



DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES ANNOUNCES A  
PROMOTION EXAMINATION FOR:

Title: Purchasing Agent  
(City of Poughkeepsie)

Number: 70017720A

Salary: \$65,000-70,000 – City of Poughkeepsie

Date of Examination: 04/18/2026

Applications Accepted Until: 03/06/2026

Applications postmarked 03/06/2026 will be accepted.

Applications accepted until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Administration of an exam does not imply a vacancy exists.**

**A \$15.00 fee and examination application are required for each separately numbered examination:** Application processing fee is payable by check, money order or credit card. Cash is **NOT** accepted. Check or money order must be made payable to “Commissioner of Finance” with the examination number and title indicated on the check or money order. The fee may be waived for candidates meeting certain criteria. See application for more details regarding fee waiver. **Read the announcement carefully; the application processing fee will NOT be refunded to disapproved applicants.**

**NOTE:** When applying for both open competitive and promotion or open competitive and interdepartmental promotion examinations for the same title, the examination fee will be waived for the promotion or interdepartmental promotion examination only.

**VACANCY:** 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 Poughkeepsie.

**NOTE:** An Open Competitive examination is being given in conjunction with this Promotion examination. The Promotion eligible list will be certified **FIRST**.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR EXAMINATION:** On or before April 18, 2026, to be eligible for the promotion examination, employees must meet the promotion qualifications listed below:

Candidates must possess two (2) years of permanent competitive class status as a Senior Account Clerk or Principal Account Clerk in the City of Poughkeepsie immediately preceding April 18, 2026.

**NOTE:** According to Civil Service Law, section 52.10(a) which became effective September 4, 2024, time served provisionally immediately preceding permanent appointment shall count towards meeting the time in title and the employee shall be eligible to take the promotion examination.

**DUTIES:** This position involves the responsibility of the advertising for and the purchasing of all municipal supplies and equipment through the use of prescribed methods and procedures. The incumbent is authorized to issue purchase orders without prior approval of higher-level administrative personnel when law does not require formal bidding procedures. Work is performed under general direction. Supervision may be exercised over subordinate technical or clerical employees. **EXAMPLES OF WORK (Illustrative Only):** Prepares, or supervises the preparation of, all bid specifications and statements of general bidding conditions to be included in every notice or invitation to bid; advertises for, solicits, and reviews bids from vendors; maintains lists of bidders and offers, records the history of supplier performance, and issues purchase orders; awards contracts of sale to vendors for the purchase of equipment and supplies as directed; supervises and participates in the preparation of specifications for items to be purchased; keeps current on price trends and market conditions and new or improved items of supply; supervises the clerical review of requisitions from operating departments and the maintenance of records of expenditures; discusses purchasing needs with the department heads and other administrative officials; verifies deliveries of materials ordered; maintains liaison with contractors and sellers in their dealings with the purchasing office; maintains an up-to-date, complete catalog and price listing for pertinent commodity groups, including New York State contract listings; maintains vendor listings and verifies new vendor sources; uses computers to obtain instant and accurate product and price listings, to track inventory levels, process routine orders, and help determine when to make purchases if employed by Dutchess County Government, supervises, the County’s Purchasing Card (P-Card) Program.

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

**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.

**Understanding and interpreting written material**

These questions test for the ability to understand and interpret written material. You will be presented with brief reading passages and will be asked questions about the passages. You should base your answers to the questions **only** on what is presented in the passages and **not** on what you may happen to know about the topic.

**Principles and practices of purchasing**

These questions test for candidates' knowledge of the principles guiding governmental purchasing operations and the ability to put them into practice. These questions may deal with but are not necessarily limited to such matters as the analysis of bids, the use of specifications, the award of contracts, the analysis of market factors that can affect the cost of a purchase, and the application of a set of rules to determine how to proceed with a purchase. Some arithmetic computation may be necessary. No specific knowledge of NYS purchasing laws, rules and regulations will be required to answer these questions.

**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.

**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 on line at:

<https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>.

The use of calculators is **RECOMMENDED** for this exam.

DUTCHESS COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.  
APPLY ONLINE AT [WWW.DUTCHESSNY.GOV/JOBS](http://WWW.DUTCHESSNY.GOV/JOBS)

\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT  
ISSUED: 02/10/2026

SEE REVERSE

IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\*

FOR ADDITIONAL EXAMINATION INFORMATION OR TO APPLY ONLINE VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
AT <https://dutchess-portal.mycivilservice.com/> or [dutchessny.gov/jobs](https://dutchessny.gov/jobs)

When the examination is prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23.2 of the Civil Service Law, the administration of this examination, including rating and review, is governed by the provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

SENIORITY shall be computed from the date of original permanent appointment in the classified service.  
One point for each creditable five-year period up to a maximum of five points as follows:

|                                  |          |                                   |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Less than 1 year-----            | 0 points | Over 11 years up to 16 years----- | 3 points |
| 1 year up to 6 years-----        | 1 point  | Over 16 years up to 21 years----- | 4 points |
| Over 6 years up to 11 years----- | 2 points | Over 21 years up to 26 years----- | 5 points |

Transfer from service in other government units within New York State shall be included in computing seniority.

