



COUNTY OF ERIE - DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL
invites applications for the position of:

Code Enforcement and Planning Officer
OPEN #63-186

SALARY: Varies

OPENING DATE: 04/17/14

CLOSING DATE: 05/07/14

DESCRIPTION:

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS: CANDIDATES MUST HAVE BEEN LEGAL RESIDENTS OF ERIE COUNTY FOR AT LEAST ONE MONTH IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE WRITTEN TEST AND MUST BE LEGAL RESIDENTS OF ERIE COUNTY AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT. Preference may be given to successful candidates who have been residents of the municipality in which the appointment is to be made for one month preceding the date of the certification of the eligible list and who are residents of the municipality at the time of appointment. Non-residents may be required to become a resident of the appointing municipality if local law so states.

One vacancy is anticipated in the **Village of Williamsville** (salary \$49,000 annually). The eligible list resulting from this examination will be used to fill this vacancy and other appropriate vacancies which may occur in municipalities or districts under the jurisdiction of Erie County Civil Service while this list is active.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

- A *Code Enforcement And Planning Officer* making inspections of building construction and repair within a municipality and enforcing the provisions of local building and zoning laws and the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code;
- Reviews, checks and passes on plans and specifications submitted with building permit applications for compliance with building code, the zoning ordinance and applicable laws prior to issuing permits;
- Inspects buildings and structures in the process of construction or repair for compliance with approved plans and specifications and all requirements of applicable ordinances and laws, including N.Y. State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code;
- Issues building permits and furnishes the prescribed certificates of occupancy upon application;
- Explains the requirements of the local building code, local zoning ordinances and the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code law and other applicable laws to building contractors and to the general public;
- Provides for removal of illegal or unsafe conditions and secures the necessary safeguards during construction;
- Orders unsafe conditions in existing structures to be removed and arranges for condemnation notices to owners and builders of improper or hazardous structures;
- Inspects existing buildings and structures to insure their conformity with safety standards and elimination of fire hazards;
- May conduct investigation of source, origin, and circumstances of fires and fire prevention code;
- Investigates complaints and assists in prosecuting violations of the building and fire prevention code and zoning ordinances;
- Prepares reports and keeps related records and may supervise a small size staff;
- Reviews planning and environmental aspects of federal and state assisted projects; problems, zoning analyses, and performs related field studies;
- Tabulates land use and other data; analyzes map data and drafts reports;
- Develops graphic presentation material as assigned;
- Conducts field surveys of existing land use, urban renewal conditions, traffic;
- Attends local planning agency meetings to describe planning proposals;
- Performs research investigations including statistical analysis, library research and personal contact with other agencies;
- Develops planning data from interviews with agencies or persons involved in specific projects;
- Assists municipal Board and Planning Commission in establishing and implementing goals and objectives of municipality; special permit review, rezoning applications and SEQR intake committee matters are included.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must meet the following requirements on or before the date of the written test:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered four year college or university with a Bachelor's degree majoring in urban or regional planning, *public administration, environmental studies, political science, sociology, municipal government, economics, geography, architecture or landscape architecture, or a Bachelor's degree including a

minimum of thirty-two semester hours of courses directly related to the above fields; and two years of experience in the building trades, engineering, code enforcement, architecture, building inspection public health inspection, firefighting or fire inspection work; or:

- B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college or university with an Associate's degree in Social Sciences, architectural drawing, landscape architecture or related field and four years of experience in the building trades, engineering, code enforcement, architecture, building inspection, public health inspection, firefighting or fire inspection work; or:
- C. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A) and (B).

