

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY
MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
WAMPSVILLE, NEW YORK

#60009360 OFFICE ASSISTANT – DISTRICT ATTORNEY
(Open Competitive)

DATE OF EXAMINATION:
March 1, 2025

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL:
January 10, 2025 by 4:00 p.m.

To apply for exams:

- **Online:** Go to <https://madison-portal.mycivilservice.com/exams>.
- **By Mail:** Applications can be downloaded from the Department of Human Resources website at: <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/301/Human-Resources-Forms>.
- Applications must be received or postmarked by the application deadline. Carefully compare your qualifications against the minimum qualifications listed on the announcement and apply for only those examinations for which you clearly meet the required qualifications.

SALARY: \$22.94/hour (2025 Hire Rate)

VACANCIES: The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used to fill vacancies as they occur in the Madison County District Attorney’s Office.

RESIDENCY: There are no residency requirements to take this examination. Preference in certification may be given to successful candidates who have been legal residents of Madison County for at least one month prior to the date of certification.

MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY: If you have applied to take a written test announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same test date as this written test, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than two weeks before the test date, so they can make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The work involves responsibility for the performance of secretarial functions and legal clerical tasks designed to assist a staff of attorneys in the District Attorney’s Office. An employee in this class prepares and types legal correspondence, motions, discovery and Bills of Particular as well as opening, closing and maintaining complex criminal files. The work is performed in accordance with general instructions regarding objectives, policies and procedures. The work is performed under the direct supervision of the District Attorney and the First Assistant District Attorney. The incumbent does related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

- (A) Possession of an Associate’s degree, or higher, in Business Administration, Secretarial Science or a closely related field and one (1) year of full-time paid clerical experience, or its part-time equivalent, which shall have involved typing; OR
- (B) Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma and three (3) years of full-time paid clerical experience, or its part-time equivalent, which shall have involved typing; OR
- (C) An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A) and (B) above.

NOTE: Degree(s) must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States and its territories, the candidate must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the internet at <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. Candidates will be required to pay the evaluation fee.

ANTICIPATED ELIGIBILITY – EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: Applicants may be approved conditionally to take civil service examinations if the minimum educational requirement is met within twelve (12) months from the examination date. As proof of satisfactory completion of the minimum educational requirement, conditionally approved candidates are responsible for submitting appropriate documentation to the Madison County Department of Human Resources within twelve (12) months of taking the exam. Names of conditionally approved candidates will be restricted on the eligible list and will not be certified for appointment(s) until appropriate documentation is received.

PRE-PLACEMENT PHYSICAL AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES SCREENING: When you are offered a permanent, full-time or permanent, part-time appointment at Madison County, the offer of employment will be contingent upon successful completion of a pre-placement physical and controlled substance screening prior to employment.

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION: A written 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.

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

Legal Terminology, Documents and Forms - These questions test for the ability to recognize definitions of specific common legal terms or the term which fits a certain description. The questions are presented in various forms such as simple definitions, examples of terminology, and the use of this terminology within documents and forms related to the legal field.

Office Practices 01 - These questions test for a knowledge of generally agreed-upon practices governing the handling of situations which office support staff, typists, and secretaries encounter in their work, as well as knowledge of efficient and effective methods used to accomplish office tasks. The questions will cover such topics as planning workflow; 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.

CALCULATOR: Use of a hand-held, battery or solar powered calculator for this exam is **RECOMMENDED**. Cell phones and devices with typewriter keyboards, "spell checkers", "personal digital assistants", "address books", "language translators", "dictionaries" or any similar devices are prohibited. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

TEST GUIDE: 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 'General Guide to Written Tests' helpful in preparing for this test. This publication is available online at: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>.

TIME AND PLACE OF EXAMINATION: Accepted candidates will be notified by letter when and where to appear for this examination. If notice of acceptance or disapproval is not received at least three days prior to the examination date, please call this office at (315) 366-2341.

IDENTIFICATION: Bring positive identification to the written examination such as a driver's license, passport or student identification which contains a photo and your signature. Candidates will not be admitted without the proper identification.

SECTION 23-2 STATEMENT: The written test 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 the written test.

ADDITIONAL CREDIT: 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.

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. Veteran's credit can only be added to a passing score on the examination.

Candidates currently in the armed forces may 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 credit.

THOSE REQUIRING RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS, DISABLED PERSONS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY: IF SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TESTING ARE REQUIRED, INDICATE THIS ON YOUR APPLICATION FORM.

BE SURE TO ENTER YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ON YOUR APPLICATION WHEN YOU FILE. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES MUST BRING THEIR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TO THE EXAMINATION AS THIS WILL BE USED AS THEIR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IN THE EXAMINATION.

ISSUED: December 11, 2024

Ryan D. Aylward
Madison County
Director of Human Resources

MADISON COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER