

**COLUMBIA COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**401 STATE ST., HUDSON, NEW YORK 12534**  
**Phone: 518-828-6622**  
**www.columbiacountyny.com**

*Please Post Conspicuously*



Issue Date: 2/23/24  
County #3547

Columbia County Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive (open to the public), decentralized, examination for:

**ACCOUNT CLERK**  
**#3547**

Administration of an exam does not imply a vacancy exists

**Date of Examination:** **July 13, 2024**

**Last Filing Date:** **May 24, 2024**

**Filing Fee:** Fee for this examination is \$15.00  
PERSONAL CHECKS ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED  
(See reverse side for instructions)

**Residency:** Candidates must be a resident of Columbia, Dutchess, Ulster, Greene, Albany or Rensselaer County examination for four (4) months prior to the date of the exam.

***\*\*Preference in appointment may be given to residents of each civil division (Civil Service Law 23.4)***

**Location:** To be announced.

**Vacancy:** The eligible list established from this examination will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in **all divisions under Columbia County Civil Service Commission jurisdiction.**

**Salary:** **\$35,000.00 - \$45,000.00**

**Duties:** The work involves the responsibility for the performance of record keeping, auditing and related tasks within clearly defined limits. The Account Clerk will work under general supervision on a standard assignment in accordance with detailed procedures. Supervisors are available for consultation on unusual problems and give any instructions on new assignments. Typical work activities may be matching, coding and classifying of purchase orders and billing vouchers and invoices; checking statements and keeping vendor payments up to date; responsible for keeping individual accounts updated with receipts and disbursements and submitting monthly report to supervisor; performs a variety of related clerical account-keeping duties including preparation of payroll; preparation of any billings relating to the department; making any other financial or statistical reports as requested. Candidate is expected to perform related work, as required. Performance Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Personal Characteristics expected of candidate: Good knowledge of methods used in keeping financial accounts and records; good knowledge of office terminology, procedures, routines and equipment; good knowledge of business arithmetic and English; ability to communicate effectively with others and to carry out effectively both oral and written instructions; clerical aptitude, and courtesy.

### **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES (decentralized)**

Applications may be obtained from Columbia County Civil Service, 401 State St., Hudson, NY 12534 Phone: 518 828-6622. Applications will be accepted for filing during **OFFICE HOURS ONLY** Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm or via mail... Applications postmarked on the last filing date will be accepted. **Applications received/postmarked after the last filing date will not be accepted, including those sent via Columbia County inter office mail.**

**Note:** Sabbath observers/disabled persons/military members: If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.

**VETERANS CREDITS:** Disabled and non-disabled veterans who establish their eligibility for additional credits and are successful in the exam are entitled to have 10 and 5 points respectively (5 and 2 ½ points of credits in the case of promotional examination), added to their earned scores provided they have not used such credits to obtain permanent appointment or promotion. You will be allowed the option of waiving these credits after the completion of the examination. Effective 1/1/98 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 exams. 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 veterans' credit.

*"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."*

**RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS:** Candidates must be a resident of Columbia County at the time of exam and for four months prior to the date of the examination, unless otherwise stated on the front of the announcement. Preference in appointment may be given to Columbia County residents or residents of each civil division (CS Law Section 23.4) when opened to contiguous counties. It is the responsibility of the candidate to file a Change of Address Notification Form (available @ Civil Service or @ [www.columbiacountyny.com](http://www.columbiacountyny.com) and all supporting documentation as necessary. Information provided will be reviewed at a monthly commission meeting. Date of address change on Eligible list will be effective the date of the commission meeting after information has been reviewed. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved.

**RATING & REVIEW:** Unless the announcement states otherwise, this written examination is being prepared by NYS Civil Service and will be rated in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the NYS Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with preparation and the rating of exams will apply to this written examination.

**TRANSCRIPTS:** Whenever college transcripts or diplomas are required, they should be submitted with the application for the examination.

