

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

EXAMINATION DATE: May 6, 2023

LAST FILING DATE: April 19, 2023

**Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee - # 23-003**

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. Salary varies with jurisdiction.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduation from high school, possession of a high school equivalency diploma, or possession of an Individual Education Plan Diploma.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Must possess a valid New York State Motor Vehicle License.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The employee will be advanced to the journey level without further examination upon satisfactory completion of the certificate(s) and/or licenses required by the hiring authority. The hiring authority will establish an acceptable length of time to attain proper grade certificate(s) and/or other licenses at the time of appointment.

A single eligible list will be established as a result of this examination and will be used to fill vacancies as they occur. Candidates who are successful in this examination and who have the proper grade certificate issued by the New York State Department of (*Environmental Conservation or Health*), will be certified for appointment at the Operator level. Other eligibles will be certified at the Trainee level and will be advanced to the journey level without further examination upon satisfactory completion of the certificate requirement.

**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. At that time, 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 collecting an application fee of \$10.00 from examination applicants. The required fee must accompany your application and must be in the form of either a check or money order payable to the St. Lawrence County Treasurer. Write the number of the examination on your check or money order. **DO NOT SEND CASH.** As no refund will be made, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the specified minimum qualifications and file for the examination only if you believe you are clearly qualified. Any application received after the last filing date will be returned along with the application fee. There will be a \$15.00 returned check fee of any returned check.

**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 incumbent in this title undergoes on-the-job training to become qualified as an operator of a water treatment and wastewater treatment plant. Assists in the operation and maintenance of a water treatment, wastewater treatment plant and hydro-electric facility. The incumbent performs related work as required.

**NOTE:** Calculators are **RECOMMENDED** 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: March 16, 2023

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. Devices with typewriter keyboards, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries, or any similar devices are 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**

*Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee*

*Exam Date: 05/06/2023*

*23-003*

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

**1 Mechanical Aptitude**

These questions test your ability to identify and understand how basic mechanical instruments such as motors and gears work.

**2 Safety practices**

These questions test your knowledge of basic safety practices.

**3 Tools and Reading of Scales and Gauges**

These questions test your ability to recognize or identify basic tools and their common uses and to make accurate readings of various types of dials, scales and gauges.

**4 Elementary Chemistry and General Science**

These questions test your knowledge of basic processes and concepts in chemistry and general science.

**5 Understanding and interpreting written material**

These questions test how well you comprehend written material.

**6 Basic Mathematics**

These questions test your ability to use addition, subtraction, multiplication and division to solve basic arithmetic problems that might be encountered in water and wastewater treatment plant operations. Questions may also involve the use of fractions, decimals, averages, and percents.

A Guide to the Written Test for the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee series is available at the New York State Department of Civil Service web site: [www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm](http://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.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.