

**TOMPKINS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE  
VACANCY  
Inclusion Through Diversity**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Tompkins County Department of Human Resources Office  
125 E. Court Street  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 274-5526**

**Tompkins County is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply**

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**TITLE:** Speech-Language Pathologist

**SALARY:** \$34.00 hire rate; \$36.93 work rate

**TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT:** Full

**ISSUE DATE:** 12/28/23

**THE FINAL DATE TO FILE APPLICATIONS:** 02/19/24

**DATE THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM POSTING:** 02/20/24

**RESIDENCY WAIVED**

The County is establishing an in-house therapy team to provide evaluations and therapy services for children in the Early Intervention Program.

The positions will primarily provide services in the home.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State approved College or University with a Master's degree in speech therapy AND one year of full-time paid (or the equivalent part-time) post-licensure experience specifically performing speech therapy with children ages birth to three years; OR
2. Any combination of training and experience equal to or greater than that specified in (a) above.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

At the time of application, the candidate must possess a full license (limited permit to practice is not acceptable) and current registration issued by the New York State Education Department, to practice as a Speech and Language Pathologist in New York State.

All applicants must possess CPR certification (American Red Cross or American Heart Association) at the time of appointment and maintain such certification for the duration of employment.

All applicants are required to possess a valid New York State Driver's License at the time of application and maintain such license for the duration of employment.

Approved individual providers who deliver early intervention services must demonstrate continued professional development related to their professional field of practice, and on state and municipal policies and procedures of the Early Intervention Program, including participation in NYSDOH sponsored training. Providers shall participate in a minimum of ten clock (10) hours of professional development activities per year. Such professional development activities are not restricted to NYSDOH sponsored training and may include other professional activities necessary for licensure and activities identified by the provider to increase the provider's professional skills and knowledge. Providers must maintain documentation as proof of participation and must share this documentation with agencies that they deliver EIP services for. This documentation must be available at the time of provider monitoring review. New York State sponsored training is available online and free to providers and parents.

### **DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:**

This is a professional position involving responsibility for providing comprehensive evaluation, treatment, and education of a wide variety of services for individuals assigned to a speech therapy program. This work is performed under the written order of a physician and under the general supervision of the Division Director or supervisor. The Speech & Language Pathologist will work collaboratively with a diverse population of physicians, educators, children, their families/caregivers, and Whole Health staff as part of an interdisciplinary team to analyze the individual's needs and design a program that serves to improve the speech and/or feeding needs of the child. The employee exercises a high level of autonomy and independent judgment. Contact with children and their families is the primary function of the position. Duties and responsibilities focus on providing direct care to others. High interpersonal skills and understanding are needed to persuade, motivate, or influence others, to facilitate meetings involving important or difficult issues. Internal contacts are with employees in the immediate work unit and/or closely related units or support groups and are required to fulfill basic work objectives. External contacts are with professional associates, liaisons, community groups and involve the development and delivery of programs or services. The work requires moderate physical effort such as periods of sitting on the floor, walking, standing, bending, reaching or repetitive motion and lifting of moderately heavy items (like small children, equipment, and supplies). Equipment used requires considerable precision, manual dexterity and/or operating knowledge and skill. Due to extensive computer usage, the job requires considerable visual effort. Psychological demands are considerable for this position, with tight deadlines, and frequent exposure to distressing human situations. The work environment has moderate exposure to disagreeable conditions. The work involves some risk of minimal injury or illness. Supervision of others is not normally a function of this position. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

- Identification of children with communicative or oropharyngeal disorders and delays in development of communication skills, including the diagnosis and appraisal of specific disorders and delays in those skills;
- Referral for medical or other professional services necessary for the habilitation or rehabilitation of children with communicative or oropharyngeal disorders and delays in development of communication skills;
- Provision of services for the habilitation, rehabilitation, or prevention of communicative or oropharyngeal disorders and delays in development of communication skills;
- Develops evaluation and rehabilitation plans for children with speech and feeding delays/disorders/impairments;
- Uses a wide variety of modalities to provide treatment focusing on improving sound production, speech, language development, articulation, and feeding therapy;
- Evaluates child's cognitive and social aspects of speech delay, limitations and sensory integration with regards to challenging behavior and ineffective social skills;
- Performs and documents evaluation of child referred using evaluative techniques in order to diagnose speech delays/disorders/impairments;
- Administers standardized evaluation tests/assessments as primary or generalist evaluator within a team - with regards to five functional domains of growth and development – Communication (receptive and expressive), Physical (fine and gross motor), Cognitive (thinking and reasoning), Social Emotional and Adaptive (self-help skills);
- Establishes and implements long term and short-term therapy goals, treatment strategies and methods to aid in the treatment/remediation of the delays/disorders/ impairments;
- Collaborates with child's family and team to provide intervention to meet the developmental, educational, functional and medical speech therapy needs;
- Carries out plans to meet the needs of the child and family and routinely reviews the child's progress/delays with team members and supervisor;

- Consults with physicians and other health care and educational professionals and paraprofessionals as a member of a multidisciplinary team in developing and implementing appropriate therapeutic approaches;
- Develops and implements remediation programs on an individual and/or group basis based on evaluative data and behavioral objectives for each child;
- Provides therapy using various assistive technologies, augmentative communication devices, ASL, or adaptive feeding devices;
- Provides strength based therapeutic strategies/techniques to parents/guardians/family/daycare providers to increase their own capacity and confidence in their ability to help the child improve functional development relating to the delay/disorder/impairment;
- Observes and measures progress of child receiving service;
- Establishes and maintains professional contacts with relative outside agencies to further benefit the overall treatment of child's and families;
- Visits houses of child, parents/guardians, family, daycare providers and works to establish services according to child/family needs;
- Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, email and database software in performing work assignments;
- Prepares a variety of reports, including computer-based reports as required;
- Accesses protected educational and health information in accordance with departmental assignments and guidelines;
- Maintains a variety of case management related records;
- Reviews existing case records for available information for use in formulating need/plan of service in collaboration with other team members;
- Participates in Department emergency preparedness training, drills and events as required.

#### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

- Thorough knowledge of modern principles, practices and methods of Pediatric Speech and Feeding Therapy;
- Thorough knowledge of assistive technology devices or systems including therapeutic equipment and specialized techniques used in treating speech and feeding delays/disorders/impairments;
- Good knowledge and awareness of various cultural values and lifestyles;
- Good knowledge of federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines regarding the Early Intervention Program;
- Skill in successfully applying the principles of speech and feeding therapy to children aged birth to three years;
- Ability to interview, establish and maintain successful relations with others under various challenging conditions;
- Ability to make decision and take action in interventions in a variety of physical locations and social/interpersonal situations;
- Ability to present ideas clearly and concisely both orally and in writing;
- Ability to prepare and maintain records, reports and correspondences;
  - Ability to monitor the child for health and safety concerns;
- Ability to operate a computer for the entry and retrieval of data and research needed (speed is not a factor);
- Good powers of observation and analysis;
- Empathy, good judgment, initiative, tact, courtesy, and sensitivity is required;
- The employee's mental and physical condition shall be commensurate with the demands of the position.



## FURTHER INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Falsification of any part of the "Application for Employment" will result in disqualification.

Accepted candidates will be notified when and where to appear for the examination. If you do not receive your notice to appear at least three days before the date of the written examination, call Tompkins County Department of Human Resources at 274-5526. If an application is disapproved, due notice will be sent. This department does not make formal acknowledgment of the receipt of an application or take responsibility for non-delivery or postal delay.

Applicants must answer every question on the application form and make sure that the application is complete in all respects. Incomplete applications will be disapproved.

**ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL, VETERANS OR DISABLED VETERANS** desiring to claim additional credit will request the Veterans Credits application form, at any time between the date of application for examination(s) and the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible list. You must meet the requirements set by NYS for these credits and they may be used only once. **YOU MAY NOT CLAIM ADDITIONAL CREDITS AFTER THE ELIGIBLE LIST HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. IT IS THE CANDIDATE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO REQUEST THE VETERANS CREDIT APPLICATION FORMS AND TO SUBMIT THESE FORMS AND ANY SUPPORTING PAPERWORK BEFORE THE ELIGIBLE LIST IS ESTABLISHED.**

Tompkins County's written examinations are prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations, which deal with the rating and review of the examinations apply.

The duration of the eligible lists may be fixed for a minimum of one and a maximum of four years and may be extended beyond four years if there has been a restriction against the filling of vacancies in that title.

The candidates must complete a separate "Application for Employment" for each open-competitive and/or promotional examination that the candidate is eligible to take.

All experience required meeting the acceptable training and experience is full-time experience. (Part-time experience will be credited on a prorated basis).

Appointment from an eligible list must be made from the top three candidates willing to accept the appointment.

Tompkins County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. As part of its efforts to provide employment opportunities to the physically handicapped, Tompkins County Civil Service has adopted a rule permitting the employment of qualified physically handicapped persons without competitive examination (pursuant to Section 55 of Civil Service Law). If you meet the minimum qualifications for this position and wish to know more about this rule, please contact the Tompkins County Department of Human Resources Office.

Unless otherwise notified, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, and 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.

**CROSS-FILING - APPLYING FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS WHEN EXAMINATIONS ARE SCHEDULED ON THE SAME DATE:** When applying for examinations across multiple jurisdictions - all of which are scheduled on the same day - you must submit a Tompkins County Cross-Filing Form. This form must be submitted no later than 4:30 PM on the final filing date of the examination. On this form, list each examination that you are taking and then tell us where you would like to sit. The purpose is to ensure that all of the test materials for the various examinations that you are taking will be available in one location. If you do not provide the cross-filing form to us by the final filing date, we cannot ensure that we can accommodate your desire to cross-file. If any of the examinations are State level examinations, you must sit at the State test center. You will still need to complete the Tompkins County cross-filing form. If sitting at the State site, the State will notify you of when and where to report for your examination(s) and you should bring all admittance letters to the State site. If you are not taking a State examination, bring all admittance letters to your chosen testing site. If you have any question please call Tompkins County Department of Human Resources Department (607) 274-5526. The Cross File form is located at <http://www.tompkins-co.org/personnel/CivilSrvForms/index.html>

**FOR RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION AND HANDICAPPED PERSONS:** If special arrangements for testing are required, please indicate this on your application.

**ALL CANDIDATES FOR EMPLOYMENT FOR POSITIONS IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND BOCES GOVERNED BY TOMPKINS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE MAY HAVE THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL REQUIREMENT. PER CHAPTER 180 OF THE LAWS OF 2000, AND BY 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.**

In conformance with Section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, children of firefighters and police officers killed in the line of duties 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 firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duties 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:** 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.

TOMPKINS COUNTY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, 125 EAST COURT STREET, ITHACA, NY 14850