



CITY OF ITHACA

108 East Green Street Ithaca, New York 14850-5690

OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES / CIVIL SERVICE

Telephone: 607 / 274-6539 Fax: 607 / 274-6574 E-mail: hrdept@cityofithaca.org

FORESTRY TECHNICIAN OPEN-COMPETITIVE EXAM NO. 66-690

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL:

March 12, 2020

EXAMINATION WILL BE HELD:

April 25, 2020

ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS: Applications must be received by the City of Ithaca Human Resources Department no later than 4:30 PM EST on the last filing date indicated above. Postmarks are not accepted. All applications must be original applications, either hard copy or electronically submitted through our online application program. We do not accept faxed applications, e-mailed applications or photocopies of applications.

APPLICATION MATERIALS REQUIRED: A City of Ithaca application, copy of high school and college transcripts, and copy of driver license.

VACANCIES: Currently, there is one (1) vacancy in the City of Ithaca Department of Public Works. The eligible list established as a result of this examination may be used to fill this vacancy and any future vacancies that may occur during the life of the eligible list.

RESIDENCY: Candidates must be legal residents of New York State at least one month prior to the date of the examination. Preference in certification may be given to candidates who are residents of the municipality in which appointment is to be made, provided that the candidate is a resident of such municipality at the time of examination and remains a resident of such municipality continuously thereafter, up to and including the dates of certification and appointment.

SALARY: \$50,690

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The work involves responsibility for performing a variety of technical and administrative urban forestry tasks to support management and field operations activities in the Parks and Forestry Section of the Department of Public Works. The work is performed under the general supervision of the City Forester with latitude given for the exercise of independent judgment in the performance of the work. While some work is performed in an office environment, most is performed outdoors, in all weather conditions. Forestry Technicians may be required to respond to emergencies at night and on weekends. Supervision may be exercised over the work of Citizen Pruners, other volunteers, and seasonal interns in daily activities. Does related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered university with a Master's degree in Forestry, Horticulture, Plant Science or a closely related field with similar course curriculum; or

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (continued):

- B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Forestry, Horticulture, Plant Science or a closely related field with similar course curriculum and two (2) years of full-time paid experience, or its part-time and/or volunteer equivalent, identifying tree disease, insect infestation or other tree maintenance needs, and which shall have included performing maintenance on large trees located in urban or residential areas; or
- C. Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university with an Associate's degree in Forestry, Horticulture, Plant Science or a closely related field with similar course curriculum and four (4) years of full-time paid experience, or its part-time and/or volunteer equivalent, identifying tree disease, insect infestation or other tree maintenance needs, and which shall have included performing maintenance on large trees located in urban or residential areas; or
- D. Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and six (6) years of full-time paid experience, or its part-time and/or volunteer equivalent, identifying tree disease, insect infestation or other tree maintenance needs, and which shall have included performing maintenance on large trees located in urban or residential areas; or
- E. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A) and (B) above.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 1. Possession of a valid New York State Class D driver license or a valid driver license equivalent to a New York State Class D driver license at the time of appointment and maintenance of said license for the duration of employment.
- 2. Candidates must obtain a Certified Arborist certification issued by the International Society of Arboriculture within twelve (12) months of the date of appointment and must maintain said certification for the duration of employment.
- 3. Candidates must obtain a Commercial Pesticide Technician License issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation within twelve (12) months of the date of appointment and must maintain said certification for the duration of employment.

If you expect to complete the educational requirement within six (6) months of the date of examination, you can be admitted to this examination. If successful on the examination, you will not be certified for appointment until you have submitted proof of completion of the requirements to the Civil Service Commission. Proof must be submitted within eight months of the date of examination. Failure to do so will result in removal of your name from the eligible list.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: Applicants may be required to undergo a State and national criminal history background investigation, which will include a fingerprint check, to determine suitability for appointment. Failure to meet the standards for the background investigation may result in disqualification.

