

TOMPKINS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

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

TITLE: Library Assistant

EXAM NO: 60051840

SALARY: Depends Upon Location. Tompkins County Public Library: \$26.00/hr - Working Rate

EXAM DATE: 12/01/25

ISSUE DATE: 10/27/25

THE FINAL DATE TO FILE APPLICATIONS: 11/10/25

DATE THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM POSTING: 12/01/25

RESIDENCY: Candidates must have been legal residents of Tompkins County or one of the six adjoining counties (Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Schuyler, Seneca, Tioga) for at least one month immediately preceding the date of application and maintain residency. For Examinations: The eligible list resulting from the examination will be established in accordance with the final earned numerical ratings of passing candidates regardless of residence. A municipality or district may exercise its right under section 23-4-a. of Civil Service Law to request a certification of eligible candidates who have been residents of that municipality or district for at least one month prior to appointment. After the names of residents have been exhausted, Tompkins County must then certify the names of non-residents on the list.

This position requires the ability to work occasional evenings and/or weekends.

LOCATION OF POSITIONS/VACANCIES:

There are currently multiple vacancies in the title of Library Assistant located at the Tompkins County Public Library. The eligible list resulting from this "Training and Experience Evaluation" examination may be used to fill any appropriate full-time, part-time, and/or temporary vacancies that may occur during the life of the eligible list.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EITHER:

- (a) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered four year college or university with a Bachelors Degree; **OR**
- (b) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college with an Associates Degree **AND** two years full-time paid (or the equivalent part-time and/or volunteer) library experience; **OR**
- (c) Any combination of training and experience equal to or greater than that described in (a) and (b) above.

Tompkins County is Committed to Equity and Inclusion. We encourage those with similar values to apply.

DISTINGUISHED FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

A Library Assistant performs paraprofessional librarian or specialized non-librarian duties in support of the accredited library staff. The incumbent is required to operate independently within prescribed guidelines. The work is performed under the general supervision of a member of the accredited Library staff. May direct or supervise the work of support staff or volunteers within a work group. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Assists professional librarians in providing reference service to library users, using print and digital information resources;
- Assists librarians by providing advice, guidance and instruction to library users on the effective use of library resources in all formats;
- Manages outreach services to selected sites and user populations by partnering with local organizations and businesses;
- Organizes library programs, prepares library displays and exhibits both on and off site;
- Manages the acquisition process, accurately and efficiently acquires, receives, catalogs, and processes library materials, and summarizes and prepares related invoices for payment;
- Resolves problems with vendor services;
- Prepares information for fliers, calendars, and event information;
- Prepares statistical and/or narrative reports, memorandum and correspondence;
- Prepares research and completes forms relative to grant proposals;
- Keeps informed of library trends;
- May perform tasks in accordance with specialized background and skills.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Good knowledge of library research and reference methods;
- Working knowledge of basic printed reference tools and sources;
- Working knowledge of basic computer systems;
- Ability to supervise small groups of staff or volunteers on a regular basis;
- Ability to learn and use new reference sources in electronic and digital formats;
- Ability to read and comprehend written material;
- Ability to express ideas clearly and accurately, orally and in writing;
- Ability to get along well with patrons, staff and volunteers;
- Ability to lift objects such as books, supplies, and files;
- Ability to perform calculations involving basic arithmetic functions;
- Ability to perform all of the duties of the position accurately;
- Ability to make decisions, follow procedures and carry out assignments independently;
- Attention to detail, tact and courtesy required;
- The employee's physical and mental condition shall be commensurate with the demands of the position, either with or without reasonable accommodations.

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Scope of the Examination

There will be no written or oral test for this examination. If you meet the minimum qualifications, you will receive a rating based upon an evaluation of your training and experience against the duties of the position being tested.

Candidates must first complete the Tompkins County electronic employment examination application by 4:30 p.m. EST on or before the last filing date of **11/10/2025**.

Approved candidates will be sent a notice containing directions to a website address needed to complete a Training and Experience Questionnaire.

The Training and Experience Questionnaire will be available on December 1, 2025, and approved candidates will be required to complete and submit this questionnaire between December 1, 2025 and midnight, December 31, 2025.

NOTE: Candidates will not be able to claim any credit for training or experience gained after the application filing deadline of **November 10, 2025**.

Candidates who fail to submit a questionnaire by midnight, **December 31, 2025** will not receive a rating.

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