BROOME COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL
THIRD FLOOR, COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA
60 HAWLEY STREET, PO BOX 1766
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13902
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR
FIRE INVESTIGATOR/CODE OFFICER

Exam Number: 62-145

EXAMINATION DATE: October 21, 2023
LAST DATE TO FILE APPLICATION WITH PROCESSING FEE OR WAIVER*: August 25, 2023

***Processing Fee:** Twenty dollar **($20.00)** non-refundable payment is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required processing fee must accompany your examination application. **Credit cards, checks, or money orders payable to the Broome County Office of Management and Budget will be accepted.** Please be sure to include applicant's name and examination number on your check or money order. A check returned for insufficient funds may disqualify your application and result in further action and/or service charges.

If your application is disapproved, the fee will not be refunded. Compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements specified on this announcement and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified. Be specific when completing the application; include all pertinent information including credit hours if applicable. Work experience must be paid unless otherwise specified. Part-time experience will be prorated. ***Only applications which are post-marked on or before the last date to file will be accepted. ALL INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MAIL MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE LAST DATE TO FILE, NO EXCEPTIONS. FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

ADMISSION NOTICES WILL BE MAILED TO ALL APPROVED CANDIDATES APPROXIMATELY 8 DAYS BEFORE THE EXAMINATION. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE BY THE TUESDAY BEFORE THE EXAMINATION, PLEASE CALL 778-2222 or 778-2276.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to notify the Broome County Department of Personnel of any change in name or address. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved. The candidate change of information form is available at www.gobroomecounty.com/personnel/forms.

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 application fee waiver, complete a "Request for Application Fee Waiver and Certification" form and submit it with your application. Fee waiver forms are available at the Broome County Department of Personnel, the Department of Social Services or online at** www.gobroomecounty.com**.**

MINIMUM SALARY	**VACANCIES****	**LOCATION OF WORK**
$24.4071/hour	Anticipated	Broome County Office of Emergency Services

Eligible list: The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used to fill vacancies, as they occur, in all Broome County departments, towns, villages, school districts, and special districts under the jurisdiction of the Broome County Personnel Officer.

**Vacancies – Positions may be filled temporarily at this time; however, the resulting eligible list must be used to permanently fill the position

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Residency: There are no residency requirements for this examination. However, preference in appointment may be given to successful candidates who, at the time of examination, are legal residents of the locality in which appointment is to be made. For appointment within Broome County departments, preference **will** be given to candidates who are residents of Broome County, OR an adjoining county (TIOGA, CORTLAND, DELAWARE AND CHENANGO) at the time of examination except as stated in Resolution 21-253.

DUTIES: The incumbent in this position performs a dual function as Fire Investigator and Code Officer. A Fire Inspector Investigates fire or explosions to determine their cause and origin, identifies suspects and assists the District Attorney's Office and other Law Enforcement Agencies in prosecuting arson crimes. Under the general supervision of the Senior Fire Investigator, performs on scene fire investigation and interviews persons having knowledge of the fire. Works directly with the District Attorney's Office or other Law Enforcement agencies to perform criminal investigations regarding arson fires. A Code Officer performs fire safety inspections, reviews design plans, and completes inspections of construction and building use for compliance with applicable state and national codes. The Code Officer works under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Works, Parks, Recreation and Youth Services, with a moderate level of leeway allowed for the use of independent judgment in planning and carrying out the details of the work. Shall be sworn in as a Peace Officer under the laws of the State of New York. Does related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

A) Graduation from a regionally accreted or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's in Fire Science or Fire Technology and two years of service as a firefighter on a volunteer or paid basis in an organized fire department, which included one year in fire investigations and familiarity with municipal codes and ordinances; OR
B) Four years of service as a firefighter on a volunteer or paid basis in an organized fire department, which included two years' in fire investigations and familiarity with municipal codes and ordinances.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: At time of appointment, incumbent shall have satisfactorily completed the Fire Investigation for Line Officer courses.
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:
1) Possession of a valid NYS driver's license; AND

