

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY

CHENANGO COUNTY ANNOUNCES  
EXAMINATION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR

STAFF SOCIAL WORKER # 62-586

Examination Date:  
March 20, 2010

Applications accepted through:  
5:00 P.M. February 20, 2010

PROCESSING FEE

The New York State Department of Civil Service has implemented a fee for examination services. Accordingly, you must submit a seven dollar and fifty cent **(\$7.50) NON-REFUNDABLE application processing fee for each separately numbered examination for which you apply**, unless you can qualify for an application processing fee waiver as explained below.

Application processing fees should be paid at the time an application for examination is filed.

**DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE MAIL.** Checks or money orders made payable to the Chenango County Treasurer will be accepted. Cash will also be accepted if paying in person. **Write the examination number(s) on the check or money order.** If a check is returned for insufficient funds, you may be subject to penalties as provided by law. If you take the examination before the County receives notice that your check was returned for insufficient funds, you will be disqualified. You will not receive a final rating for the examination and your name will not be placed on the eligible list established as a result of the examination, or you will be restricted from certification and appointment from the resulting eligible list if the eligible list was already established.

**AS NO REFUNDS OF APPLICATION PROCESSING FEES WILL BE MADE, YOU ARE URGED TO COMPARE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS CAREFULLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION STATED IN THE "MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS" SECTION OF THE EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT, AND FILE ONLY FOR THOSE EXAMINATIONS FOR WHICH YOU ARE CLEARLY QUALIFIED, AND FOR THOSE EXAMINATIONS YOU INTEND TO TAKE.** The education and experience you indicate on the application will be verified and compared to the "minimum qualifications" for the position. Omissions or vagueness will NOT be interpreted in your favor.

**APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE WAIVER:** The application processing fee will be waived for candidates who certify to the Chenango County Personnel Office that they are either unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household, or that they are receiving public assistance. If you can verify eligibility for an application processing fee waiver for this examination, complete a "Request for Examination Fee Waiver and Certification" form and submit it with your application. "Request for Examination Fee Waiver and Certification" forms may be obtained from the Chenango County Personnel Office. All claims for an application processing fee waiver are subject to verification. False statements regarding eligibility for an application processing fee waiver will result in disqualification and/or lead to revocation of a resulting appointment as application processing fees are **NON-REFUNDABLE** **do not submit an application processing fee with your application for examination if you are or will be requesting an application processing fee waiver.**

**SALARY** \$25.32 Per hour – 2010 Start Rate

**LOCATION OF POSITIONS** Positions with this job title are in various units of the Chenango County Community Mental Hygiene Services Department. The eligible list resulting from this open-competitive examination will be used to fill any vacancy that exists at present, and any appropriate vacancy that may occur during the life of the eligible list.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT/PREFERENCE** There are no residency requirements to compete in this examination. However, preference in appointment may be given to successful candidates who have been residents of Chenango County for at least four (4) months immediately preceding the date of the written examination.

**DUTIES** This is a professional position in the Chenango County Community Mental Hygiene Services Department involving responsibility for providing comprehensive social work services to clients of the Community Mental Health Clinic, Psychosocial Club Program, or the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services Program. Incumbents are responsible for performing client evaluations and assessments, formulating treatment plans and conducting individual and group therapy sessions. Staff Social Workers also coordinate services for clients and may perform intensive case management functions requiring a significant amount of travel using the employee's personal vehicle. Employees in this class must maintain a variety of client records and related documentation and are required to participate in an on-call rotation during clinic hours to respond to crisis situations. Duties are performed under the clinical supervision of a

Senior Social Worker or another higher level staff member in accordance with agency policies and procedures and accepted social work practices. Supervision over the work of others is not normally a responsibility of employees in this class. Does related work as required.

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates **MUST** meet the following requirements on or before the last date for filing an application for this examination:

Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university or one accredited by the New York State Board of Regents to grant degrees with a Master's Degree\* in Social Work.

\*Anticipated Eligibility: If you expect to receive a Master's Degree in Social Work (MSW) by September 1, 2010 you can apply to take this examination. You will be given until November 1, 2010 to submit documentation to the Chenango County Personnel Department that verifies that you were awarded the required Master's Degree in Social Work by the September 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Completion of all academic requirements for a MSW by that date will not satisfy the educational requirement. To meet the educational requirement your MSW must be conferred by September 1, 2010. A copy of your MSW, an official transcript, or a letter from the college or university that awarded the degree that shows the date the Master's Degree in Social Work was conferred will normally serve as proof of meeting the educational requirement.

