion of 162 hours of specialized training, including 40 hours of defensive tactics training. Therefore, candidates must be in good physical condition, able to engage in strenuous physical activity, and willing to travel to wherever the training is being held. Individuals whose duties and responsibilities include the use of a firearm, or other weapons must also complete training pursuant to Criminal Procedure Law Section 2.30(3).

Note: The class specifications including the minimum qualifications for positions in Probation Departments are established by rules and regulations of the Division of Criminal Justice Services. These class specifications are found in Title 9 NYCRR Part 347, Appendix H-10, Standard Specifications for Professional Probation Positions.

Note: This position is allocated to the competitive class pursuant to Executive Law Section 257(1).

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Gathers, verifies, reviews, and analyzes social, medical, mental health, substance abuse, sex offender, legal, and other documentation and interviews defendants/respondents, victims, law enforcement personnel, and other case-related individuals to conduct pre-plea/pre-sentence/pre-dispositional investigations; Prepares reports and/or testifies in court regarding persons awaiting disposition of the courts in regard to the seriousness of the crime committed, the individual's circumstances and risk to self and society, and the legally permissible dispositional options and makes a recommendation for or against detention, residential placement, or incarceration including, when appropriate, a recommendation regarding the length and conditions of probation which may include community service or other services; Conducts risk and need assessments and evaluates results for pre-trial, investigation, and supervision purposes; Prepares case/supervision plans and interprets conditions of probation to probationers; Meets with probationers, family members, school officials, service providers, and others having contact with probationers to help ensure probationers are meeting terms and conditions of probation including school attendance and participation in treatment programs; Performs risk reduction by providing direction and support to help probationers change factors that promote and maintain criminal or delinquent behavior including coaching probationers to select new patterns of thinking, feeling, and behaving and to develop new attitudes and skills which help sustain a constructive and law-abiding relationship with the broader community and reduce the likelihood of becoming re-involved in criminal or delinquent behavior; Prepares progress reports on probationers and periodically reviews case histories to determine the degree of adjustment; Prepares violation reports and testifies at violation hearings; Prepares a final report once a case is closed; Meets with or otherwise communicates with his or her supervisor and peers to provide information related to work performed; Develops and maintains relationships with other social and law enforcement agencies and cooperates with them in matters of mutual interest to assist probationers with life adjustments; Develops specific work goals and plans to prioritize, organize, and accomplish the work performed; Attends training and keeps abreast of professional developments and current technology to assist in the monitoring of probationers; May collect financial obligations from and issue receipts to offenders; May perform urine drug/alcohol screenings and collect DNA samples from probationers; May arrange for medical, mental health, substance abuse treatment, or other services according to individual probationer's needs or court orders; May execute arrest warrants, conduct warrantless searches, and/or make warrantless arrests; May use a firearm in performing duties and exercising authority pursuant to departmental policy.

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

- 1. Advising and interacting with others:** These questions test for the ability to interact with other people in order to gather and present information and to provide assistance and advice in a courteous and professional manner.
- 2. Preparing written material:** These questions test for the ability to write the kinds of reports and correspondence required in criminal justice settings such as probation and parole. Some questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately. Others test for the ability to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly.
- 3. Evaluating conclusions in light of known facts:** These questions will consist of a set of facts and a conclusion. You must decide if the conclusion is proved by the facts, disproved by the facts or if the facts are not sufficient to prove or disprove the conclusion. The questions will not be specific to a particular field.
- 4. Applying written information:** These questions evaluate a candidate's ability to read, interpret and apply rules, regulations, directives, written narratives and other related material. You will be required to read a set of information and to appropriately apply the information to situations in various settings. All information needed to answer the questions is contained in the rules, regulations, etc. which are cited.

TEST GUIDE:

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 'General Guide to Written Tests' helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available on line at: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>.

GENERAL INFORMATION --- GREENE COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER -- PAGE 3
APPLICATIONS AND FORMS MAY BE OBTAIN FROM THE OFFICE OR AT www.greenegov.com

