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

PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATION FOR
SECRETARY

Exam Number: 79-346

EXAMINATION DATE: March 2, 2024
LAST DATE TO FILE APPLICATION WITH PROCESSING FEE OR WAIVER*: January 5, 2024

***Processing Fee:** Ten dollar **($10.00)** 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
Varies	Anticipated	Various Broome County School Districts
$19.5848/hour CSEA	Anticipated	Various Broome County Departments
$39,083-$41,561 Admin I	Anticipated	Various Broome County Departments
$21.57-$27.34 (depending on union)	Anticipated	SUNY Broome Community College

Eligible list: Successful candidates will be certified to fill vacancies only in the department in which they are employed.

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

DUTIES: This position involves responsibility for independently performing complex clerical operations and for relieving the head of a department or major division of administrative details by arranging conferences, and relieving the official of contacts which should properly be made with subordinate officials. The work calls for the frequent exercise of independent judgement in giving out information regarding departmental policies and practices, and in planning the routine of the office. The correspondence duties of these employees are distinguished by the fact that most letters and releases of a routine recurring nature are composed personally. Employees in this class work under general supervision, receiving detailed instructions only where policies have not been determined. Only unusually important or complicated assignments are checked in detail upon completion. Employees in this class may exercise immediate supervision over the work of clerical assistants. Does related work as required.

PROMOTIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: On or before the date of the examination, candidates must be permanently employed in the competitive class (or designated as non-competitive in accordance with Section 55A of Civil Service Law) in any Broome County department, town, village, school district or special district under Broome County jurisdiction, and must have served continuously on a permanent or contingent permanent basis for a total of 48 months preceding the date of the written test in any of the following titles: Keyboard Specialist or Typist, or an equivalent combination of the above.

Anticipated eligibility: If you expect to meet the promotional qualifications by September 2, 2024, you will be tentatively admitted to this examination.

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.

SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION: A test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas.
Grammar/Usage/Punctuation
The grammar and usage questions test for the ability to apply the basic rules of grammar and usage. The punctuation questions test for a

knowledge of the correct placement of punctuation marks in sentences. You will be presented with sets of four sentences from each of which you must choose the sentence that contains a grammatical, usage, or punctuation error.

Keyboarding practices

These questions test for a knowledge of preferred practices in such areas as letter format, capitalization, hyphenation, plurals, possessives, word division, word and figure style for numbers, and common proofreading marks. In addition, there will be a passage to proofread followed by questions on how to correct the errors in the passage.

Office practices

These questions test for a knowledge of generally agreed-upon practices governing the handling of situations which typists, stenographers, secretaries, and office assistants encounter in their work, as well as a knowledge of efficient and effective methods used to accomplish office tasks. The questions cover such topics as planning work flow; setting priorities; dealing effectively with staff, visitors, and callers; filing and retrieving information; safeguarding confidentiality; using office equipment; and making procedural decisions and recommendations which contribute to a well-managed office.

Spelling

These questions test for the ability to spell words that are used in written business communications.

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.

Working with office records

These questions test your ability to work with office records. The test consists of two or more sets of questions, each set concerning a different problem. Typical record keeping problems might involve the organization or collation of numerical data from several sources; maintaining a record system using running balances; or completion of a table summarizing data using totals, subtotals, averages and percents. 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.

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 CALCULATORS IS RECOMMENDED FOR THIS EXAMINATION.** Devices with typewriter keyboards, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries, or any similar devices are prohibited.

Seniority Credit: Seniority is based on the length of continuous permanent classified service in the jurisdiction in which promotion is sought, with points added to an eligible's passing score for each appropriate five year period or fraction thereof in accordance with the following schedule:

Less than 1 year……..0 points
1 year up to 6 years……1 point
Over 6 years up to 11 years …….2 points
Over 11 years up to 16 years……..3 points
Over 16 years up to 21 years……..4 points
Over 21 years……..…5 points

Rating: The 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 Crossfiling 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.

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, announcements and applications may be obtained upon request to the Broome County Department of Personnel Department or from our website at www.gobroomecounty.com.