



# ERIE COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ERIE COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
*Please refer to our internet address at: [www.erie.gov](http://www.erie.gov)*

A NON-REFUNDABLE \$20.00 PROCESSING FEE  
OR APPLICATION FEE WAIVER AND CERTIFICATION FORM MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION  
(CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY – PAYABLE TO: ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL)

*See page 2 of this announcement for fee waiver information*

## MANAGER OF SYSTEMS AND PROGRAMMING

NO. 63-803

\$80,000

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS:** THERE ARE NO RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THIS EXAMINATION. Preference in certification may be granted to candidates who have been a resident of the jurisdiction in which the appointment is to be made for one month preceding the date of the eligible list certification and who are residents of the jurisdiction at the time of appointment. Non-residents may be required to become a resident of the appointing municipality if local law so states. At present there are two vacancies at Erie 1 BOCES.

A promotion examination will be held at the same time as this examination. The list resulting from the promotion examination will be used first but appointments from this open competitive examination are anticipated. Use of the list may be suspended after it is one year old for any position which it is practical to fill through a new promotion examination.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates must meet one of the following requirements on or before the date of the written test:

- A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a bachelor's degree and six years of data processing experience in programming and systems development; two years of which were in a supervisory\* capacity; or:
- B) Completion of a certified course in computer programming as offered by a New York State approved technical training institute and seven years of data processing experience in programming and systems development; two years of which were in a supervisory \*capacity; or:
- C) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and eight years of electronic data processing experience in programming and systems development; two years of which were in a supervisory\* capacity; Or:
- D) An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A) and (C).

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Under current New York State Law, candidates seeking employment with school districts in New York State will be required to undergo fingerprinting and a criminal history background check prior to appointment. A processing fee may be required.

**Notice to Candidates: Transcripts will now be accepted by the Department of Personnel ONLY at time of application.  
All subsequent transcripts must be submitted at time of interview.**

**NOTES:** 1. \**Supervision* – Responsible direction and control of subordinate employees. This involves the assignment of work, approval of work, training, evaluation and discipline of employees. The supervisory aspects must be an integral part of the job, not incidental or occasional. 2. Verifiable part-time and/or volunteer experience will be pro-rated toward meeting the experience requirements. 3. Your degree and/or college credit must have been awarded by a regionally accredited college or university or one recognized by the New York State Education Department as following acceptable educational practices. A grade of "D" or better is necessary for a course to be credited as successfully completed. 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. You can write to this Department for a list of acceptable companies providing this service; you must pay the required evaluation fee.

**DUTIES:** A *Manager of Systems and Programming* plans, organizes, directs, controls and supervises all systems and programming functions; directs the allocation of specific skill resources to projects and problem resolution; plans, directs and controls the sequence in which projects are undertaken; confers with project leaders regarding potential project conflicts; coordinates concurrent projects when they occur; communicates development of guidelines, standards, priorities and emphasis; develops and administers overall system planning; plans and develops training programs for systems and programming staff and supervises and evaluates individual staff personnel; assists in staff recruitment and selection; keeps abreast of new methods, procedures and developments in the area of systems and programming; assists in the preparation of departmental budget with regard to systems and programming staff and equipment; maintains appropriate records and prepares reports on systems and programming functional responsibility areas; confers with Director, Central Data Processing on the development, implementation and review of departmental policy and procedures.

A medical examination may be required before appointment.

VETERANS: PROOF OF SERVICE MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE LIST IS ESTABLISHED  
TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL POINTS. (*See application for more information.*)

**NOTICES TO APPEAR FOR THE EXAMINATION ARE MAILED APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE EXAMINATION DATE  
NO CELL PHONES ARE PERMITTED AT THE EXAM SITE.**

EXAMINATION DATE  
**DECEMBER 5, 2009**

SEE  
REVERSE  
SIDE

APPLICATIONS MUST BE  
POSTMARKED BY  
**NOVEMBER 4, 2009**

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

1. **ADMINISTRATION:** These questions test for knowledge of the managerial functions involved in directing an organization or an organizational segment. These questions cover such areas as: developing objectives and formulating policies; making decisions based on the context of the administrator's position and authority; forecasting and planning; organizing; developing personnel; coordinating and informing; guiding and leading; testing and evaluating; and budgeting.
2. **IT ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISORY SIMULATION EXERCISE:** The simulation exercise requires the candidates to assume the role of a higher-level supervisor involved in directing the activities of a large subordinate staff, including subordinate supervisors in a computer services office. The exercise will require candidates to respond to supervisory situations and problems similar to those that could be encountered as a higher-level supervisor in a typical office setting. The candidates will be required to indicate actions he or she would take in response to information presented in the simulation exercise. The situations presented will relate to the personal interactions between an upper level supervisor and his/her subordinate supervisors in the accomplishment of operational objectives. Situations dealt with may involve, but not be limited to, such areas as: assigning work to and coordinating the activities of several units, establishing and guiding staff development programs, evaluating the performance of subordinate supervisors, and maintaining relationships with other organizational sections.
3. **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.
4. **PROJECT ADMINISTRATION SIMULATION EXERCISE:** This simulation exercise tests for the ability to guide a project team through the successful completion of a project. You will be asked to assume the role of a project team leader in an information technology unit. You will be required to respond to situations and problems that arise as the project develops. You may be asked to deal with situations involving planning, scheduling and controlling a project; working with users; preparing specifications for hardware and software; establishing procedures for performing and modifying project tasks; scheduling system development, installation, validation, testing and training; assuring that work is completed as specified; handling risk and closing a project.
5. **SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND DESIGN:** These questions test for techniques and concepts of computer systems analysis and design. They cover such subjects as feasibility and applications studies, systems development tools and software, the systems life cycle, types of systems (e.g., client/server, Web-based), controls, and systems documentation, testing, and implementation.