SPECIAL TRAINING & CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT: As required under Section 159-A New York State Executive Law:

434.5 Certification of Code Enforcement Personnel

- a) The N.Y. State Fire Administrator shall certify code enforcement personnel as having successfully completed one or more of the training programs set forth in this Part as follows:
 Probationary and non-permanent code enforcement personnel scheduled to perform code enforcement duties an average of more than 20 hours per week shall successfully complete a certified basic training program within 18 months of initial appointment. Code enforcement personnel not appointed for probationary terms but appointed on other than a permanent basis and scheduled to perform code enforcement duties an average of between 10 and 20 hours per week shall successfully complete a certified basic training program within 24 months of initial appointment. Code enforcement personnel not appointed for probationary terms but appointed on other than a permanent basis and scheduled to perform code enforcement duties an average of less than 10 hours per week shall successfully complete a certified basic training program within 36 months of initial appointment. Training may be suspended during periods of non-service, but all periods of service shall be counted toward the fulfillment of the applicable requirement.
- b) Equivalent New York State Fire or Code Enforcement Training courses, federally-sponsored course, courses taught at an accredited college or university or courses taught by a professional society may be substituted, in whole or in part as the case may be, for the specific course requirements contained in this Part. Adequate documentation regarding course content and attendance shall be submitted to the State Fire Administrator as a prerequisite to certification.

Notice to Candidates:
 Transcripts will now be accepted by the Department of Personnel ONLY at time of application.
 All subsequent transcripts must be submitted at time of interview.

NOTES: 1. New York State Public Officers Law requires U.S. Citizenship. 2. *Public Administration pertains to the management of public affairs, particularly executive functions involving the management of governmental or institutional affairs. Such functions include financial, personnel, purchasing and operations management. Human services, social services, health services or engineering is NOT considered as qualifying experience in city, county or regional planning. 3. Verifiable part-time and/or volunteer experience will be pro-rated toward meeting full-time experience requirements. 4. Your degree and/or college credit must have been awarded by a regionally accredited college or university or one recognized by the New York State Education Department as following acceptable educational practices. A grade of "D" or better is necessary for a course to be credited as successfully completed. If your degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. You can write to this Department for a list of acceptable companies providing this service; you must pay the required evaluation fee.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

A medical examination may be required before appointment.

VETERANS: PROOF OF SERVICE MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE LIST IS ESTABLISHED TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL POINTS. (See application for more information.)

**NOTICES TO APPEAR FOR THE EXAMINATION ARE MAILED APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE EXAMINATION DATE
 NO CELL PHONES ARE PERMITTED AT THE EXAM SITE.**

<p>EXAMINATION DATE JUNE 7, 2014</p>	*	<p>APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY May 7, 2014</p>
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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

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

1. **INSPECTION PROCEDURES & PRINCIPLES:** These questions test for knowledge of the appropriate practices and methods to use when inspecting various types of building facilities and projects, including proper adherence to plans and codes, dealing with residents, owners and contractors, and inspection record keeping.
2. **BUILDING CONSTRUCTION & REHABILITATION:** These questions test for knowledge of the various methods and materials used when constructing or renovating various types of buildings and their components.
3. **UNDERSTANDING & INTERPRETING BUILDING PLANS & REQUIREMENTS:** These questions test for the ability to read, analyze and perform computations based on technical drawings and written technical material related to building facilities and projects. All the information needed to answer the questions will be presented in the written material and/or drawings.

4. **BUILDING, HOUSING & ZONING LAWS & CODES:** These questions test for knowledge of, and the ability to apply, provisions of the Building and Residential Codes of New York State (and the portions of other codes applicable to these two codes), and the general concepts of zoning, including related laws and regulations.
5. **UNDERSTANDING & 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.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES: It is **recommended** that candidates use a quiet, hand held, solar or battery powered calculator. Devices with typewriter keyboards, "Spell Checkers", "Personal Digital Assistants", "Address Books", "Language Translators", "Dictionaries", or any similar devices are prohibited. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES WHO ARE ALSO TAKING ANOTHER CIVIL SERVICE EXAM(S) ON THIS DATE (See Below)
(IF YOU ARE TAKING 2 OR MORE ERIE COUNTY EXAMS ON THIS DATE IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO CALL)
INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

APPLICATION FORMS: You may obtain these forms in person at the Erie County Personnel Department, Rath County Office Building, 95 Franklin St., Buffalo. Forms are also available in the libraries and at Town, Village and School District administrative offices.

