

**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY  
A.A./E.E.O. EMPLOYER  
CIVIL SERVICE OPPORTUNITY  
EXAMINATION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

EXAMINATION DATE: May 27, 2023

LAST FILING DATE: April 26, 2023

**Caseworker - # 23-001**

There is currently one (1) vacancy at St. Lawrence County's Department of Social Services. The eligible list resulting from this examination will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in agencies under the jurisdiction of the St. Lawrence County Human Resources Department. The current salary is \$48,403.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Possession of a Bachelor's Degree.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** A current, valid New York State driver's license and accessibility to an automobile for business use will be required.

**NOTE: CANDIDATES WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THIS EXAMINATION IF A QUALIFYING DEGREE IS RECEIVED WITHIN FOUR (4) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION. (SITTING CONDITIONALLY FOR AN EXAMINATION)**

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/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who 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:** Submission of a resume does not relieve you of the responsibility for completing ALL sections of the official application. Your resume is a supplement to the application, not a substitute for it.

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:** Effective November 7, 2018, the St. Lawrence County Personnel Officer has assumed the administration of civil service for the City of Ogdensburg. St. Lawrence County eligible lists will, as appropriate, be certified to fill vacancies in the City of Ogdensburg. Candidates interested in employment with the City of Ogdensburg must now participate in examinations conducted by the St. Lawrence County Human Resources Department.

**APPLICATION FEE:** The St. Lawrence County Human Resources Department will be waiving the application fee of \$10.00 from examination applicants.

**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, please 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. The "Request for Application Fee Waiver and Certification" form is located on the St. Lawrence County web site at: <https://stlawco.org/Departments/HumanResources> or by contacting the Human Resources Department at (315) 379-2210.**

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:** An employee in this class performs a variety of social case work services related to a specific program area of the agency. Work involves investigations, formulation of treatment plans, counseling, referral and other duties connected with case management. Work is performed under supervision of a higher-level caseworker or supervisor and is reviewed through conferences and analysis of records for results obtained. The incumbent does related work as required.

**NOTE:** Candidates who file for Caseworker examinations with more than one civil service agency will be required to use the score received in this examination subject to the following terms and conditions:

- 1) A candidate is permitted to take a Caseworker examination prepared by the NYS Department of Civil Service only **once** during each of the following defined periods: **January 1 – June 30 OR July 1 – December 31**
- 2) A candidate who applies and is approved for more than one Caseworker examination during the same six-month period (January 1 – June 30 or July 1 – December 31) is required to use the score resulting from a single test administration for all examinations held during the same six-month period.
- 3) The candidate **must inform** the civil service agency if he/she has previously taken a Caseworker examination in any other civil service agency and provide the location and date the examination was taken.
- 4) A candidate must pay application fees for each examination requiring such fees.
- 5) A candidate's placement on resultant eligible list(s) and duration of eligibility for appointment will be determined by the civil service agency conducting the examination(s).

**NOTE:** Calculators are **PERMITTED** for this exam.

**SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION:** SEE ATTACHED EXPANDED SCOPE STATEMENT

Applications and application fees must be submitted or postmarked by the last filing date stated above. Normal business hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Late applications and/or application fees will not be accepted. Candidates will be notified approximately two weeks prior to the examination date, as to the time and place of the examination. In order to assure you receive all correspondence from our office, we **must** have your current address on file. Email changes to: [exams@stlawco.org](mailto:exams@stlawco.org) or contact the St. Lawrence County Human Resources Department at the number listed below.

Date Published: December 1, 2022

APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION  
St. Lawrence County Human Resources Department  
48 Court Street, Canton, New York 13617-1169  
(315) 379-2210  
<https://stlawco.org/Departments/HumanResources>  
(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS)

### **SITTING CONDITIONALLY FOR AN EXAMINATION**

Candidates who will receive a qualifying college degree within four (4) months after the date of this examination will be allowed to sit conditionally. The candidates' name will be withheld from certification until proof of the qualifying degree has been received by the Human Resources Department. The candidate will be required to furnish proof that they have received said degree, **no later than four (4) months after the establishment of the Eligible List** resulting from this examination. Upon receipt of said proof within the time frame so stated, the candidate will become eligible for certification.