**GENERAL INFORMATION - PROMOTIONS**

The position the promoted individual vacates will only be filled on a temporary basis or contingent permanent basis pending the satisfactory completion of their probationary period. At any time during the probationary period the employee can return to the position that he or she was promoted from.

RETURNED CHECK FEE: A \$20.00 fee will be required for all returned checks. Failure to submit the returned check fee will disqualify you from the exam in which you participated.

**FINGERPRINTING: An appointing authority may require a fingerprint supported background investigation before appointment. The candidate may be responsible for paying any associated fees with this service.**

MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS: If you are applying for civil service examinations offered by other government jurisdictions (New York State, another county, city, etc.) that are being held on the same date as this examination, you must make arrangements to take all examinations at one test site. Note: If you have applied for both New York State and Dutchess County examinations, you must take all examinations at the State site. **You are required to complete and return a Cross-File Form, available on the Dutchess County website [www.dutchessny.gov](https://www.dutchessny.gov), to the Dutchess County Department of Human Resources no less than two (2) weeks prior to the examination date.** Failure to provide such information within this time frame may result in disqualification from one or more examinations.

ALTERNATE TEST DATES may be arranged upon review of documented circumstances in accordance with established policy. Such arrangements must be made prior to the exam except for emergency situations or active military service.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION: – If you cannot take the test on the announced test date (most written exams held on Saturdays) due to a conflict with a religious observance or practice, indicate this on your application. You will be granted an alternate test date, usually during the following week.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION: If you require an accommodation or special assistance in taking an exam, indicate this on your application. Documentation will be required.

WEATHER: In case of inclement weather the morning of the examination, please call the Examinations Hotline at 845-486-2167 and select option 3. You may also listen to the following radio stations for possible delays or other updates:

|           |          |           |        |         |                |
|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|---------|----------------|
| WEOK/WPDH | WKIP/Q92 | WBNR/WSPK | WCZX   | WGNY    | WRWD/WBWZ      |
| 1390AM    | 1450AM   | 1260AM    | 97.7FM | 1220AM  | 107.3FM/93.3FM |
| 101.5FM   | 92.1FM   | 104.7FM   |        | 103.1FM |                |

COLLEGE CREDITS AND/OR DEGREE: Your degree or college credit 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 the United States and its territories, you 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>. You must pay the required evaluation fee.

VETERANS: Military personnel who are either in the service at time of examination or who have already been discharged may apply for disabled or non-disabled veterans’ credits if they meet established criteria. Candidates who are interested in these additional credits should request an application and information sheet from the Dutchess County Department of Human Resources. Veterans’ application forms will also be available on the website and upon request at the examination center. The completed forms and DD-214 (Member 4 Copy) must be received in the office as soon as possible after the examination date or before the eligible list for this examination is established.

CALCULATORS: Unless otherwise notified, 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.

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION: Do not interpret a notice to appear for, or actual participation in the examination to mean that you have been found to meet fully the announced requirements. Depending on the time available before an examination, *applicants may be admitted to the examination on the basis of statements made on the application or conditionally, without prior review of the application. Such statements may not be reviewed and/or verified until after the examination is held.* At that time, those candidates not meeting the requirements are disqualified. Candidates who are subsequently disqualified after taking the test will NOT be notified of their score. **If you do not receive a notice three days prior to the date of examination informing you whether or not you are to be admitted to the examination, call the Dutchess County Department of Human Resources immediately at 845-486-2169.**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify this office immediately of any change of address. The appropriate change of address form is available on the website, in the Dutchess County Department of Human Resources, and will be available at the examination center.

RESIDENCE PREFERENCE: Pursuant to Section 23.4a of Civil Service Law, preference in appointment from open-competitive lists may be given to candidates who have been residents in a locality or school district in which appointment is to be made for at least 30 days prior to certification of the eligible list. For appointment in some jurisdictions you may be required to become a resident thereof in accordance with law or resolution.

NOTE: 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.

APPLICATIONS: May be obtained online at [www.dutchessny.gov](https://www.dutchessny.gov), by sending a legal-sized, self-addressed, stamped envelope or visiting the Dutchess County Department of Human Resources, 22 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 (9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday).

“HOW TO TAKE A WRITTEN TEST” and questions and answers about MUNICIPAL CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS publications are available on and can be fully downloaded from the New York State Department of Civil Service website [www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm](http://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm).