



DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES ANNOUNCES AN  
OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR:

Title: School Food Service Director I  
Number: 60004630  
Salary: \$80,000-85,000 – Salary will vary with each school district

Date of Examination: 05/03/2025  
Applications Accepted Until: 03/14/2025  
Applications postmarked 03/14/2025 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.**

**VACANCY:** The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used, when appropriate, to fill vacancies as they occur in all units under the jurisdiction of the Dutchess County Department of Human Resources.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** On or before May 3, 2025, to be eligible for this examination, applicant must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Either: (A) Bachelor's degree in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, restaurant management, hospitality management, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a closely related field;
- OR: (B) Bachelor's degree and a New York State recognized certificate for school nutrition directors;
- OR: (C) Bachelor's degree and one (1) year of relevant school nutrition programs experience;
- OR: (D) Associate's degree in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, restaurant management, hospitality management, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a closely related field and at least one (1) year of relevant school nutrition programs experience;
- OR: (E) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and at least three (3) years of relevant school nutrition programs experience;
- OR: (F) An equivalent combination of education, training and experience between the limits of (A) and (E) above.

**NOTES:**

1. Unless otherwise specified, part-time experience will be pro-rated towards meeting the full-time experience requirements.
2. The Professional Standards for State and Local Nutrition Program Personnel are required by the federal Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 and corresponding rules which became effective on July 1, 2015.

**Definitions:**

1. **A State recognized certificate for school nutrition directors (as referenced in option (B) above):** means a certified dietician or a certified nutritionist per article 157 of NYS Education Law.
2. **Relevant experience in school nutrition programs – (as referenced in options (C), (D) and (E) above):** is experience specifically having worked in any child nutrition program in some capacity, but not necessarily in the food service director position. This includes the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Summer Food Service Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. The experience is relevant/acceptable if it provides the applicant with familiarity of the USDA's school nutrition program.

**Anticipated Eligibility – Age and Educational Requirements:**

According to Civil Service Law, section 54 which became effective September 4, 2024, applicants who are within 12 months of meeting the minimum age or attaining the minimum educational requirements following the date of examination, may take the civil service exam, but will be restricted from certification until such a time that the minimum age or educational requirements are met.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Candidates must complete 8 hours of food safety training not more than 5 years prior to their starting date, or within 30 days of their start date.

**DUTIES:** The incumbent of this position is responsible for the fiscal and nutritional operations in a school district with an enrollment of 2,499 or fewer students and serves as the school district's designee for this function to the New York State Education Department. **EXAMPLES OF WORK (Illustrative Only):** Plans and directs the operation of the school breakfast and lunch programs for all schools in the district in accordance with State and federal guidelines; Serves as technical advisor to the school administration in the formulation of policies, procedures and plans for the operation of the school food service program and carries out the established policies; Coordinates the purchase of foods, supplies and equipment; Selects, trains and supervises school lunch personnel, determines staff assignments and evaluates work performance and when necessary makes recommendations regarding discipline and dismissal; Directs the preparation of the school food service program budget for current and long-range expenditures and advises the administration of capital outlay for equipment; develops cost-effective menus that maintain nutrition integrity and meet all local, state, and federal guidelines and regulations; establishes budget control and accounting procedures and maintains and/or supervises the maintenance of financial records; designs and/or implements ongoing training programs for students on issues relating to the effective operation of the district's food service program; ensures staff completes necessary continuing education requirements; prepares and analyzes reports relating to school lunch program activities; consults with architects and builders on layouts for alteration or construction of school food service kitchens and dining rooms; consults with staff, students and community agencies to provide better understanding and more efficient operation of the program(s); develops a safety program for the use of cafeteria facilities and equipment and implements a continuous program of inspection to ensure the elimination of hazardous conditions in the cafeteria areas; may maintain employee time records; may research, file and monitor grant applications/grants designed to improve food service operations.

**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.

**Basic nutrition and dietetics**

These questions test for knowledge of basic nutrition and dietetics, including such areas as the nutritional value of foods, nutritional needs of the persons being served, balanced diets, and specific foods and their relationship to health.

**Overseeing food service operations**

These questions test your ability to assess the management and performance of food service operations in maintaining standards of quality, sanitation, and service. Questions may cover such topics as food service management practices, large scale food preparation equipment and techniques, sanitation standards for food service premises, holding and serving prepared foods, storing and handling food products, and sources of food contamination and foodborne illnesses.

**Supervision and training**

These questions test for the knowledge required by a supervisor to set goals, plan and organize work, train workers in how to do their jobs, and direct workers towards meeting established goals. The supervisory questions cover such areas as assigning and reviewing work, evaluating performance, maintaining work quality, motivating employees, increasing efficiency, and dealing with problems that may arise on the job. The training questions cover such areas as determining the necessity for training, selecting appropriate training methods, and evaluating the effectiveness of training.

**Working with office records**

These questions test your ability to work with office records. The test consists of two or more sets of questions, each set concerning a different problem. Typical record keeping problems might involve the organization or collation of numerical data from several sources; maintaining a record system using running balances; or completion of a table summarizing data using totals, subtotals, averages and percents. **You should bring with you a hand-held battery- or solar-powered calculator for use on this test.** You will not be permitted to use the calculator function of your cell phone.

**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**

\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT  
ISSUED: 02/18/2025

SEE REVERSE

IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\*

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

**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-Filer Form**, available on the Dutchess County website [www.dutchessny.gov](http://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	WGNV	WRWD/WBWBZ
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](http://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).