

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY

**County of Chautauqua in the State of New York Announces:**  
**WASTEWATER/WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR/TRAINEE**  
**Examination Number 1272**  
**Salary: Varies by Location**  
**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Examination To Be Held: Frequently**

**Applications Accepted Up To: Continuously**

Issued on 4/30/2014 by Chautauqua County Department of Human Resources, Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY 14757 (716) 753-4237

Exam announcements and application forms are available on the Internet at [www.co.chautauqua.ny.us](http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us) - Click on "**Employment**"

**APPLICATION FEE:** A fee of **\$15.00** is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your application. Send check or money order payable to the **Director of Finance** and write the examination number and title on your check or money order. **We cannot accept cash.** No refund will be made on approved applications. You are urged to review the examination announcement carefully, to compare your qualifications with the requirements for admission, and to 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 an application fee waiver, complete the appropriate section of the Application and submit it by the Application Deadline as listed on the Examination Announcement.** Applications and additional information may be obtained from the Internet at [www.co.chautauqua.ny.us](http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us) click on "Employment" or by contacting the Chautauqua County Department of Human Resources, Gerace Office Building, Mayville, New York 14757. Phone (716) 753-4237.

**APPLICATION FORM:** **Your application for this test is part of the examination process.** Applications must be completely filled out, with all pertinent information stated. Vagueness or ambiguity will not be interpreted in your favor. We do not refer to other applications on file for additional information. Applications that do not show training and/or experience to meet minimum qualifications may be disapproved. The application must be completed fully even if a resume is attached.

**VACANCIES:** This examination is being held for anticipated vacancies in Towns, Villages, the Cities and Departments and Agencies of Chautauqua County. 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 eligible's will be certified at the Trainee level and will be advanced to the journey level without further examination upon satisfactory completion of the certificate requirements. Term of appointment at the Trainee level is limited to the training period for the plant where the position exists, during which time Trainees will be required to satisfactorily complete the training and experience requirements of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation or Health for a certificate appropriate to the plant.

**DUTIES:** These are important technical positions involving responsibility for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of a water or wastewater treatment plant. General direction is received from the Chief Operator or other higher-level employee but wide leeway is allowed for planning work methods and dealing with emergency conditions. May supervise the work of subordinate employees.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Trainee Level:** Graduation from high school, or possession of a high school equivalency diploma.

**Operator Level:** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma, and possession of an approved certificate as Wastewater or Water Treatment Plant Operator, issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation or Health.

**NO RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT:** Preference in appointment may be given to successful candidates who are legal residents of Chautauqua County, or to legal residents of the City, Town and Villages in which an appointment is to be made.

**IDENTIFICATION (ID) REQUIREMENT:** Examination candidates will need to present a valid photo ID upon arrival at the examination site for purposes of examination security and candidate identification.

**SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION:** Written test will test for knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in such areas as:

- 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.

**NOTICE TO CANDIDATES:** The use of calculators is **RECOMMENDED** for this exam. Devices with typewriter keyboards, 'Spell Checkers', 'Personal Digital Assistants', 'Address Books', 'Language Translators', 'Dictionaries', or any similar devices are prohibited.

**CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONIC/COMMUNICATION DEVICES AT THE TEST SITE:** Do **not** bring cell phones, beepers, headphones, or any electronic or other communication devices to the test room. The presence of such devices in the test room, hallways, restrooms, may result in your disqualification.

**CANDIDATES PLEASE NOTE:** A Study Guide for Taking the Written Test for **Water & Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee Series** is available at [www.co.chautauqua.ny.us](http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us) under Government/Department of Human Resources/Quick Links/Study Guides. To obtain a hard copy of the guide, please call or write to the Chautauqua County Department of Human Resources, Gerace Office Building, Mayville, New York 14757. Phone 753-4237.

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS**

**Continuous Recruitment Examination:** Applications for examination are continuously accepted and are held two or more times throughout the year. When the next exam date has been determined, approved applications received by a deadline date will be included in the next scheduled exam date.

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER:** It is the policy of Chautauqua County to provide for and promote equal opportunity in employment, compensation and other terms and conditions of employment without discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, religion, disability, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, or arrest and/or criminal conviction record unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or other exception. The policy can be obtained at [www.co.chautauqua.ny.us](http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us).

**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. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center. **Cross-file application forms are available on the Internet at [www.co.chautauqua.ny.us](http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us)** or by contacting the Chautauqua County Department of Human Resources, Gerace Office Building, Mayville, New York 14757. Phone (716) 753-4237.

**LEGAL AUTHORIZATION TO WORK IN THE UNITED STATES:** Federal Immigration Law requires employers to verify that all persons hired are legally authorized to work in the United States. If you are hired, you will be asked to swear, under penalty of perjury, that you are legally authorized to work in the U.S., and you will be required to submit proof of that authorization.

**CURRENT/PROSPECTIVE MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS:** New York State Law provides for Military Make-up Tests in cases where candidates cannot attend the scheduled test on the published test date due to active military duty. You must file an application for this examination in accordance with this examination announcement and you must request the special test arrangements, which are available. If you expect to enter military service, you may still compete in this examination and be appointed or reinstated after you return from active duty. Contact our office for details.

**THIS EXAMINATION IS BEING 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 dealing with the rating and review of examinations will apply to this test.

**ALTERNATE TEST DATES:** State and local examination policy does permit alternate test dates for certain compelling reasons. For details or to request an alternate test date, contact the Department of Human Resources.

**LOCATION OF EXAM SITE:** Examinations are held in Mayville unless for reasons beyond our control, we must change the test site.

**VETERAN CANDIDATES:** Veterans or disabled veterans who are eligible for additional credit must submit an application for veteran's credit with their application for examination or at any time between the dates of their application for examination and the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible list. Applications for veteran's credit are available from this office. Veteran's credits can only be added to a passing score on the examination.

Effective January 1, 1998, 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 examinations. 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 indicating that the service was in time of war, as defined in section 85 of Civil Service Law, and that the candidate received an honorable discharge or was released under honorable conditions in order to be certified at a score including veteran's credits.

**SECTION 85-a OF THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW:** Effective 9/17/02, 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.

**ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION:** Notice to appear for the examination will be conditional, as review of applications for minimum requirements may not be made until after the written test. Call the Chautauqua County Human Resources Office if you have not received your notice 3 days before the date of the examination. You may not be admitted to the examination room without official notice.

**RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS AND OTHER SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Most written tests are held on Saturdays. If you cannot take the test on the announced test date due to a conflict with a religious observance or practice, please contact our office so that we can make arrangements for you to take the test on a different date.

Applicants with disabilities who require special arrangements should contact our office by the close of the filing period for the examination.

You may contact us by calling or writing the Chautauqua County Department of Human Resources, Room 144, Gerace office Building, Mayville, New York 14757. Ph. (716) 753-4237.

**RATINGS REQUIRED:** Tests are rated on a scale of 100 with the 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.

**VERIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates may be investigated or called for an interview to determine whether they are qualified for appointment. In addition to meeting specific requirements, candidates must be of good moral character and habits.

**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.

**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.