2) Shall possess or obtain within four months of appointment, and maintain throughout employment, a valid New York State Pistol Permit; AND
3) As per 19 CRR-NY 1208-3.2 (d): Certification of a New York State Code Enforcement Officer course within eighteen (18) months of appointment. Incumbents must attend and complete the continuing education requirements on an annual basis; AND
4) Within two years of appointment:
- Shall complete the Fire/Arson 120-hour course at the New York State Fire Academy; AND
- Shall complete the Peace Officers training course certified by the New York State Bureau for Municipal Police; AND
- Shall complete the Police/Peace Officers Firearms training course certified by the New York State Bureau for Municipal Police.

Anticipated eligibility: If you expect to complete the educational requirement by June 30, 2024**,** you can be admitted to this examination. If successful on the examination, you will not be certified for appointment until you have submitted proof of completion of the requirements to the Broome County Department of Personnel. Proof must be submitted by August 30, 2024; failure to do so will result in removal of your name from the eligible list. You must meet the experience requirement, if any, before the examination date.

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

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.

Evaluating conclusions in light of known facts

These questions will consist of a set of facts and a conclusion. You must decide if the conclusion is proved by the facts, disproved by the facts or if the facts are not sufficient to prove or disprove the conclusion. The questions will not be specific to a particular field.

Understanding and interpreting fire codes

These questions test for the ability to comprehend written material related to fire prevention and inspection. You will be provided with a brief reading passage. You must then select the most appropriate statement relating to the passage on the basis of whether it:

a. accurately paraphrases portions of the passage; or b. adequately summarizes the passage; or c. presents an inference that can reasonably be drawn from the passage.

The reading passages are drawn from existing New York State and national codes, regulations, and standards. Knowledge of the subject matter contained in the reading passages is generally not related to answering the questions successfully because all of the information needed can be found in the passages.

The New York State Department of Civil Service **has not** prepared a test guide for this examination. However, candidates may find information in the publication "How to take a written test" helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available online at: https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm

Candidates must bring their picture ID and two sharpened #2 pencils to the examination. **USE OF CALCULATOR IS ALLOWED FOR THIS EXAMINATION.** Devices with typewriter keyboards, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries, or any similar devices are prohibited.

Rating: This written examination is being prepared and 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 of examinations will apply to this written test.

Applying for civil service examinations in multiple jurisdictions when examinations are scheduled on same date:

If you have **applied** for both a Broome County examination and an examination for another jurisdiction, both of which are scheduled for the same date, you must submit a Broome County Cross-filing Form indicating the site at which you intend to take your examination. The cross-filing form is available in our Department or online at http://gobroomecounty.com/files/personnel/pdfs/Crossfiling.pdf and should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the examinations. Failure to submit the cross-filing form in a timely manner may result in our not being able to accommodate your request to sit at your choice of exam sites. When taking both a State and Broome County examination, you will be required to take all your examinations at a State examination center. You will be advised by the State when and where to report for your examinations.

Religious accommodation/handicapped candidates/military personnel: If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.

Military Law provides special rights for members of the armed forces whose military service conflicts with scheduled civil service testing. Section 243-b (2) of Military Law states that “any member of the organized militia or reserves, who, because of active military duty other than for training purposes, missed the application filing period for an examination and as a result is deprived of the opportunity to compete in an examination, shall be given a special military make-up exam”. Please contact the Department of Personnel for more information.

Special Requirement for Appointment in School Districts and BOCES:

Per Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, to be employed in a position designated by a school district or BOCES 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. Failure to meet the standards for the background investigation may result in disqualification.

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 the Department of Personnel 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.”

General Information/Instructions: A copy of the general instructions, announcement and applications may be obtained upon request to the Broome County Department of Personnel or from our website at www.gobroomecounty.com.