

# ULSTER COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT



Ulster County Personnel Department  
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Ulster County Civil Service Examinations Portal: <https://ulster-portal.mycivilservice.com/post/exams>  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

NO FILING FEE FOR THIS EXAMINATION

#60019350 PROBATION OFFICER 1 TRAINEE

OPEN-COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION

LAST DATE FOR FILING APPLICATIONS: May 28, 2025

EXAMINATION DATE: June 28, 2025

SALARY: The 2024 starting salary is currently listed at \$31.01 per hour.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must meet the following requirement(s) on or before the date of the 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 Bachelor's degree or higher with at least thirty (30) credit hours in the social or behavioral sciences.

Special Requirement: Where required, possession of a current driver's license or the ability to otherwise meet the transportation requirements of the position.

Note: **Social science** includes areas of study concerned with humans living in relation to other humans in a social environment and such as anthropology, criminal justice, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology and sociology.

**Behavioral science** is a subset of social science characterized by observation of the behavior of living organisms and focused on human social behavior such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, counseling, criminal justice, gerontology, human behavior, social work/social welfare and vocational rehabilitation.

IF YOU PASS THE WRITTEN TEST: Candidates who are interviewed and offered employment in the title of Probation Officer 1 Trainee shall be required to complete the following tests and trainings which will be conducted by the Ulster County Probation Department or their other training partners.

PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION: Prior to appointment, candidates shall be required to participate in a psychological evaluation to determine their fitness to perform the essential duties of the position. Failure to meet the standards may result in disqualification.

BASIC COURSE FOR PEACE OFFICERS AND FUNDAMENTALS OF PROBATION PRACTICE COURSE: Employees hired in the title of Probation Officer 1 Trainee in Ulster County must complete the Basic Course for Peace Officers through a New York State Municipal Police Training Council approved program. A minimum of 8 weeks of training will be required to include one week of defensive tactics and two weeks of firearms training. In addition, employees hired in the above-mentioned title must complete the Fundamentals of Probation Practice Course (currently 3 weeks of training).

ANTICIPATED ELIGIBILITY:

If you expect to complete the educational requirement within twelve (12) months of the date of examination, you may apply. If successful on the examination, you will not be certified for appointment until you have submitted proof of completion of the requirements to the Ulster County Personnel Department.

Where College is a requirement, you will be expected to submit college transcripts no later than JULY 14, 2025 or you will be unconditionally disqualified. If college transcripts are already on file with our office, indicate this on your application. Once submitted, college transcripts will be held on file in our office for a period of TEN YEARS. Transcripts need not be official copies; However, they must contain ALL information necessary to qualify you for this position.

NOTE: If your degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. Please visit [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org) to view and access acceptable companies providing this service; you must pay the required evaluation fee. Please note the verification company must be a NACES member.

### **APPLICATION REVIEW TOLERANCE POLICY**

For the purposes of this policy, "tolerance" shall mean the leeway given regarding work experience when reviewing an application. Applicants lacking a small amount of work experience when applying for promotional or open-competitive examinations may qualify under the following conditions:

- 1) Candidates will be given a maximum tolerance of one (1) month.
- 2) Tolerance will be given only when the minimum qualification requires one or more years of work experience.
- 3) Tolerance Policy does not apply to education or licensure/certification requirements. (See particular examination announcement for "Anticipated Eligibility" information).
- 4) Tolerance Policy does not apply where required work experience is set forth by law or rules.
- 5) Tolerance Policy does not apply to enable applicants to meet residence requirements.

For more information regarding Tolerance Policy, please contact our office at (845) 340-3550.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is a one-year traineeship used to appoint individuals to an entry-level Probation Officer 1 position in a probation department responsible for the care of adults and juveniles subject to probation supervision or intake services which require them to meet certain standards of conduct. A Probation Officer 1 Trainee is responsible for participating in a continuous in-service training program regarding the investigative, supervision, counseling and coaching duties and responsibilities of a Probation Officer 1 and, under close and on-going supervision, performs such duties and exercises such responsibilities in a limited nature. Probation Officer 1 Trainee work is performed under the direct supervision of a probation professional. Upon successful completion of the one-year traineeship the incumbent is appointed to the position of Probation Officer 1 without further examination. A Probation Officer 1 Trainee is a Peace Officer pursuant to Criminal Procedure Law Section 2.10 and may be authorized to carry a firearm in the performance of their duties. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

**SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION:** Written test will cover knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in such areas as:

#### **Advising and interacting with others**

These questions test for the ability to interact with other people in order to gather and present information and to provide assistance and advice in a courteous and professional manner.

