

City of Kingston
Municipal Civil Service Commission Examination Announcement

420 BROADWAY ~ CITY HALL
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Open Competitive Examination Announcement

EXAMINATION TITLE: Deputy City Assessor
EXAMINATION NUMBER: 67807
EXAMINATION DATE: October 29, 2011
SALARY: \$39,041

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POST MARKED **NO LATER** THAN September 28, 2011.

Administration of an exam does not imply a vacancy exists.

FEE: A **\$20.00** non-refundable application fee is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your application. Send check or money order made payable to City of Kingston Comptroller, with examination number written in the memo line, to City of Kingston Civil Service Office, 420 Broadway, Kingston NY 12401.

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 by the close of business on the Application Deadline as listed on the Examination Announcement. You may get this form at the Civil Service Office, 420 Broadway, Kingston New York 12401.**

If your application is disapproved, the fee will not be refunded. You should carefully review the announced minimum qualifications and any residence requirements and apply only for those examinations for which you clearly qualify.

VACANCIES: The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used, when appropriate, to fill vacancies as they occur in the City of Kingston.

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT/PREFERENCE IN APPOINTMENT: You must be a resident of Ulster County for at least **30 days prior** to the date of examination to apply for this exam. Preference in appointment for City positions **may** be given to residents of the City of Kingston for at least **30 days prior to date of certification of the eligible list.** Preference in appointment for School positions **may** be given to successful candidates who are residents of the Kingston Consolidated School District **30 days prior to date of certification of the eligible list.**

DUTIES: An employee in this class performs specialized assessment work, assisting the Assessor in various phases of the assessment and evaluation of property. The work is performed under the general supervision of the Assessor with wide leeway provided for the use of independent judgment on issues covered by law or policy. Supervision is exercised over the work of assessment aides and clerical employees. Does related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A. Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and three years of experience in an occupation involving the valuation of real property; or
- B. Successful completion of two years of study at a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university and one (1) year of experience as described above; or
- C. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of a) and b) above.

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

1. 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.**

2. 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.

3. Principles and techniques of real property appraisal

These questions test for a knowledge of principles and practices used in the appraisal of agricultural, commercial, and residential real property including knowledge of the three approaches to value; sales comparison, income, and cost estimation.

Special emphasis will be placed upon the ability to analyze market data and develop land schedules, market models, and income models for use in mass appraisal.

4. Principles, practices and theory of real property assessment

These questions test for a knowledge of the equalization rate process, the assessors' calendar, the content of the assessment roll, and the exemptions from real property taxes in New York State. These questions will also test for the ability to use public relations skills when confronted by individuals in your municipality.

5. 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.

6. Understanding and interpreting abstracts, deeds, and other documents related to real property

These questions test for the ability to understand and apply information contained in documents related to real property and include examples, illustrations and applications of laws and procedures in relation to the reading and interpretation of title abstracts, deeds and other related documents.

7. Understanding and interpreting tax maps and site plans

These questions test for the ability to read, analyze and perform computations based on various types of maps and plans, and may include tax maps, deed descriptions, site plans, survey maps and building layouts. All the information needed to answer the questions will be provided in the maps, plans, layouts or related written material. Calculators may be helpful in answering some of the questions.

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 on line at: www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm

CALCULATOR STATEMENT: Use of calculators is **ALLOWED**

SPECIAL NOTE: Applicants whose religious beliefs or military service prevent their taking examinations on the scheduled date and disabled candidates who require special accommodations to take the test should indicate the need for special arrangements on their application. Candidates who are called to military service after filing an application should send requests for an alternate test date to Civil Service Office, 420 Broadway, City Hall, Kingston, NY 12401 as soon as possible before the test date.

PREPARATION/RATING OF EXAMINATIONS RULE: This examination will be prepared and rated in accordance with Section 23(2) of the 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.

CROSS FILER STATEMENT: Applications may be obtained at the City of Kingston Civil Service Office at 420 Broadway, Kingston, NY or by visiting our website www.kingston-ny.gov or by sending a legal-size self-addressed stamped envelope to: Municipal Civil Service Commission, 420 Broadway, Kingston, NY, 12401. Application received/postmarked after the filing deadline will not be accepted. This department does not acknowledge receipt of application and does not accept responsibility for non-delivery or postal delay. If you have applied for any other civil service examinations to be given on the same test date for employment with New York State or any other local government jurisdiction excluding New York City, you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site.

If you have applied for both **STATE** and **LOCAL** government examinations, you must make arrangements to take all your examination at the State Examination Center by calling (518)457-7022 no later than two weeks before the test date. If you have applied for other local government examinations, call or write to each civil service agency to make 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.

ALTERNATE TEST DATES: Alternate test dates may be arranged upon review of the circumstances according to the Alternate Test Date Policy established by this department. Upon specific circumstances an alternate test date may be arranged. If a medical emergency prevents you from appearing for the examination, please notify this office no later than 4:00 PM on the Monday following the test date (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) providing verifiable documentation of the reason. A determination will be made if you will be scheduled for an alternate test date.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES: in case of adverse weather conditions, any delay or cancellation, notice will be broadcast over local radio stations (WKNY, 1490) & (WGHQ, 920) 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. on the date of the examination.

VETERAN'S CREDIT Veterans or disabled veterans who are eligible for additional credit must submit an application for veteran's credit with their application for examination or at any time between the dates of their application for examination and the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible list. Applications for veteran's credit are available from this office.

Effective January 1, 1998 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 examinations. 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 veteran's credits.

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 had 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.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: Applicant may be required to undergo a State and National criminal history background investigation, which may include a fingerprint check, to determine suitability for appointment. Failure to meet the standards for the background checks may result in disqualification.

Issue Date: September 8, 2011