

Department of Human Resources & Civil Service

Promotional Exam Announcement Please Post Conspicuously

Maggie Brooks County Executive Brayton McK. Connard, SPHR Director

Monroe County Departments

P-70659 Principal Office Account Clerk

Application Fee: None

Examination Date: **December 5, 2015**

Application Deadline: October 13, 2015 – Applications must be submitted online or filed in our office by 5PM or

postmarked by this date

Performance Test: This examination requires a Qualifying Database Clerk Performance Test

Performance Test Date: To be announced

Who May Apply: Qualified employees of a Monroe County Department

Salary: **\$29,564 - \$37,801 annually**

Employment Opportunities: The results of this exam may be used to fill vacancies, which may occur during the

life of the eligible list.

Minimum Qualifications:

Candidates must be permanently employed in the competitive class at a **Monroe County Department** and must have served continuously on a permanent basis for **twelve (12) months** holding the position of **Senior Account Clerk or Senior Office Account Clerk.**

Any person, otherwise meeting the requirements for an examination, who was laid off from an agency for which the examination is being held, and whose name is presently on a preferred list is eligible to compete in the examination. When completing the application, such person should be sure to indicate his/her present employment and/or the title and location of his/her last permanent employment in the municipality.

Description of Duties:

This is an upper level financial clerical position responsible for the planning, assigning and review of account keeping and financial record keeping activities of an account clerical staff assigned to a unit or department and/or performing higher level account clerk work involving activities such as financial analysis, problem solving, and financial data manipulation with leeway allowed for independent decision making. Duties include developing financial reports requiring the collection and computation of data obtained from numerous accounts and records. The duties are non-routine, are performed in support of an accounting/financial staff, and involve substantial use of an automated account keeping system. The employee reports directly to, and works under the general supervision of an Accountant or other higher level staff member. General supervision or lead supervision may be exercised over clerical staff.

Scope of Examination:

The examination for this position will consist of two parts: (1) a **rated written test** and (2) a **Qualifying Database Clerk Performance Test**. Candidates must pass **all** parts of this examination in order to receive a final passing grade for the entire examination. Your rank on the eligible list will be determined by your score on the written test only.

The written, multiple-choice test will cover knowledge, skills and/or abilities in such areas as:

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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. Supervision

These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices employed in planning, organizing, and controlling the activities of a work unit toward predetermined objectives. The concepts covered, usually in a situational question format, include such topics as assigning and reviewing work; evaluating performance; maintaining work standards; motivating and developing subordinates; implementing procedural change; increasing efficiency; and dealing with problems of absenteeism, morale, and discipline.

3. Understanding and interpreting tabular material

These questions test your ability to understand, analyze, and use the internal logic of data presented in tabular form. You may be asked to perform tasks such as completing tables, drawing conclusions from them, analyzing data trends or interrelationships, and revising or combining data sets. The concepts of rate, ratio, and proportion are tested. Mathematical operations are simple, and computational speed is not a major factor in the test. 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.

4. Understanding and 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.

Calculators and Reference Materials:

Most civil service written tests do not require the use of a calculator or slide rule. However, the use of calculators is **RECOMMENDED** for this exam. Candidates have the option of bringing a hand-held, quiet, battery or solar-powered arithmetic calculator or a slide rule to the test room. Candidates will not be permitted to use calculators containing spell check, dictionary, language translator, address or telephone book, personal digital assistants, or typewriter keyboard features, or any similar devices. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

A "Guide to Taking the Written Test for the Higher Level Account Series" is available at the Monroe County Civil Service Office in Room 210, County Office Building, 39 West Main Street, Rochester, NY 14614. The guide is also available on the Monroe County Web Site listed at the bottom of this page or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the above address. This guide contains sample test questions similar to the question that will be used in this written test.

This written 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.

The Qualifying Database Clerk Performance Test will be administered to all candidates who passed the written examination. The test will be a performance test which will require you to use a conventional personal computer (PC) with a standard keyboard to perform various clerical tasks using a pre-established database. This test will consist of three timed parts. In part one, you will be required to add, delete and update various records in the data base. In part two, you will be required to retrieve records from a database and write down selected information from the records onto printed forms. In part three, you will be asked questions on the computer screen about the information you wrote down in part two. You will enter your answers directly into the PC. Your rating (pass/fail) on this test will be based on the amount of material completed and on the accuracy of that material. Candidates will be notified of the scheduled time and place of the performance test.

