

**MUNICIPAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK**  
**EXAMINATION FOR**  
**No. 68-761 FIREFIGHTER**  
**BUREAU OF FIRE**

An **OPEN COMPETITIVE** examination for the position of **FIREFIGHTER, BUREAU OF FIRE** will be held on Saturday morning, **JUNE 27, 2009** at East Middle School Cafeteria, 167 East Frederick Street, Binghamton, New York at **9:00 A.M.**

**VACANCIES:** The eligible list established as a result of this examination will be used to fill vacancies as they occur.

**MINIMUM SALARY:** \$43,384.00 per year.

A fee of **\$17.50** is required for each separately numbered examination for which you apply. The required fee must accompany your applications. Applicants should make their fee checks or money orders payable to the **City of Binghamton** and write the examination number(s) and your Social Security number on your check or money order. As **no refund** will be made, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.

**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. Such claims are subject to later verification and if not supported by appropriate documentation, are grounds for barring appointment.**

Application blanks and fee waivers may be obtained at the office of the Municipal Civil Service Commission, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, City Hall, Government Plaza, Binghamton, New York, or from the **City Web-Site at www.cityofbinghamton.com** and must be filed at said office on or before **Wednesday, May 27, 2009, at 5 P.M.** Applications filed prior to the announcement of this examination are not a guarantee that you are registered to take this examination. An application for examination must be filed during the filing period listed on this announcement.

**CROSS FILER STATEMENT:**

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 make arrangements to take all your examinations at the State examination center by calling (518) 474-6470 in the Albany area or toll free at 1-877-697-5627 [press 2, then press 1], no later than two weeks before the test date.

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(s).

**RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS:**

**CANDIDATES MUST HAVE BEEN LEGAL RESIDENTS OF BROOME COUNTY FOR AT LEAST ONE MONTH IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE EXAMINATION DATE.**

**HOWEVER, SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES MUST BE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, PURSUANT TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON.**

**CANDIDATES MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION.**

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma.**

**TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:** Must be a New York State Certified Emergency Medical Technician or must become one within one year of appointment. Must also perform all Emergency Medical Services as required by the Bureau of Fire.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS:**

- (a) Not less than 18 years of age;
- (b) Candidates must be well proportioned and their weight and height must be within the range of accepted standards as determined by Medical Examiner;
- (c) Eligibility for N.Y.S. Operator's License.

**DRIVER'S LICENSE:** To be eligible for appointment, candidates must possess an appropriate New York State Driver's License.

**NOTE: CONVICTION OF A FELONY WILL BAR AND CONVICTION OF A MISDEMEANOR OR OTHER OFFENSE MAY BAR CANDIDATES FROM EXAMINATION AND APPOINTMENT.**

**DUTIES:** This is a position concerned with fire fighting and fire prevention work. The work is of a hazardous nature involving fire fighting, lifesaving and salvage activities. The work is performed under the supervision of a Fire Lieutenant or higher ranking officer who provides guidance and direction in fighting fires as well as in maintaining fire station facilities and fire fighting apparatus and equipment. Does related work as required.

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

Subjects of examination: A written test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas:

1. Advising and interacting with others

These questions test for the ability to interact with other people, to gather and present information, and to provide assistance and advice in a courteous and professional manner.

2. Using logical reasoning to draw valid conclusions

These questions test for the ability to examine true statements and logically evaluate conclusions based on the information in the statements.

3. Mechanical reasoning

The questions in this subtest will be accompanied by sketches or descriptions of various mechanical devices, hand tools, dials or gauges. The candidate may be required to demonstrate an understanding of how the devices work or of the underlying mechanical principles involved in the devices' operation; or be required to recognize, or know the use for, various tools or devices; and also be required to make accurate readings of dials and gauges. The various devices, tools, gauges, etc., pictured or described in this subtest are commonly used and not limited to use in the fire service.

4. Understanding and interpreting written material pertaining to fire

The questions in this subtest test how well the candidate comprehends written material. The candidate is provided with brief reading selections, followed by a set of alternative statements relating to each selection. The candidate is to indicate the most appropriate statement relating to the selection on the basis of whether it:

a. accurately paraphrases portions of the selection; or b. adequately summarizes the selection; or c. presents an inference that can reasonably be drawn from the selection.

The reading selections are drawn from a variety of sources related to the fire fighting field. Knowledge of the subject matter of the reading selection is generally not related to successfully answering the questions.