### **SPECIAL EXAMINATION ARRANGEMENTS**

Special accommodations for handicapped candidates will be made unless such accommodations would impose an undue hardship on the Human Resources Department. Written requests specifying such accommodations should be filed with the examination application in order to allow for the necessary documentation, determination and arrangements.

### **RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION**

Candidates who, because of a religious observance or practice, are unable to compete in an examination scheduled to be held by this office, will be rescheduled. Notification must be made in writing to the Human Resources Department with the examination application. The candidate will be notified by the Human Resources Department of an alternate test date.

### **MILITARY COMMITMENT**

Candidates who are unable to appear on the regularly scheduled examination date due to ordered military duty should contact the Human Resources Department for information regarding their rights to an alternate test date.

### **OTHER ALTERNATE TEST DATES**

Alternate examination dates may be granted for qualifying circumstances. A request for alternate examination date must be submitted to the St. Lawrence County Human Resources Department no later than the close of business on the next business day following the examination date, whenever practicable. Any alternate examination date administration beyond the Saturday following the scheduled Saturday examination date must be reviewed with the New York State Department of Civil Service.

### **MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY (CROSS FILERS)**

If you have applied to take a written test announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same test date as this written test, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than two (2) weeks before the test date, so they can make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center.

### **VETERANS CREDITS**

For purpose of claiming Veterans Credits on a Civil Service examination, an applicant must have served in the armed forces of the United States at any time during the following periods:

Dec. 7, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946

June 27, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955

Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975

June 1, 1983 - Dec. 1, 1987

Oct. 23, 1983 - Nov. 21, 1983

Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 31, 1990

Aug. 2, 1990 - End of Persian Gulf Conflict

Disabled or Non-Disabled Veterans who claim additional credits will receive information as to the filing procedure approximately 2 weeks prior to the date of the examination. (See section 6 of the application for additional information)

### **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 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.

### **WRITTEN EXAMINATION**

This written examination is 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 which deals with the rating of examinations will apply.

### **CONTINUOUS RECRUITMENT EXAMINATIONS**

Names of candidates from a continuous recruitment examination will be inter-filed on the continuing eligible list in rank order regardless of the date on which they took the test. A department/agency/municipality reserves the right to terminate the continuous recruitment program.

### **ELIGIBLE LISTS**

Eligible Lists will be ranked in the order of final rating, and will be established for a minimum of one year to a maximum of four years unless exhausted prior to that date. Established Eligible Lists may be extended by the Personnel Officer not to exceed four years.

### **NOTE TO CANDIDATES**

Unless otherwise notified, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, solar or battery powered calculators. The use of cellular phones, smart watches, Fit Bits, Beepers, Headphones or other communication devices; devices with typewriter keyboards, 'spell-checkers', 'personal digital assistant', 'address books', 'language translators', 'dictionaries' and any similar devices are strictly prohibited. Books or other reference materials are also prohibited.

### **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS, FINGERPRINTS AND FEES**

Fingerprinting is sometimes required at the time of appointment. If so, you may be required to pay the processing fee. 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.

**EXPANDED SCOPE STATEMENT**

*Caseworker*

*Exam Date: 05/27/2023*

*23-001*

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

**1 Establishing and maintaining effective helping relationships in a social casework setting**

These questions test for an understanding of the factors contributing to the development and maintenance of productive client-worker relationships. You will be provided with descriptions of specific client-worker interactions and asked to select the appropriate responses. The questions cover such topics as confidentiality, time management, professional ethics and referral techniques.

**2 Interviewing (Caseworker)**

These questions test for an understanding of the principles and techniques of interviewing and their application to specific client-worker situations. You will be provided with a series of concrete interviewing situations for which you will be required to select an appropriate course of action based on an analysis of the situation, the application of the information provided and the ramifications of various interviewing principles and strategies. You will also be asked questions about the interviewing process and various interviewing techniques.

**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.

A Guide for the Written Test for Caseworker Series is available at the New York State Department of Civil Service web site: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>. Candidates not having access to a computer or the internet may request a copy of this test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found elsewhere on this announcement.

This examination is being prepared and rated in accordance with Section 23(2) of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Law, Rules, and Regulations dealing with the preparation and rating of examinations, as well as establishment and certification of eligible lists for positions in the classified service will apply to this examination.