**NOTICE TO CANDIDATES:** Unless otherwise noted, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand held, solar or battery powered calculators. 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.

**NOTICE TO CANDIDATES WHO ARE ALSO TAKING ANOTHER CIVIL SERVICE EXAM(S) ON THIS DATE (See Below)**

**(IF YOU ARE TAKING 2 OR MORE ERIE COUNTY EXAMS ON THIS DATE IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO CALL)**

### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

If you have applied for other local government exams, call or write each Civil Service Agency to make arrangements. You must make your request for these arrangements no later than three weeks before the date of the exams. You must notify all local government civil service agencies with whom you have filed an application of the location at which you wish to take your exam(s). For this exam call (716)858-7509 or write Erie Co. Personnel Dept., 95 Franklin St, Buffalo, NY 14202.

**ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION:** Notice to appear for the test will be conditional as review of application for minimum requirements may not be made until after the written test. Call or write this Department if you have not received your notice 3 days before the date of the test. You may not be admitted to the examination room without official notice.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Applicants whose religious beliefs prevent their taking examinations before sundown on Saturday and physically handicapped candidates who require special examination facilities should so inform the Erie County Department of Personnel, by a separately mailed letter at the earliest possible date before the test.

**RATINGS REQUIRED:** Tests are rated on a scale of 100 with a passing mark at 70. Unless the announcement states otherwise, you must pass the written test and the oral test, if any. Test instructions may further divide the tests into parts and set minimum standards for each part.

**TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:** If a subject of the examination, training and experience may not be rated if all passing candidates are expected to be immediately reachable for appointment. If rated, training and experience will be based on the statements in your application subject to verification. If this examination includes a qualifying written test, candidates admitted to the test will have conditional approval only. Final decision regarding the qualifications of candidates rests with the New York State Department of Civil Service.

**VERIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates may be investigated or called for an interview to verify information contained on the application.

Verifiable part-time and/or volunteer experience may be pro-rated toward meeting full-time experience requirements.

**MEDICAL EXAMINATION:** You may be required to take a medical examination to determine if you are medically and physically capable of performing the duties of the position.

In accordance with State Law, Governor's Executive Order 6, and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended the County of Erie does not discriminate against handicapped persons in access to employment, during employment, or in any of its programs and activities.

**ELIGIBLE LIST:** The eligible list resulting from an examination may also be used for appointment to the same title or to any other title deemed to be similar and appropriate. Eligible lists are active for a minimum of one year and a maximum of four years from the date established.

**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. Applicants may be required to pay a fee for the investigation.

**NOTE:** Fingerprints are sometimes required at the time of appointment. When they are required, the fee involved must be paid by the appointee.

### **\*\*IMPORTANT APPLICATION FEE – READ CAREFULLY\*\***

A \$20.00 filing fee is required for this exam. The required fee must accompany your application. Send or bring check or money order made payable to Erie County Personnel Department and write the examination number(s) on your check or money order. Do not send or bring cash, as the County cannot be responsible for cash payment. As no refund will be made, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.

**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. The form is available at the Erie County Personnel Department, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY (Room 604) or can be downloaded from the County's website at [www.erie.gov](http://www.erie.gov). Click on "County Departments and Agencies", then "Erie County Civil Service".

**APPLICATION FORMS:** You may obtain these forms in person at the Erie County Personnel Department, Rath County Office Building, 95 Franklin St., Buffalo. Forms are also available in the libraries and at Town, Village and School District administrative offices.

Mail your application form when completed to the Erie County Department of Personnel, 95 Franklin St., Buffalo, NY 14202.

Candidates who submit incomplete applications and documentation may be disqualified. The Erie County Department of Personnel reserves the right to reject for lateness or to accept applications filed after the advertised filing period.

**MILITARY STATUS:** Active duty military personnel may file an application for this exam. A special military make-up examination will be conducted for any member of the armed forces of the United States who has duly filed a timely application but who was deprived of the opportunity to compete in the scheduled exam due to active military duty. Special conditions apply to these requests and may be reviewed at the Erie County Department of Personnel.

**VETERANS:** Disabled and non-disabled veterans as defined in Section 85, New York State Civil Service Law, will have 10 and 5 points, respectively added to their earned scores if successful in the examination. You must claim these credits when you file application but you have an option to waive them any time prior to appointment. If you have already used these credits for a permanent position in NYS, you may not claim them again.

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.

**APPLYING FOR EXAMINATIONS IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS ON SAME DATE.** If you have applied for any other Civil Service exams for employment with New York State or any other local government jurisdiction, you must make arrangement to take all the exams at one test site.

If you have applied for both State and Local government exams, you must make arrangements to take all your exams at the State exam center by calling 1-877-NYS-JOBS (1-877-697-5627) no later than two weeks before the test date.

This examination is prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service, and held in compliance with the New York State Civil Service Law and the rules and regulations of the New York State Department of Civil Service.