SCOPE OF THE EXAMINATION: The written examination will cover knowledges, skills and/or abilities in such areas as:

1. Tree felling, removing, spraying, and trimming

These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices involved in pruning, trimming, felling, and removing trees; proper spraying procedures for applying pesticides; and safe operating procedures.

2. Tree and shrub planting, cultivating, transplanting, and pruning, including identification and characteristics of trees common to NYS

These questions test for knowledge of the principles, practices, and proper techniques involved in planting, cultivating, transplanting, and pruning trees and shrubs; and the ability to identify various types of trees and woody plants common to New York State, including their characteristics and site requirements.

3. Tools, equipment, terminology, and safety practices related to the care and removal of trees

These questions test for knowledge of the proper use and maintenance of the various types of tools and equipment involved in the care and removal of trees, including safe operating practices.

4. Principles and practices of urban forestry

These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices of urban forestry, including tree and shrub selection, planting, transplanting, cultivating, and maintenance; identification and treatment of growth and disease problems; identification of various types of urban trees, including their characteristics and site requirements; and knowledge of operating goals and considerations in the field of urban forestry.

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>.

NOTE: Most Civil Service examinations do not require the use of a quiet, hand-held calculator or slide rule; however, candidates have the option of bringing a battery-operated or solar-powered calculator to the test room unless specifically notified that their use is prohibited. Devices with typewriter keyboards, spell checkers, Personal Digital Assistants, Address Books, Language Translators, Dictionaries, or any similar devices are prohibited. **USE OF CALCULATORS IS ALLOWED FOR THIS EXAM.**

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION - CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES - MILITARY MEMBERS:

—— Applicants whose religious beliefs or military service prevent their taking examinations on the scheduled date and candidates with disabilities who require special accommodations to take the test should indicate the need for special arrangements on their application. Candidates who are

called to military service after filing an application should send requests for an alternate test date to the City of Ithaca Human Resources/Civil Service Department before the test date.

_____ Military Service Members: If you apply for an examination during the filing period but are on active military duty on the date the examination is scheduled, you may request a military makeup examination. Contact the City of Ithaca Human Resources/Civil Service Department for more information. If you are on active duty or discharged after the filing period has begun, you may apply for the examination up to ten days before the test date.

SECTION 23.2 STATEMENT: This examination will be prepared and rated in accordance with Section 23(2) of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of New York State Civil Service Law, Rules and Regulations dealing with the preparation and rating of examinations will apply to this examination.

APPLICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED: at the City of Ithaca Human Resources/Civil Service Department - 108 East Green Street - Ithaca NY 14850. You may also apply online or download an application at <https://ithaca-portal.mycivilservice.com>.

TIME AND PLACE OF THE EXAMINATION: Approved candidates will be notified by mail regarding the time and place of the examination. If notice of approval or disapproval is not received three (3) days prior to the exam date, please call the City of Ithaca Human Resources/Civil Service Department at (607) 274-6539.

MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY: If you have applied to take a written test announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same test date as this written test, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than two weeks before the test date, so they can make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center.

VETERAN'S CREDIT: 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.

ADDITIONAL CREDIT FOR 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 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.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. Falsification of any part of the "Application for Employment" will result in disqualification.
2. Applicants must answer every question on the application form and make sure that the application is complete in all respects. Incomplete applications will be disapproved.
3. Candidates who wish to take more than one examination must complete the "Application for Employment" for each examination. If you are cross-filing for another examination to be held on the same date, please indicate this on the application and specify the examination title and number, and the jurisdiction offering the other examination.
4. Appointments from an eligible list must be made from the top three candidates willing to accept appointment. The duration of an eligible list may be fixed for a minimum period of one (1) year and a maximum period of four (4) years.
5. It is the responsibility of the candidate to notify the City of Ithaca Human Resources/Civil Service Department of any change in address. No attempt will be made to locate candidates who have moved.

Issued by: City of Ithaca Civil Service Commission
January 28, 2020

The City of Ithaca is committed to Equity and Inclusion. We encourage those with similar values to apply.