Successful test candidates who qualify for examination under the anticipated eligibility provision will not be eligible for certification and appointment until they submit satisfactory proof of meeting the educational requirement. Additionally, failure to be awarded a Master's Degree in Social Work by September 1, 2010 or failure to submit proof to the Chenango County Personnel Department by November 1, 2010 that the MSW degree was awarded by September 1<sup>st</sup> will render a candidate permanently ineligible for certification and appointment from the eligible list established as a result of this examination.

## EVALUATION OF FOREIGN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONS

If your college credit was awarded by an 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 any required evaluation fee.

## SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Within one year of permanent appointment incumbents must become licensed by the New York State Education Department as a Licensed Master Social Worker (L.M.S.W.) and maintain current L.M.S.W. certification throughout employment.
2. Certain field work assignments made to employees in this class will require a moderate amount of travel using the employee's personal vehicle. At time of appointment and continuing throughout employment, candidates/incumbents will be required to possess a valid New York State Driver's License, a reliable vehicle, and a driving record acceptable to the County's insurance carrier.

## APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT

Candidates must submit proof of education with their Application For Examination. Candidates who expect to complete the educational requirement by September 1, 2010 must submit a copy of their grade report or a transcript that shows their field of study and a list of the courses they have completed along with credit hours earned. They must also submit a list of the courses they are currently taking. Candidates who possess a Master's Degree in Social Work at the time of application MUST submit either a copy of their Master's Degree or an official college transcript as proof of meeting the educational requirement.

## SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION

The examination will consist of a written test which you must pass in order to be considered for appointment. The written test is designed to test for knowledge, skills and/or abilities in such areas as:

### 1. Characteristics and problems of individuals with mental illness

These questions test for knowledge and understanding of the symptoms, causes, characteristics, and treatment approaches associated with mental illness.

## **2. Developing & implementing treatment in a social work program**

These questions test for knowledge, understanding, and ability to apply social work concepts, theories, principles, and practices in a mental hygiene program which provides services to clients who have various mental hygiene conditions such as mental illness, developmental disabilities or addiction. Questions may cover such topics as assessment, development, and implementation of treatment; coordination of treatment; evaluation of treatment; coordination of services; social work standards; roles of treatment team members; individual, family, and group counseling; community services; behavior management; crisis intervention; and patient/client advocacy.

## **3. Individual and group counseling**

These questions test for knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of individual and group counseling. Questions may cover such topics as establishing, maintaining, and terminating client/counselor relationships; organizing and facilitating group counseling; recognizing, interpreting, and responding to individual and group behaviors; and assessing the effectiveness of counseling.

## **4. Preparing written material**

These questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately, and to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly. For some questions, you will be given information in two or three sentences followed by four restatements of the information. You must then choose the best version. For other questions, you will be given paragraphs with their sentences out of order. You must then choose, from four suggestions, the best order for the sentences.

### **CALCULATOR STATEMENT**

Candidates have the option of bringing a quiet hand-held, non-programmable solar or battery powered calculator to use on this test. A calculator may facilitate the performance of routine calculations but is not necessary to answer questions in this examination. Devices with typewriter keyboards, "Spell Checkers", "Personal digital Assistants", "Address Books", "Language Translators", "Dictionaries", "Computers" or any similar devices are prohibited for this examination. Additionally, candidates are prohibited from bringing cellular phones, books, or other reference materials to the examination site.

### **ELIGIBLE LISTS**

Successful candidates will have their names placed on an eligible list for this title in order of their final rating. The duration of the eligible list shall be fixed at not less than one nor more than four years. Appointments from an eligible list must be made from the three highest standing candidates willing to accept appointment.

### **CROSS FILING WITH MULTIPLE CIVIL SERVICE AGENCIES FOR MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY**

Cross-filing means applying to multiple Jurisdictions to take either the same or different examinations that are scheduled to be held on the same date.

When you cross-file for Civil Service Examinations you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site.

If you have applied for both State and local government examinations, excluding New York City Examinations, you must make arrangements to take all your examinations at a State Examination Center by calling (518) 474-6470, or a toll free number 877-697-5627 [press#2, then press #1], no later than two weeks before the test date.

If you have applied for other local government examinations, call or write each Civil Service Agency to make testing arrangements. You must make your request for these arrangements no later than two weeks before the date of the examinations. You must notify all local government Civil Service Agencies with whom you have filed an application of the test site at which you wish to take your examination.

