

# CAREER OPPORTUNITY



## SARATOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

ISSUED 4/5/24

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY

### SARATOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES ANNOUNCES AN OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR

### PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGIST

#### EXAMINATION #63-287

**PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGIST**, Saratoga County. The results of this eligible list will be used to fill vacancies as they occur under the jurisdiction of the Saratoga County Human Resources Department.

SALARY  
\$76,081

LAST DATE TO FILE  
April 22, 2024

DATE OF EXAMINATION  
June 1, 2024

**RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS-HANDICAPPED PERSONS:** If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.

**RESIDENTS:** Candidates must have been legal residents of New York State for at least FOUR months immediately preceding the date of the test. Pursuant to subdivision 4a of Sec. 23 of the Civil Service Law, preference may be given to successful candidates who have been legal residents of the municipality to which the appointment is to be made for at least FOUR months preceding the date of the written test.

**AN APPLICATION FEE OF \$10.00 (residents and non-residents)** is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your online application. If applying and paying in person, we accept **Check, money order and debit/credit only. CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** \$20 returned check fee. Please make checks payable to the Saratoga County Treasurer's Office. *The \$10 fee is non-refundable. Therefore, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission stated in the "minimum qualifications" section of the examination announcement and file only for those examinations for which you are "clearly qualified". Vague application will not weigh in applicants favor. Applicants will be notified right away if they do not meet minimum qualifications/requirements.*

**APPLICATION FEE WAIVER:** A waiver of application fee will be allowed if you are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household. In addition, a waiver of application fee will be allowed if you are determined eligible for Medicaid, or receiving Supplemental Security Income payments, or Public Assistance (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/Family Assistance or Safety Net Assistance) or are certified Job Training Partnership Act/Workforce Investment Act eligible through a State or local social service agency, or if you are an honorably discharged Military Veteran (DD214). **All claims for application fee waiver are subject to verification. If you can verify eligibility for application fee waiver, "Request for Application Fee Waiver and Certification" form is available as part of the online application process; you may also submit it with your manual application. All applications must be received by the close of business by the deadline as listed on the announcement. A copy of this document can be obtained from the Saratoga County Human Resources Office or on our website at [www.saratogacountyny.gov](http://www.saratogacountyny.gov).**

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

Under general supervision, this position requires the exercise of independent judgment in the epidemiological investigations, surveillance, prevention and studies.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A) Possession of a Doctoral degree in public health, epidemiology or biostatistics from an accredited college or university, with a concentration in epidemiology or biostatistics, and one (1) year of satisfactory experience conducting an epidemiological surveillance and control program or data analysis in the areas of infectious diseases (including but not limited to COVID-19), chronic diseases and environmental conditions. **OR...**
- B) Possession of a Master's degree in public health (or equivalent degree) from an accredited college or university, with a concentration in epidemiology or biostatistics; and one (1) year of satisfactory experience conducting an epidemiological surveillance and control program or data analysis in the area of infectious diseases (including but not limited to COVID-19), chronic diseases or environmental conditions; **OR...**
- C) Possession of a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university and continuing certification in Infection Control and Epidemiology issued by the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Possession of valid NYS Driver's License at time, and for duration, of appointment as well as access to transportation.

(Degree must have been awarded by a college or university by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the US Department of Education/US 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.)

**THE WRITTEN TEST** will be designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas:

**Educating and interacting with the public.**

These questions test for knowledge of techniques used to interact effectively with individuals and/or community groups, to educate or inform them about topics of concern, to publicize or clarify agency programs or policies, to negotiate conflicts or resolve complaints, and to represent one's agency or program in a manner in keeping with good public relations practices. Questions may also cover interacting with others in cooperative efforts of public outreach or service.

**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.

**Public health issues & practices.**

These questions test for knowledge of significant public health problems and strategies for promoting and protecting the public health. Topics may cover such areas as immunization programs, disease vectors, sexually transmitted diseases, disease surveillance, epidemiology, public education, disease reporting and control.

**Statistical methods and techniques (Health).**

These questions test for knowledge of methods and techniques used to present and interpret medical and health data and statistics. Topics may cover such areas as: calculation of latency, morbidity and mortality rates, preparation and interpretation of various types of tables and graphs, and drawing conclusions from health data and statistics.

**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>.

**NOTICE TO CANDIDATES:** “UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED, CANDIDATES ARE RECOMMENDED 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.

**SECTION 243-b** Provides that any member of the armed forces of the United States who had duly filed an application to compete in a scheduled competitive examination, but was deprived of the opportunity to compete in a scheduled competitive examination due to active military duty be provided with a special military makeup examination

**SECTION 85a OF THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW:** 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.

**VETERAN CREDITS:** For the purpose of claiming veteran credits on a Civil Service examination, an applicant must have served in the armed forces of the United States at any time during the following periods:

World War II – December 7, 1941 to and including December 31, 1946

Korean War – June 27, 1950 to and including January 31, 1955

Vietnam Conflict – February 28, 1961 until May 7, 1975

Lebanon – June 1, 1983 – December 1, 1987

Grenada – October 23, 1983 – November 21, 1983

Panama – December 20, 1989 – January 31, 1990

Persian Gulf – August 2, 1990 to the end of such hostilities (not yet determined)

For hostilities in Lebanon, Grenada, and Panama, the individual **must** have received the Armed Forces, Navy, or Marine Corps expeditionary medal. Beginning January 1, 1998, the NYS Constitution allows members of the US Armed Forces who are on active duty (other than for training purposes) the right to request **extra War Time Veterans Credits** on civil service examinations prior to discharge.

If you are currently on active duty, you may request the addition of veteran's credits to your examinations score. You must request the extra credits on your examination application in the space provided. If you pass the examination, the credits will be added automatically. To use the extra credits at the time of appointment you must have received an honorable discharge, be a US citizen, and be a resident of New York State. The extra credits can only be used for one NY local Government permanent appointment.

**SECTION 23.2:** This entire 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 provisions of the New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations which deal with the rating of examinations will apply.

**APPLICATIONS:** You may apply online through the careers link on the website. Hard copy applications are available on our website: [www.saratogacountyny.gov](http://www.saratogacountyny.gov), by phoning 518-885-2225 or in our Office at Saratoga County Human Resources, 40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Time and location of examination will be mailed to approved candidates one week prior to the date of the examination.

*If you require reasonable accommodation in completing this application, interviewing, completing any pre-employment testing, or otherwise participating in the employee selection process, please direct inquiries to the Human Resources Office.*

*Saratoga County is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where diversity is valued and recognized as a source of strength and enrichment. We seek to attract talented people from a diverse range of backgrounds and cultures, and encourage women, people of color, LGBTQ individuals, those with disabilities, members of ethnic minorities, foreign-born residents, and veterans to apply.*