

# CITY OF WATERTOWN, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

245 Washington Street, Room 201B

Watertown, New York 13601

[www.watertown-ny.gov](http://www.watertown-ny.gov)

Issued: September 7, 2016

## ANNOUNCES AN OPEN-COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR **SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK TYPIST**

(Double Entry Bookkeeping)

**EXAM # 69-398**

**TO BE HELD:** Saturday, December 10, 2016

**FILING FEE:** \$15.00 **non-refundable** fee. Cash or check or money order payable to City Comptroller accepted. Include examination number on your check. **Credit cards are not accepted.** See general instructions regarding exceptions to the fee requirement. Applicants whose personal checks are returned for insufficient funds will be charged an additional fee.

**LAST FILING DATE:** Applications must be **received** no later than close of business, 5 PM, Wednesday, **November 9, 2016**

**VACANCIES:** The list will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in the City of Watertown

**SALARY:** \$33,470 to \$41,853

**RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT:** There is no residency requirement for this examination. Preference in appointment may be given to successful candidates who are residents of the City of Watertown in accordance with Section 23.4(a) of the New York State Civil Service Law and Rule VII(1) of the Municipal Civil Service Rules for the City of Watertown. To be eligible for appointment, an applicant must be a resident of Jefferson County or of a contiguous county.

**DUTIES OF THE POSITION:** This position is responsible for performing moderately complex office and accounting related tasks for an assigned department or function. Responsibilities may include developing reports from multiple sources, prioritizing assignments, researching more complex questions and requests; and working with external organizations. The incumbent does related work as required. **A complete job description is available from the Civil Service Commission.**

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Either

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university or one accredited by the NYS Board of Regents to grant degrees with an Associate's Degree or higher in Accounting or Business Administration and 1 year of accounting or bookkeeping experience; or
- B. Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and 3 years of accounting or bookkeeping experience.

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

- 1. Fundamentals of account keeping and bookkeeping** - These questions test for a knowledge of basic principles and practices of account keeping and bookkeeping. The questions test for recognizing account keeping and bookkeeping terms, concepts and relationships; recording financial transactions; and solving elementary problems in account keeping and bookkeeping.
- 2. Arithmetic computation with calculator** - These questions test for the ability to use a calculator to do basic computations. Questions will involve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. You may also be asked to calculate averages, to use percents, and to round an answer to the nearest whole number. You should bring with you a hand-held battery- or solar-powered calculator for use on this test. You will not be permitted to use the calculator function of your cell phone.
- 3. Name and number checking** - These questions test for the ability to distinguish between sets of words, letters, and/or numbers that are almost exactly alike. Material is usually presented in two or three columns, and you will have to determine how the entry in the first column compares with the entry in the second column and possibly the third. You will be instructed to mark your answers according to a designated code provided in the directions.
- 4. Office record keeping** - These questions test your ability to perform common office record keeping tasks. The test consists of two or more "sets" of questions, each set concerning a different problem. Typical record keeping problems might involve the organization or collation of data from several sources; scheduling; maintaining a record system using running balances; or completion of a table summarizing data using totals, subtotals, averages and percents. You should bring with you a hand-held battery- or solar-powered calculator for use on this test. You will not be permitted to use the calculator function of your cell phone.

**CALCULATORS:** The use of calculators is **RECOMMENDED**. Candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, solar or battery-operated calculators. Devices with typewriter keyboards such as computers, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries, or any similar devices are prohibited. You will not be permitted to use the calculator function of your cell phone.

A Guide for the Written Test for Higher Level Account Clerical is available at the New York State website: [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 copy of the test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found elsewhere on this announcement.

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

**HOW TO APPLY:** Applications may be obtained from and must be filed at the Watertown Civil Service Commission, Room 201B Municipal Building, 245 Washington Street, Watertown, New York. Applicants must answer every question on the application and make sure it is complete in all respects. Incomplete applications will be disapproved. Falsification of any part of the application will result in disqualification. **Education and work experience must be documented on the application regardless if the candidate has elected to attach a resume.** All statements made by candidates in their applications are subject to verification. Applications **will not be accepted** past the last filing date of the examination.

**APPLICATION FEE:** If your application is disapproved, the fee will not be refunded. You should carefully review the announced minimum qualifications. Please make sure you meet the minimum qualifications before applying to any examination. Applicants whose personal checks are returned for insufficient funds will be charged an additional fee.

**EXCEPTIONS TO FEE REQUIREMENT:** Application fees may be waived for any candidate who is either an unemployed head of household or receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or public assistance in the form of Safety Net (formerly Home Relief) or Family Assistance (formerly Aid to Dependent Children) from a state or local social service agency. Individuals wishing to claim this waiver must complete an Application Fee Waiver form available from the local Civil Service Office. Claims are subject to verification and if not supported by appropriate documentation are grounds for barring appointment.

**VETERANS' CREDIT:** Veterans or disabled veterans who are eligible for additional credit must submit an application for veterans' credit available from the Civil Service Commission. Applications for veterans' credit may be submitted with your application for examination or at any time before the new eligible list is established. Candidates currently serving in the armed forces may apply for conditional veterans' credits in examinations. Candidates who apply for such credit must provide proof of military status. It is the responsibility of the candidate to provide appropriate documentary proof indicating that the service was in time of war, as defined in Section 85 of the New York State Civil Service Law, and that the candidate received an honorable discharge or was released under honorable conditions. No credit may be granted after the new eligible list is established.

**ADDITIONAL CREDITS FOR 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 addition ten (10) 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 the City of Watertown, please inform the Civil Service Commission at the time you submit your application.

**SPECIAL TEST DATE ACCOMMODATIONS/SABATH OBSERVERS/DISABLED CANDIDATES/MILITARY MEMBERS:** Applicants whose religious beliefs or military service prevent their taking examinations on the scheduled date and disabled candidates who require special accommodations to take the test should indicate the need for special arrangements on their application. Candidates who are called to military service after filing an application should send requests for an alternate test date to the Watertown Civil Service Commission as soon as possible before the test date. Please see back of application for further information and instruction.

**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 three 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.

**ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION:** The Watertown Civil Service Commission does not acknowledge receipt of applications but all applicants are notified of the disposition of their application. Approved candidates will be notified at least five days in advance of the examination of the place, date and hour of the examination.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS:** 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 as involving direct contact with students, a clearance for employment from the State Education Department is required. Eligible candidates may be required to pay a fingerprint-processing fee associated with this special requirement.

**MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS:** Candidates may be required to have a medical examination to determine capability of performing the duties of the position.

**RATINGS REQUIRED:** Unless the announcement states otherwise, 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 Laws, 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.

**ELIGIBLE LIST:** The duration of the eligible list may be fixed for a minimum period of one (1) year up to a maximum period of four (4) years. As employment opportunities arise, appointments from the eligible list will be made from the top three candidates willing to accept appointment. A promotional examination for this title will be held at the same time. The eligible list resulting from the promotional exam, if binding, will be used first.

**CONTACT THIS OFFICE AT 315-785-7733 WITH ANY QUESTIONS. BE SURE TO FILE YOUR APPLICATION PROMPTLY.**  
THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS AVAILABE ON THE INTERNET AT: [www.watertown-ny.gov](http://www.watertown-ny.gov)