#### **Preparing written material**

These questions test for the ability to write the kinds of reports and correspondence required in criminal justice settings such as probation and parole. Some questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately. Others test for the ability to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly.

#### **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.

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Applying written information

These questions evaluate a candidate's ability to read, interpret and apply rules, regulations, directives, written narratives and other related material. You will be required to read a set of information and to appropriately apply the information to situations in various settings. All information needed to answer the questions is contained in the rules, regulations, etc. which are cited.

Test guide:

A Guide for the Written Test for Probation is available at the New York State website: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>. Candidates not having access to a computer, or the internet may request copy of the test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found elsewhere on this announcement.

**CALCULATORS:** "Unless specifically prohibited, candidates are permitted to use non-programmable, quiet, hand-held, solar or battery powered calculators. Devices with typewriter keyboards, 'Spell-Checkers', 'Personal Digital Assistants', 'Address Books', 'Language Translators', 'Dictionaries' and any similar devices are prohibited."

**USE OF CALCULATORS IS RECOMMENDED FOR THIS EXAMINATION.**

This 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 test.

**VETERANS CLAIMING ADDITIONAL CREDITS:** Non-disabled and disabled veterans who wish to claim additional credits **MUST** request a Veterans Credits application from our office. This form must be completed and submitted along with a war service (DD214) form prior to the establishment of the resulting eligible list. Veterans credits may only be added to a passing score and may only be used for appointment once. Candidates currently in the armed forces may apply for and be conditionally granted veteran's credits. Any candidate who applies for such credits must provide proof of military status to receive the conditional credits. **You may not claim additional Veterans Credits after the eligible list has been established. It is the candidate's responsibility to request the Veterans Credits application forms and submit these forms and any required supporting paperwork before the eligible list is established.**

On November 5, 2013, New York State voters approved an amendment to Article 5, section 6, of the New York Constitution regarding the award and use of additional credits for certain disabled veterans on open competitive and promotion civil service examinations for positions with New York State and local governments.

For eligible lists established after January 1, 2014, disabled veterans may be entitled to additional credits on a civil service examination. Every situation is different. If you have specific questions or concerns, please contact our office.

**ADDITIONAL CREDITS 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.

Applications **MUST** be filled out electronically within the Ulster County Civil Service Examinations Portal, <https://ulster-portal.mycivilservice.com/post/exams>.

You can also apply in person, using any available computer at the Ulster County Personnel Department, Monday through Friday between 9:00 am and 4:30 pm at the following address:

Ulster County Personnel Department  
County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Kingston, NY 12401

**CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION POLICY:** In accordance with Ulster County Local Law Number 14 of 2007, a criminal background check (including fingerprinting) will be initiated by the Ulster County Personnel Department upon initial employment or re-hire to Ulster County positions, and conducted by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the New York State Office of Court Administration, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Verification Information System (IMAGE Program), or any law enforcement agency.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** All public agencies are required by law to provide full and equal opportunities for minorities, women and to people with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to compete without regard to race, creed or national origin. Applicants requesting special testing arrangements as a Saturday Sabbath Observer, alternate test date candidate (in accordance with Alternate Test Date Policy), or an active member of the military away from the area on the scheduled test date must clearly indicate this fact on the application. All such requests must be supported by appropriate documentation.

**APPLYING FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS WHEN EXAMINATIONS ARE SCHEDULED ON SAME DATE:** If you have applied for any other Civil Service examinations for employment with any other local government jurisdiction, you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site. Please indicate your intentions within the REMARKS text box on the application for examination.

If you have applied for both State and local government examinations, you must inform the Ulster County Personnel Department of your intent to participate in both exams no later than **two weeks** before the date of the examinations.

When taking local and State examinations on the same day, all of these examinations must be taken at the State test site. You will be informed by letter when and where to report for the examinations and you should bring the Ulster County admission notice with you to the State test site along with the State admission notice you will receive from the State.

If you have applied for other local government examinations, you must inform all local government civil service agencies of the test site at which you wish to take your examination(s) no later than **two weeks** before the date of the examinations.

Please indicate your intentions within the REMARKS text box on the application for examination.

\*If candidates have not received notification of this examination within four (4) days of the examination, they should contact this office immediately.

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ORIGINAL COPY: YELLOW

ISSUED: April 28, 2025

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