



City of
Ithaca

Chief Financial Officer (Controller)

The City of Ithaca, NY is seeking qualified applicants for the role of Controller!

The Controller serves the City's Chief Financial Officer and as a leading advisor to the City Manager and senior administration. This individual will serve as the department head for the City's Finance Department, which includes the Controller's Office and the Office of the City Chamberlain.

Key responsibilities include:

- Financial Oversight: Maintains all municipal accounting records and conducts City audits.
- Budget Management: Develops and manages the annual budget.
- Payroll Administration: Prepares payroll for all City employees.
- Financial Reporting: Prepares complex reports on the City's financial status, ensuring compliance with established accounting principles and relevant laws.

Qualified candidates will hold a master's degree in Accounting, Business Administration, Public Administration or a closely related field and four years of accounting or auditing experience; **or** a bachelor's degree and six years of experience as previously defined; **or** an associate's degree and eight years of experience as previously defined, two years of which must have been in a supervisory capacity; **or** an equivalent combination of training and experience as previously defined.

[Click here](#) to view the full job description. We value diverse perspectives and life experiences. People of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Salary Range:
\$125,000 - \$150,000

Benefits:

New York State Retirement
Competitive, low cost medical insurances
Additional benefit information can be found [here](#)

Apply Today:

<https://ithaca-portal.mycivilservice.com/>





About the Candidate & Position:

The ideal candidate will have experience in municipal finance, financial oversight, budget management, and financial reporting. In this position, the successful candidate will have an unique opportunity to drive organizational change, establish new modes of fiscal oversight and management, and support the implementation and sustainability of innovative programs that benefit the Ithaca community.

About the Organization:

- Transitioned to a Council-Manager form of government in January 2024.
- Approximately \$111 million City budget.
- Employs approximately 426 permanent employees, increases to approximately 480 with seasonal employment.
- Ten (10) departments: Attorney's Office, City Manager's Office, Department of Information and Community Engagement (DICE), Department of Public Works, Finance, Fire, Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC), Human Resources, Planning & Development, Police, and Youth Bureau.

About the Community:

Recently recognized as #1 on CNN Travel's 2025 America's Best Towns to Visit, Ithaca, New York is celebrated for its remarkable natural beauty, including numerous waterfalls, lakes, and scenic trails. The city is also a vibrant college town, home to Cornell University and Ithaca College, which contribute to a rich arts, culture, and intellectual community. Ithaca offers a high quality of life supported by access to outdoor recreation, diverse neighborhoods, local dining, and an active civic environment. Whether exploring one of the city's many parks or participating in community events, residents enjoy a welcoming and dynamic place to live and work.

Additional Information:

The Chief Financial Officer (Controller) is an unclassified position with no residency requirements. To apply, please visit: <https://ithaca-portal.mycivilservice.com/>. Required application materials include: City application, resume, cover letter and copy of high school or college transcript(s).

Note: College degrees must have been awarded by, and college coursework must have been completed at, a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education and/or U.S. Secretary of Education. If an applicant's degree was awarded by, or coursework was completed at, an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, the applicant must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. Applicants are responsible for payment of the required evaluation fee.

Applications will be accepted through January 16, 2026. Please contact Madlyn Allen, HR Specialist with any questions by phone (607)-274-6404 or by email at mallen@cityofithaca.org.