



City of Oswego

Personnel Department

13 West Oneida Street Oswego NY 13126

Phone: 315-342-8159 • Fax: 315-342-8248

www.oswegony.org

Examination Announcement

FIRE CHIEF

EXAMINATION NUMBER:	62-134 (OPEN-COMPETITIVE) Open to everyone
LAST FILING DATE:	DECEMBER 13, 2016 (Applications will NOT be accepted after this date)
EXAMINATION DATE:	JANUARY 7, 2017
EXAM FEE:	\$25.00 (NON-REFUNDABLE)

PAY RATE: \$105,310

FILING FEES: A non-refundable fee of \$25.00 is required for **each** separate examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your application. Write the name and number of the exam(s) on your check or money order **payable to the City of Oswego** and submit the check or money order with your application. **Cash will not be accepted.** A \$20.00 charge will be imposed on checks returned for insufficient funds. You are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for this position. You should file an application only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified. No refunds will be made to applicants who are disqualified or fail to appear.

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. **All claims for application fee waiver are subject to verification. If you can verify eligibility for application fee waiver, complete a "Request for Application Fee Waiver and Certification" form and submit it with your application by the close of business on the Application Deadline as listed on the Examination Announcement.** The Request for Application Fee Waiver form is available at the Personnel Department, City of Oswego, 13 West Oneida Street, Oswego NY 13126, or by calling 342-8159.

VACANCIES: A single eligible list will be established as a result of this examination and will be used to fill future vacancies as they occur in the City of Oswego.

POSITION SYNOPSIS: The incumbent is responsible for all activities of the Fire Department; does related work as required.

This is a highly important administrative position involving responsibility for planning and directing all firefighting and fire prevention activities. The position entails responsibility of the highest order for the protection of lives and property. The instruction and training of recruits, as well as the maintenance of high standards of performance throughout the force, are final responsibilities of the Chief. Administrative direction is received from the Mayor.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS: There is no residency requirement for taking this examination. However, Public Officers Law, Section 3(4) requires employees of the City of Oswego Fire Department to be residents of Oswego County.

CROSS-FILING: If you have applied for any other civil service examinations to be given on the same test date for employment with New York State or any other local government jurisdiction excluding New York City, you must make arrangements to take all the examinations at one test site.

If you have applied for both STATE and LOCAL government examinations, you must notify the City of Oswego Personnel Department of your intent to take both a STATE and LOCAL government examination. When taking both a STATE and LOCAL examination you will be required to take all your examinations at the STATE examination center. You will be advised by letter when and where to report for your examinations.

If you have applied for another local government examination with another local civil service agency, call or write to each civil service agency to make arrangements. You must make your request for these arrangements no later than TWO weeks before the date of the examinations. You must notify all local government civil service agencies with whom you have filed an application of the test site at which you wish to take your examination.

APPLICATION DEADLINE POLICY: Applications/exam fees must be submitted to the City of Oswego Personnel Department before close of business at 5:00pm on the last filing date listed on the examination announcement. Applications received via U.S. mail will be accepted only if postmarked on or before the last filing date. Applications received through inter-office mail or via facsimile after the last filing date will not be accepted.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: *(Candidates must meet the following requirements)*

Ten (10) years of progressively responsible paid, professional firefighting experience in a municipal fire department, at least three (3) years of which must have been at or above the second-line supervisory level.

NOTE: Second-line supervision refers to the second level of supervisory authority in an agency. For the purpose of these qualifications, it must include the supervision of paid, supervisory firefighting personnel.

A bachelors degree or higher in Public Administration, Management Science, Business Administration or a related field may be substituted for 1 (one) year of second-line supervisory experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a valid New York State Class D driver license or a valid driver license equivalent to the New York State Class D driver license at time of appointment and maintenance of said license for the duration of employment.

Effective March 12, 2010, the City of Oswego's tolerance policy for experience is as follows:

One month of tolerance will be allowed for each required year of experience up to a maximum of three months.

This policy will apply for all examinations held after March 12, 2010.

SCOPE OF EXAMINATION:

Written test will cover knowledge, skills and/or abilities in such areas as:

1. Administrative supervision

These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices involved in directing the activities of a large subordinate staff, including subordinate supervisors. Questions relate to the personal interactions between an upper level supervisor and his/her subordinate supervisors in the accomplishment of objectives. These questions cover such areas as assigning work to and coordinating the activities of several units, establishing and guiding staff development programs, evaluating the performance of subordinate supervisors, and maintaining relationships with other organizational sections.

2. 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.

3. Fire administration job simulation exercise

This job simulation exercise tests for the ability to develop and maintain fire department programs and activities. The questions will be based on a simulated set of administrative issues that a Chief Officer may be asked to analyze and respond to in a working day. The questions cover such areas as organizational relationships, planning, staffing, managing resources, budgeting, public relations, rules and regulations, and political and social concerns impacting the fire service.

4. Fire emergency job simulation exercise

This job simulation exercise tests for the ability to manage an emergency incident. The emphasis is on command-level actions and decisions in handling the incident from start to finish. The questions will cover such areas as principles and tactics of firefighting, accountability at a fire scene, hazardous materials, cause investigation, emergency medical care, community relations, and the incident command system, including interacting with other agencies and the media.

5. Preparing written material

These questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately, and to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly. For the Information Presentation questions, you will be given information in two or three sentences, followed by four restatements of the information. You must then choose the restatement which presents the original information most clearly and accurately. For the Paragraph Organization questions, you will be given paragraphs with their sentences out of order. You must then choose, from four choices, the best order for the sentences.

A Guide for the Written Test for Fire Chief/Assistant Fire Chief is available at the New York State website: www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm . Candidates not having access to a computer or the internet may request copy of the test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found elsewhere on this announcement.

Use of **CALCULATORS** is **PROHIBITED**.

This examination is being 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 dealing with the rating of exams will apply to this examination.

OSWEGO CITY GOVERNMENT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER
AND ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR THESE EXAMINATIONS

ISSUED: November 17, 2016



M. Rita Tickle
Personnel Director

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Applications and additional information is available at the Personnel Department, City of Oswego, 13 West Oneida Street, Oswego NY 13126, or by calling 342-8159, or on the web at www.oswegony.org.
2. Unless otherwise indicated on this announcement, the candidate will complete one "Application for Employment" for each open-competitive exam he/she wishes to take.
3. Falsification of any part of the "Application for Employment" will result in disqualification and possible legal action.
4. Approved candidates will be notified when and where to appear for the examination. No one will be admitted into the examination without the official admission letter. If an application is rejected, due notice will be sent. The Department does not make formal acknowledgment of the receipt of an application.
5. Applicants must answer every question on the application form and make sure the application is complete in all respects. **Incomplete applications will be disapproved.**
6. If you have not received your notice to appear for the exam three days before the exam date, call 342-8159.
7. It is your responsibility to notify this office of any change of address/phone number that may have occurred since this examination and for the duration of the resulting eligible list.
8. Unless otherwise noted, 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.
9. Active service members, veterans or disabled veterans desiring to claim additional credit may submit an "Application for Veterans Credit" prior to the establishment of the eligible list. Forms are available upon request at the Personnel Department.
10. Military Service members on active duty on the exam date may request a military makeup exam by calling 342-8159. Members on active duty or discharged during the exam filing period may apply for the exam up to ten days before the exam date.
11. Candidates who fail the examination, or who fail to appear for the examination as scheduled, will be eliminated from further consideration.
12. The duration of the eligible list shall be fixed for up to four years. Changing conditions may make it advisable to certify for future vacancies at higher or lower level salaries than those announced.
13. Inquiries may be made to character and ability and all statements made by candidates are subject to verification.
14. Disabled persons: If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application form.
15. Special Requirement for Appointment in the School District: 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 as involving contact with students, a clearance for employment from the State Education Department is required.