Mail your application form when completed to the Erie County Department of Personnel, 95 Franklin St., Buffalo, NY 14202.

Candidates who submit incomplete applications and documentation may be disqualified. The Erie County Department of Personnel reserves the right to reject for lateness or to accept applications filed after the advertised filing period.

MILITARY STATUS: Active duty military personnel may file an application for this exam. A special military make-up examination will be conducted for any member of the armed forces of the United States who has duly filed a timely application but who was deprived of the opportunity to compete in the scheduled exam due to active military duty. Special conditions apply to these requests and may be reviewed at the Erie County Department of Personnel.

VETERANS: Disabled and non-disabled veterans as defined in Section 85, New York State Civil Service Law, will have 10 and 5 points, respectively added to their earned scores if successful in the examination. You must claim these credits when you file application but you have an option to waive them any time prior to appointment. If you have already used these credits for a permanent position in NYS, you may not claim them again.

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.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Applicants whose religious beliefs prevent their taking examinations before sundown on Saturday and physically handicapped candidates who require special examination facilities should so inform the Erie County Department of Personnel, by a separately mailed letter at the earliest possible date before the test.

MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY: 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 weeks** before the test date, so they can make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site. ****For this exam, please complete and submit an Erie County EXAMS CROSS-FILER Form with your Erie County exam application to alert Erie County Civil Service about your additional exams being held at other locations on the same day.**** The Cross-Filer Form is found online at: www2.erie.gov/employment/index.php?q=applications or call (716) 858-8484. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center. You will be advised by letter when and where to report for your examinations.

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION: Notice to appear for the test will be conditional as review of application for minimum requirements may not be made until after the written test. Call or write this Department if you have not received your notice 3 days before the date of the test. You may not be admitted to the examination room without official notice.

RATINGS REQUIRED: Tests are rated on a scale of 100 with a passing mark at 70. Unless the announcement states otherwise, you must pass the written test and the oral test, if any. Test instructions may further divide the tests into parts and set minimum standards for each part.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: If a subject of the examination, training and experience may not be rated if all passing candidates are expected to be immediately reachable for appointment. If rated, training and experience will be based on the statements in your application subject to verification. If this examination includes a qualifying written test, candidates admitted to the test will have conditional approval only. Final decision regarding the qualifications of candidates rests with the New York State Department of Civil Service.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION: You may be required to take a medical examination to determine if you are medically and physically capable of performing the duties of the position.

In accordance with State Law, Governor's Executive Order 6, and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended the County of Erie does not discriminate against handicapped persons in access to employment, during employment, or in any of its programs and activities

VERIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates may be investigated or called for an interview to verify information contained on the application. Verifiable part-time and/or volunteer experience may be pro-rated toward meeting full-time experience requirements

ELIGIBLE LIST: The eligible list resulting from an examination may also be used for appointment to the same title or to any other title deemed to be similar and appropriate. Eligible lists are active for a minimum of one year and a maximum of four years from the date established.

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. Applicants may be required to pay a fee for the investigation.

NOTE: Fingerprints are sometimes required at the time of appointment. When they are required, the fee involved must be paid by the appointee.

****IMPORTANT APPLICATION FEE –
 READ CAREFULLY****

A \$20.00 filing fee is required for this exam. The required fee must accompany your application. Send or bring check or money order made payable to Erie County Personnel Department and write the examination number(s) on your check or money order. Do not send or bring cash, as the County cannot be responsible for cash payment. 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.

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. 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. The form is available at the Erie County Personnel Department, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY (Room 604) or can be downloaded from the County's website at www.erie.gov. Click on "County Departments and Agencies", then "Erie County Civil Service".

This examination is prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service, and held in compliance with the New York State Civil Service Law and the rules and regulations of the New York State Department of Civil Service.