Also, on the top front page of your Chenango County application you should note "cross-filing", then on the last page of the application in the "remarks" section, you should state where you will take all examinations and list all agencies you have applied to, and the title and examination number of all examinations you have applied to take.

**CREDIT 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 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.

**VETERANS' CREDITS**

The eligibility criteria for veterans' credits are active military service during a creditable period of war and either being honorably discharged or being released under honorable circumstances.

To apply for veterans' credits candidates for examination must submit an Application for Veterans' Credits prior to the establishment of the eligible list resulting from this examination. No credit may be granted after the eligible list has been established. Applications for Veterans' Credits may be obtained at the Chenango County Personnel Department. It is the candidate's sole responsibility to file a timely application for veterans' credits and to provide appropriate timely documentary proof that their military service was in time of war, as defined in Section 85 of the Civil Service Law, and that they received an honorable discharge or were released under honorable circumstances.

Veterans' credits will only be added to the score of a candidate who has attained a passing grade of 70 or higher. Veterans' credits may not be used to achieve a passing score.

Effective January 1, 1998 the State Constitution was amended to permit a candidate currently on active duty in the armed forces to apply for and be conditionally granted veterans' credits in examinations. To apply for conditional veterans' credits a candidate must submit an application for conditional veterans' credits prior to the establishment of the eligible list. Any candidate who applies for conditional veterans' credits must also provide proof of current active military status to receive the conditional credits.

A candidate who is granted conditional veterans' credits while on active duty in the armed forces must be restricted from certification using such credits until the candidate provides acceptable documentary proof that their military service was in time of war, as defined in Section 85 of the Civil Service Law, and proof that they received an honorable discharge or were released under honorable circumstances.

For open-competitive examinations veterans' credits are added to a candidate's final passing examination score as follows:

Non-Disabled Veteran..... 5 points

Disabled Veteran.....10 points

**APPLICATIONS  
FROM/TO/BY**

Application forms may be obtained at the Chenango County Personnel Department or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Personnel Department, Chenango County Office Building, 5 Court St., Norwich, NY 13815.

Do not wait until the last day to file your application. Applications that are postmarked after the last filing date, or personally delivered to our office after 5:00 P.M. on the last filing date cannot be considered. The applicant should make sure **EVERY** question on the application is answered, including the estimated percentage of time spent personally performing the duties of each employment (i.e., 5%, 20%, etc.). Incomplete applications will be disapproved. This department does not acknowledge receipt of applications. Candidates will be notified of the disposition of their application prior to the examination. If notice of acceptance or disapproval is not received at least four days prior to the date of the written examination, please call this office at (607) 337-1470.

A separate application and appropriate processing fee must be submitted for each separately numbered examination for which a candidate wishes to apply.

Applications must contain the correct examination title and/or number in order to be considered.

## **ADMISSION NOTICES**

If you do not receive your notice to appear for the written test at least four days before the date of the test, notify this office at (607) 337-1470.

Do not interpret a notice to appear for, or actual participation in, the examination to mean that you have been found to meet fully the announced requirements. Applicants are admitted to the examination on the basis of statements made in the application. These statements may not be closely reviewed and/or verified until after the examination has been held. At the time of review those candidates not meeting the requirements will be disqualified. Candidates who are disqualified after taking the test may not receive a score and will not be eligible for certification and appointment from the eligible list established as a result of the examination.

## **ALTERNATE TEST DATE**

Civil Service tests represent considerable planning, preparation and expense, therefore, candidates are expected to make every effort to take the test on its scheduled date. However, an alternate test date may be granted for specific verifiable circumstances set forth in the Alternate Test Date Policy of this department. The determination as to whether or not a candidate meets the requirements for being afforded the opportunity to take an examination on an alternate test date shall be made by the Personnel Officer.

Candidates who are unable to take an examination because of a situation that is known prior to the scheduled exam date should notify the Chenango County Personnel Department in writing as soon as possible before the test date. The written request should contain a complete explanation of the reason the candidate cannot take the test on the scheduled test date and be supported by appropriate documentation verifying the situation.

Candidates who are unable to take an examination because of an emergency situation that occurs just prior to or on the date of the examination must notify this office at (607) 337-1470 no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Monday (or 9:30 a.m. Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) following the Saturday scheduled test date. Upon review of verifiable documentation, a determination will be made as to whether a candidate will qualify for an alternate test date.

## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION:**

1. All statements on the application are subject to verification. Falsification of any part of the "Application for Employment" or any deception or attempt to practice deception in the application or employment process will result in disqualification and/or lead to revocation of a resulting appointment.
2. Candidates filing an application with one or more State and/or local civil service commissions for one or more tests scheduled to be held on the same date should indicate this on all applications so arrangements may be made for a single test site.
3. If you fail to submit the required processing fee payment and then you receive an admission letter in error and participate in the examination, you will be disqualified; this means that your exam will not be graded and/or you will not be considered for placement on the eligible list.
4. It is the responsibility of the candidate to notify the Chenango County Personnel Office of any change in name, address or telephone number. Failure to notify this office of a change of name or address may result in disqualification for examination or certification for appointment following examination if admittance notices, canvas letters or other communications are undeliverable. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved.
5. In case of adverse weather conditions, candidates should not call this office. Any changes to or cancellations of an examination will be broadcast over one or all of the following stations; WKXZ FM 94, WSRK FM 103.9, WCDO FM 101, and WCDO AM 1490. Examinations will not normally be cancelled for adverse weather conditions unless Chenango County officially declares a state of emergency and/or closes Chenango County roads.
- 6.

## **TIME AND PLACE OF EXAMINATION:**

Approved candidates will be notified by mail regarding the time and place of the examination.

## **PREPARATION/RATING OF EXAMINATION:**

This examination will be prepared and rated in accordance with Section 23.2 of Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Law, rules and regulations dealing with the preparation and rating of examinations will apply to this examination.

**SPECIAL TESTING ARRANGEMENTS:**

**Religious Accommodation:**

If you cannot take a civil service test on the scheduled test date due to a conflict with a sincerely held religious observance or practice check the appropriate box in Question 5 of the application **and** call this office on or before the last date to file an application for the examination to request an Alternate Test Date Policy and Request Form. The Alternate Test Date Request Form must be completed and returned to this office prior to the scheduled test date. If your Application for Examination and alternate test date request are approved arrangements will be made for you to take the test on a different date. For written tests the alternate test date will normally be the Monday following the scheduled Saturday test date. The alternate test date provided for performance examinations will vary.

**Disabled Candidate Testing Accommodation:**

If you need special testing arrangements in order to participate in an examination because of a disability check the appropriate box in question 5 of the application. If your Application for Examination is approved you will be contacted and asked to submit a written request describing the exact nature of the special testing accommodation(s) you require along with medical documentation supporting your need for the testing accommodation(s) you are requesting. This office will forward requests for special testing arrangements and supporting medical documentation to the New York State Department of Civil Service who will review the request and make a recommendation prior to the scheduled test date as to the testing accommodation(s), if any, that shall be provided to the candidate.

**Military Make-up Examination:**

Section 243-b of Military Law provides that an applicant who applies for a competitive examination during the announced filing period and who is approved for examination but is prevented from participating in any part of the competitive examination due to active military duty or reserve training may request a military make-up examination. To request a military make-up examination check the appropriate box in question 5 of the application and call this office as soon as possible prior to the scheduled test date to request an Alternate Test Date Policy and Request Form. The Alternate Test Date Request Form must be completed and returned to this office along with a copy of a military order, DD – 214 or other official military document that substantiates that the applicant was or will be on active military duty or reserve training at the time of the scheduled test date. Requests and supporting military documentation will be forwarded to the New York State Department of Civil Service and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. In order for a military make-up examination to be administered the eligible list resulting from the original examination holding must still be in existence, and the remaining life of the eligible list must be of sufficient duration to make it practicable to hold a military make-up examination.

**Comparable Promotion Examination:**

If a promotion examination is held while a public employee who would be entitled to participate in the promotion examination is on military duty, the employee may make a request to participate in a comparable promotion examination once he/she has returned to work. The employee must request a comparable examination within 60 days of being restored to his/her position. Requests for a comparable examination must be submitted in writing to the Chenango County Personnel Office.

**Military Members Late Filing:**

Section 243-c of Military Law provides that individuals serving on active duty in the armed forces of the United States during the filing period for a civil service examination, or individuals discharged from the armed forces with other than a dishonorable discharge after the filing period for a civil service examination has commenced are permitted to file an application for such examination no later than 10 business days prior to the scheduled date of the examination or the last date to file for the examination, whichever is later.

**EEOE:** Chenango County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and does not discriminate on the basis of one's age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, sex, disability, genetic predisposition or carrier status, marital status, prior arrest or conviction record, or a sincerely held religious observance or practice.

**CHENANGO COUNTY PERSONNEL OFFICE**

Chenango County Office Building

5 Court Street

Norwich, NY 13815

Telephone No. (607) 337-1470

Date of Issue: 12/23/09

[www.co.chenango.ny.us](http://www.co.chenango.ny.us)