1. APPLICATIONS: Mail to: Greene County Civil Service Commission, 411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414. Applications accepted up to the last filing date indicated on announcement. This department does not make formal acknowledgment of the receipt of an application, or take responsibility for non-delivery of mail or postal delays. The Commissioners reserve the right to reject or accept applications after the advertised filing period. Read and compare your qualifications carefully with the minimum qualifications as outlined. Only apply for those exams for which you are qualified. Resumes are not accepted as a substitution in indicating work experience on your application, but are accepted as an addition to your application. All experience is considered as paid work experience, **unless** specified under the minimum qualifications; volunteer experience, unpaid internship experience (if paid, verification must be provided) and education will not be accepted and/or substituted for experience in meeting the qualifications. **FAXES & COPIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED--THE ORIGINAL SIGNATURE MUST APPEAR IN INK.** **2. NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE & FEE WAIVER:** A \$15 fee is required for EACH exam **being filed** for with the exception of POLICE OFFICERS, DEPUTY SHERIFFS, OR CORRECTIONS OFFICERS exams which require a \$25 filing fee. The required fee must accompany your application. **Do not send cash! A check or money order payable to Greene County Civil Service Commission is required OR if filing in person, charge card payments are now accepted. Please be advised the service fee is 2.49% or a flat fee of \$1.50, whichever is greater. This will appear as a separate charge on your statement.** Include the exam title and exam number on your check or money order. Fees may be waived per C.S. Law §50.5(b). In order to be eligible for the FEE WAIVER, the completed Fee Waiver form must be submitted with your exam application. A \$10 SERVICE CHARGE will be imposed on any checks returned to the Greene County Treasurer. **3. TIME AND PLACE OF EXAM:** Accepted candidates will be notified by letter approximately two (2) weeks prior to the exam date when and where to appear for the exam. You are required to bring your admission letter and social security number to the exam site. Call this office at (518) 719-3253 if you do not receive a notice up to three (3) days prior to the exam. **4. MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS & CROSS FILER SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY:** If you have applied to take a written exam announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same exam date as this written exam, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than two weeks before the exam date, so they can make arrangements for taking all exams at one exam site. All exams for positions in State government are held at a State exam center. When taking both **State and Local** government exams, you are required to take all exams at the **STATE** exam site. For Greene County call (518) 719-3253, or obtain a cross filer form from our website or write to the above address no later than **two (2) weeks** prior to the date of the exams. **5. SPECIAL EXAM ARRANGEMENTS & RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS:** If you require particular accommodations or special testing arrangements as a person with a disability or alternate test date candidate (in accordance with alternate test date policy) clearly indicate this on your application. All such requests must be supported by appropriate documentation. Special arrangements to provide access for disabled persons will be made in compliance with local, state and federal laws and regulations. For religious accommodation, most written exams are held on Saturdays. If you cannot take the exam on the announced exam date due to a conflict with a religious observance or practice, please check the box under #5 "RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION." We will make arrangements for you to take the exam on a different date, usually the following Monday. **6. AGE REQUIREMENT:** Unless otherwise specified in the exam announcement, there are no age restrictions. However, there may be statutory restrictions on your employment if you are under 18 or over 70 years of age. **7. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT:** Unless otherwise specified in the exam announcement, candidates in all open competitive exams must at the time of the exam have been legal residents for at least one (1) month of the political subdivision in which they seek appointment. **8. VETERANS' CREDIT:** 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 promotion exams), 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 exam. 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 TO THIS OFFICE** indicating that the candidate received an honorable discharge or was released under honorable conditions in order to be certified a score including veterans' credit. An appropriate application form may be obtained at the Civil Service Office. **FAILURE TO PROVIDE PROOF PRIOR TO ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ELIGIBLE LIST WILL RESULT IN NO ADDITIONAL CREDIT BEING GRANTED.** **9. ADDITIONAL SERVICE CREDIT FOR CHILDREN OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY:** In conformance with Section 85-a of the C.S. 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 exam for original appointment in the same municipality in which his or her parent has served. If you are qualified to participate in this exam 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 exam. 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. **10. TRANSCRIPTS & COLLEGE DEGREES:** Whenever college transcripts or diplomas are requested, they should be submitted with the application for the exam or as soon as possible thereafter before the exam. Degrees must be awarded by a regionally accredited college or university or one recognized by NYS Education Dept. If you degree was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States or its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. Please contact Civil Service for additional instructions. **11. RATING & REVIEW:** The passing grade for examination is 70. Unless the announcement states otherwise, this exam is being prepared and rated by the NYS Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23.2 of the NYS C.S. Law. The provisions of the NYS C.S. Rules and Regulations dealing with the preparation and rating of written exams will apply to this exam. **12. TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:** Training and Experience will not be a subject of the exam unless specified on the front of the announcement. If a subject of the exam, training and experience may not be rated if all passing candidate are expected to be immediately reachable for appointment. If rated, training and experience will be based on the statements in your application which are subject to verification. **13. ELIGIBLE LIST:** Eligible lists will be established on the basis of passing grades received by the candidates in the competitive portions of the exam. Lists are established for a duration of one year unless further extended. The resulting eligible list will be used to fill appropriate vacancies as they occur. Lists resulting from promotion exams are certified first. **14. SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND BOCES:** Per Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, to be employed in a position designated by a school district or BOCES involving direct contact with students, a clearance for employment from the State Education Department is required. **15. FOR POSITIONS REQUIRING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION & FINGERPRINTING:** 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. Fingerprints to be used in performing the background checks would be collected from applicants pursuant to regulations promulgated by the DCJS, which will perform the State background check. DCJS will also submit the fingerprints to the FBI for the completion of the national background check. Individuals found to have criminal histories that bar their appointment to the position sought would then be disqualified by the municipal civil service agency pursuant to Section 50(4) of the Civil Service Law. As mentioned above, this Chapter applies to applicants or eligibles for original appointment to positions in the classified service. Current employees, transfer candidates, individuals reinstated from preferred lists pursuant to Section 81 of the Civil Service Law and applicants for promotion examinations or current eligibles on promotion eligible lists are specifically exempted from the provisions of this Chapter. This act took effect July 22, 2003. **16. USE OF CALCULATORS:** Unless otherwise notified, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, solar or battery powered calculators. **The calculator function on cell phones & devices with typewriter keyboards, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries or any similar devices are prohibited.** You may not bring reference materials unless notified to do so. **17. WEATHER:** Listen to your local TV & Radio Stations, (WNYT, WRGB, WTEN, WXXA and 98.5 THE CAT, OLDIES 93.5, 1230 WHUC, FLY 92, 810 WGY, 107.7 WGNA) **18. EMERGENCIES (OTHER THAN WEATHER):** If an emergency prevents you from appearing for the exam please notify this office no later than 10:00 AM on the Monday following the test date. (Tuesday, if Monday is a holiday), providing verifiable documentation of the reason.

NOTE: As a condition of employment only within Greene County Depts., candidates receiving a conditional offer of employment must successfully pass a drug screen, failure to meet the above standards may result in disqualification. Also, any other entity or employer making a conditional offer of employment may also impose these same conditions.