



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

Title: Research Assistant  
Number: 69587010  
Salary: \$71,640 – Dutchess County (2024 Salary)

Date of Examination: 05/17/2025  
Applications Accepted Until: 04/16/2025  
Applications postmarked 04/16/2025 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 17, 2025, to be eligible for this examination, applicant must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- EITHER: (A) Master's Degree;  
OR: (B) Bachelor's Degree PLUS two (2) years of work experience which involved research and/or statistical analysis, program evaluation, or data analysis;  
OR: (C) An equivalent combination of education, training and experience as indicated in (A) and (B) above.

**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.

**NOTE:** Unless otherwise specified, part-time experience will be pro-rated towards meeting the full-time experience requirements.

**DUTIES:** This is a professional position in which the incumbent analyze data, designs, performs and supervises research projects and produces a number of statistical and special project reports. In addition, the position involves responsibility for the management of a data information system. The work involves extensive use of electronic data processing equipment. General supervision is received from the Department head. Supervision may be exercised over subordinate staff.

**EXAMPLES OF WORK (Illustrative Only):**

**In the Department of Mental Health:** Depending upon assignment, specializes in the management of the Medical Records Unit or the Service Reporting Unit in the Office of Research and Evaluation in the Department of Mental Health; develops design implementation for research projects to be conducted by the office staff; supervises the collection and analysis of statistical data relating to units of service, staff productivity and other delivery system factors; prepares reports in written and/or tabular format, using standard and in-house software packages to retrieve and present information in a clear and usable manner; attends meetings with Director of Research and Evaluation and other department staff as necessary to discuss progress of special research projects; coordinates preparation of Federal, State and other periodic reports concerning service volume and patterns of service, and may act as liaison, concerning such reports; develops or revises reporting forms for the departmental management information system; supervises clerical staff engaged in the maintenance of records and other data; assists in the training of new departmental staff in the operation of the departmental management information system; presents oral and/or written reports at Executive Council and other departmental meetings when requested, explaining research methods, procedures and results; may assume limited duties of the office head in his/her absence.

**In the Department of Planning and Development:** Analyzes economic, employment, land use, housing, and transportation data for research and support of planning; assembles, collects, processes, analyzes, and interprets data from various sources; defines data requirements, and designs databases to satisfy the objectives; develops or revises

**EXAMPLES OF WORK (Illustrative Only) continued from page 1:** reporting and/or data collection forms for the departmental data systems; ensures the currency, accuracy, and integrity of datasets/databases; may train staff in the use and/or operation of department data systems; prepares reports, infographics, maps in written and/or graphic/tabular format, using standard and in-house software packages (such as ArcGIS) to retrieve and present information in a clear and usable manner; presents oral and/or written reports at departmental and other meetings when requested explaining research methods, procedures and results; acts as a resource for other staff, the public, and clients; attends specialized training in area of expertise. **In the Department of Probation:** Develops an in-depth understanding of all Department of Probation functions, programs, operations, software platforms and related data structures; designs, develops, modifies and maintains management reports, data, and/or databases per user specifications to meet data analysis needs; proactively investigates and identifies reporting improvement opportunities to meet information service needs and solve problems; validates and analyzes data applying critical thinking and analytical abilities; develops ad hoc reporting tools that can be used by probation administration and the management team and serves as primary contact for all reporting requests; creates and presents management reports and dashboards using related computer software with users' input explaining research methods, procedures and interpreting skills; makes oral and written presentations, serve on teams/committees, cross-training for other jobs, and special projects. assists in writing grants and preparing data to be used in grant applications as assigned; coordinates and tracks data related to contract agencies including outcomes and performance metrics; gather necessary information in order to establish or renew and monitor agreements with contractors; develops agency standards and document data access procedures for inputting data into case management software and other databases; trains employees in the access and use of reports and to follow the procedures; provides in-house IT support and acts as a liaison with the Office of Central and Information Services (OCIS) for IT services.

**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.

**Basic statistical concepts**

These questions test for knowledge of the analytical methods used to reduce and describe large sets of numerical data. The questions cover such areas as the organization and presentation of data, statistical terminology, central tendency, variability, the normal curve, and correlation. You will not be required to do any substantial manipulation of data.

**Understanding and interpreting tabular material**

These questions test your ability to understand, analyze, and use the internal logic of data presented in tabular form. You may be asked to perform tasks such as completing tables, drawing conclusions from them, analyzing data trends or interrelationships, and revising or combining data sets. The concepts of rate, ratio, and proportion are tested. Mathematical operations are simple, and computational speed is not a major factor in the test. **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**.

**Evaluating conclusions in light of known facts**

These questions will consist of a set of facts and a conclusion. You must decide if the conclusion is proved by the facts, disproved by the facts or if the facts are not sufficient to prove or disprove the conclusion. The questions will not be specific to a particular field.

**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

SEE REVERSE

IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\*

ISSUED: 03/26/2025

Research Assistant, Open Competitive #69587010 continued:

**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.

**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	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](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).