**The New York State Department of Civil Service has published a test guide intended for candidate preparation use for this particular examination. This test guide contains important test-related information as well as sample test questions similar to the questions that will be used in this written test.**

**The New York State Department of Civil Service is making a copy of this test guide and other related information available on its web site at [www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm](http://www.cs.state.ny.us/testing/localtestguides.cfm) A copy of the Guide to Taking the Written Test for this particular test is available upon request at time of application in the Civil Service Office, 38 Hawley Street, City Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Binghamton, New York 13901.**

**\*\*\*The use of calculators is ALLOWED for this exam.** You 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. You may not bring books or other reference materials to the examination.

**PHYSICAL AGILITY TEST:** To be given to reachable candidates after the establishment of the Eligible List.

**Note: Failure to appear for a scheduled physical fitness screening test will be considered equivalent to failure.**

**CANDIDATES WHO PASS THE WRITTEN TEST AND ARE GIVEN A CONDITIONAL OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO PASS QUALIFYING MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS. FAILURE ON A QUALIFYING TEST WILL BAR CANDIDATES FROM THE ELIGIBLE LIST.**

**QUALIFYING MEDICAL TEST:** To be given by a qualified medical person designated by this Commission only after a Conditional Offer of Employment is made. Detailed medical requirements will be supplied upon request. Candidates will be rejected for vision less than 20/40 in either eye without glasses. Total corrected vision must be 20/20 for both eyes together. Candidates will also be rejected if they fail a color blindness test or hearing test. A satisfactory EKG will also be required. Candidates must be of a physical condition as necessary to perform the essential functions of the position.

**QUALIFYING PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION:** The Binghamton Fire Department will administer a psychological screening test and submit it to a qualified psychologist.

**Note:** Candidates must pass all of the qualifying tests to be certified for appointment from the eligible list.

**NO-RETEST POLICY:** Candidates who must pass qualifying Physical, Medical and Psychological examinations will only be examined once. Failure on any part of a qualifying examination will render the candidate ineligible for certification and appointment from the eligible list. Candidates will be required to retake the written examination prior to taking another qualifying examination. There will be no retesting for Drug Screenings, Physical Abilities, Medical or Psychological Examinations required for any Civil Service Examinations and or appointments.

**VETERAN CREDITS:** Veterans or disabled veterans who are eligible for additional credit must submit an application for veteran's credit with their application for examination or at any time between the dates of their application for examination and the date of the establishment of the resulting eligible *list*. Applications for veteran's credit are available from this office. Veteran's credits can only be added to a passing score on the examination. Effective January 1, 1998, the State Constitution was amended to permit a candidate currently in the armed forces to apply for and be conditionally granted veteran's credit in examinations. Any candidate who applies for such credit must provide proof of military status to receive the conditional credit. **No credit may be granted after the establishment of the list.** It is the responsibility of the candidate to provide appropriate documentary proof indicating that the service was in time of war, as defined in Section 85 of Civil Service Law, and that the candidate received an honorable discharge or was released under honorable conditions in order to be certified at a score including veteran's credits.

**MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Section 243-b(1): Any member of the armed forces who properly filed an application for a competitive examination within the announced filing period, but was unable to participate in the examination due to active military service, must be provided with a special make-up examination. This applies to veterans covered by Section 242 or 243 of the Military Law, as well as any other applicant who, due to active military service, was prevented from participating in a competitive examination for which he/she timely filed an application.

Section 243-b(2): All members of the armed forces who miss the application deadline for a civil service examination due to active military service are provided with the ability to participate in either the scheduled examination holding or a make-up examination, subject to the policy of the civil service agency administering the examination.

Contact the Binghamton Civil Service Office for more information.

**Children of Firefighters and Police Officers killed in the line of duty:** "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 the Department of Personnel 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."

**RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION—INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES:** If special arrangements for testing are required, indicate this on your application. Most written tests are held on Saturdays. If you cannot take the test on the announced test date due to a conflict with a religious observance or practice, indicate this on your application. We will make arrangements for you to take the test on a different date.

**EMERGENCY WEATHER CONDITIONS:** Examination will be held unless the Local Public Safety Agency verifies that the closing of specific roads, highways or independent transportation services will prevent candidates from reaching the test center

If candidates have not received a notice to appear for the written test four days before the date of the test, they should call the Municipal Civil Service Commission at (607) 772-7008.

Important: A copy of the general instructions may be obtained upon request to the Municipal Civil Service Commission, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, City Hall.

This examination is announced and will be rated in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the N.Y.S. Civil Service Laws, Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of the examinations will apply to this written test.

**THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER**

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Scott McNerney  
Civil Service Administrator

**Posted: 04-27-09**

**Last Date To File: 05-27-09**