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----- BASIC CIVIL SERVICE INFORMATION -----

Applications:

If you are applying for more than one exam, a separate application is required for each exam. Applications may be obtained at the address or web-site indicated at the bottom of the first page of this announcement.

Candidates must record the Exam Number and Title on the Application.

Seniority:

Seniority points will be added to the score of every passing candidate at the rate of one (1) point for each appropriate five (5) year period for each year of continuous permanent service calculated to the date of original entry in the permanent classified service in accordance with the following schedule.

Less than 1 year	0 Points
1 year up to 6 years	
Over 6 years up to 11 years	
Over 11 years up to 16 years	
Over 16 years up to 21 years	4 Points
Over 21 years up to 26 years	5 Points

Seniority points will be calculated at the time of examination.

Certifications and Appointments:

The eligible list resulting from this examination will be established in accordance with the final earned numerical rating of passing candidates regardless of residence.

Veteran's Credits:

Veterans entitled to and wishing to claim additional points must file in the Monroe County Department of Human Resources an Application for Veteran's Credits (VC-1) form, and a copy of their military discharge papers (DD-214). Disabled veterans must also file two (2) copies of an Authorization for Veteran's Disability Record (VC-4) with Veterans Affairs. These forms are available at the Monroe County Department of Human Resources and must be filed within thirty (30) days of the examination date. No credit may be added after the eligible list has been established.

Candidates currently on active duty may apply within thirty (30) days of the examination. Upon discharge, candidates must submit a copy of their military discharge papers (DD-214). Any extra points will be applied upon our receipt of the discharge papers.

Active Military Members:

Special testing arrangements may be available to applicants who are active military members. For further information contact the Monroe County Department of Human Resources before submitting an application.

Special Arrangements for Examination:

If you need an alternate test date because you are a Religious Observer [for religious reasons, cannot be tested on date of examination(s)], if you have a disability that requires special accommodations for you to participate in an examination, or if you require any other kind of special accommodations, you must notify us at the address or telephone numbers listed on the front page of this announcement by the application deadline. Indicate your request on the front of your application for each exam, and under separate cover submit a statement outlining the reason for your request, the exam number(s) and title(s), and attach supporting documentation.

Multiple Exam Takers:

Persons also applying for examinations offered by the City of Rochester and/or New York State Civil Service Commission held on the same date must complete a crossfiler form, available from the Monroe County Department of Human Resources, which will provide for special arrangements. Arrangements must be made to take **ALL** examinations at **ONE** test site. Unless this form is filed with the Monroe County Department of Human Resources three (3) weeks prior to the exam date, we cannot ensure that such arrangements will be made. If you are taking multiple exams on the same date with Monroe County Civil Service Commission only, you do not have to file a cross-filer form.

Candidates taking more than one (1) exam in <u>different</u> exam series will be allowed the specified length of time for each exam, up to a maximum of eight (8) hours. Example: If you are taking one (1) exam which allows six (6) hours and another exam in a different series which allows four (4) hours, you must complete both tests in eight (8) hours, but you can spend no more time on each exam than the time allotted for that exam.

Candidates taking more than one (1) exam in the **same** exam series will be allowed up to the specified length of time for each exam.

Example: If you are taking two (2) exams in the same series with a maximum time of five (5) hours for each exam, you can spend no more than five (5) hours to complete both exams.

Admission to Examination:

All applications will be reviewed after the "Closing Date for Filing" listed on the front page of this announcement. If there is a problem with

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your application, you will be notified in writing and given an opportunity to submit additional information to support your application. If there are no problems with your application, you will be sent an admission notice approximately one week before the exam date. If you have not received your admission notice to appear for the examination <u>three days</u> before the date of the exam, call the Monroe County Department of Human Resources at (585) 753-1700.

Issue Date: September 22, 2015