**EXAM NOTICES:** The Commission does not acknowledge receipt of the application, but all applicants will be notified of the disposition of their application. Approved candidates will be notified at least four days in advance of the place, date and hour of the examination. Every candidate should bring his/her Social Security Number to the exam. Do not interpret a notice to appear for the exam to mean that you have been found to meet fully the announced requirements. Applicants are admitted to the exam on the basis of statements made in the application. These statements may not be reviewed and/or verified until after the exam has been held. At that time those candidates not meeting the requirements will be disqualified. Candidates who are disqualified after taking the exam will not receive a score. If you have not received a notice to appear for the written test three days before the date of the test, you should call 828-6622.

**CALCULATORS:** 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. Cell phone calculators are prohibited.

**ELIGIBLE LIST:** The lists established as a result of examinations will remain in existence for a minimum of one (1) year maximum of (4) years. Changing conditions may make it advisable to certify to future vacancies at higher or lower salaries than announced. When an Eligible List has been in existence for less than one year and a new list for the same position or group of positions is established, the names of the persons remaining on the old list shall have preference in certification over the new list until such old list is one year old.

**FILING FEES:** A filing fee as indicated on the front will be required with your application. Please write the examination no. and your social security no. on your money order, certified or bank check. Please be advised that NO REFUNDS will be made, therefore, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those exams for which you are qualified. **MAKE MONEY ORDERS/BANK OR CERTIFIED CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Columbia Co. Treasurer & mail to Civil Service with your application. Cash is accepted (exact change is preferred).** **PERSONAL CHECKS WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED.** Credit Cards are accepted, when paying in person, with a 2.35% charge plus an additional dollar.

**APPLICATION WAIVER FEE:** 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. Copies of the Application Fee Waiver and Certification forms are available at the Civil Service Office, 401 State St., Hudson, NY 12534 (518) 828-6622 or on our web site at [www.columbiacounty.ny.com](http://www.columbiacounty.ny.com).**

**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. If you need an alternate test date, see Alternate Test Date Policy @ [www.columbiacounty.ny](http://www.columbiacounty.ny) or call this office at (518) 828-6622 prior to the examination.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** A candidate must meet the qualifications on or before the last filing date.

**NOTE:** Your degree must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the Internet at <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. You must pay the required evaluation fee.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS & QUESTAR III:** 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 or Questar III as involving direct contact with students, a clearance for employment from the State Education Department is required.

**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. Candidate may be responsible for fees associated with such an investigation. Failure to meet the standards for the background investigation may result in disqualification.

**NOTE:** Evaluation of foreign post secondary education is required. Please ask for a listing of private or not-for-profit companies who evaluate foreign credentials. You must obtain an independent evaluation of your education to verify the equivalency of your education to the minimum qualifications. This must be presented with your application at time of filing.

**Minimum Qualifications:** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma.

**Subjects of Examination:** This exam is designed to test for knowledge, skills/abilities in such areas as:

### **Operations with Letters and Numbers**

These questions test your skills and abilities in operations involving alphabetizing, comparing, checking and counting. The questions require you to follow the specific directions given for each question, which may involve alphabetizing, comparing, checking and counting given groups of letters and/or numbers.

### **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.

### **Arithmetic Reasoning**

These questions test your ability to solve an arithmetic problem presented in sentence or short paragraph form. You must read the problem, understand the situation presented, decide what must be done to solve it, and apply the appropriate arithmetic operation(s) in the appropriate order in order to determine the correct solution. Knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division is necessary. Questions may also involve the use of percents, decimals, and fractions. 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.

Please note that a copy of "A GUIDE TO TAKING THE EXAMINATION FOR ACCOUNT/AUDIT CLERICAL SERIES" and other related information is available on line at: [www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm](http://www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm) or a copy can be provided by the Columbia County Civil Service Commission during regular business hours.

**Use of calculators is RECOMMENDED**

**Columbia County – An Equal Opportunity Employer**