



## CITY OF ITHACA

108 East Green Street Ithaca, New York 14850-5690

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### OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES / CIVIL SERVICE

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# **POLICE CHIEF – TYPE C OPEN-COMPETITIVE EXAM NO. 67-924**

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL:

January 16, 2019

EXAMINATION WILL BE HELD:

March 2, 2019

**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.

**<<NOTE:** A promotional examination is being held in conjunction with this open-competitive examination. In the event that a vacancy occurs in a department or agency for which a promotional list exists, the promotional list shall be used first.>>

**APPLICATION MATERIALS REQUIRED:** An original City of Ithaca application, copies of high school and college transcripts, and a copy of your driver license.

**VACANCIES:** Currently, there is one (1) vacancy in the City of Ithaca Police Department. 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:** There are no residency requirements for this exam.

**SALARY:** \$97,272 - \$116,726

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is the principal administrative position of the Police Department. The work involves complete charge and responsibility for all police functions, and requires exceptional ability to plan and direct law enforcement activities on a large scale. Responsibility is involved for seeing that recruits are thoroughly trained and that high standards are maintained. General direction is received from the Mayor. The work is reviewed through conferences and reports. General supervision is exercised over the activities of all subordinate members of the police force. Does related work as required.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and seven (7) years of progressively responsible law enforcement experience, at least two (2) 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 supervisory law enforcement officers. In the Ithaca Police Department, for example, it would equate to the level of Police Lieutenant. Second-line supervisory experience must have been gained through an actual appointment into a second-line supervisory position. “Acting” or “out-of-title” second-line supervisory experience is not qualifying experience.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:**

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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section of law, general, special or local, in political subdivisions maintaining a police department serving a population of one hundred fifty thousand or less, no person shall be appointed to any rank above the rank of police officer unless he or she has been appointed a police officer from an eligible list established according to merit and fitness as provided by Section 6 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of New York, or has previously served as a member of the New York State Police.

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. Knowledge of law enforcement methods, practices and procedures**

These questions test for knowledge of accepted police methods and practices and/or their application to situations in the police field. The questions are a sampling of the various knowledge that police personnel may be required to possess in the course of their day-to-day, work-related activities. Areas covered include investigation procedures, patrol techniques, police-community relations, courtroom procedures, personnel practices, policy making and budgeting procedures.

**2. Knowledge of New York State laws**

These questions test the candidates' knowledge of the laws in effect on January 1, 2019. This portion of the test is a sampling of the various sections of the law that police personnel may encounter in the course of their day-to-day work-related activities. Laws covered may include the

Penal Law, Criminal Procedure Law, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Family Court Act, and other laws relevant to law enforcement in New York State.

### **3. Police Administrative Supervision and Administration**

These questions test for the knowledge of managerial functions involved in directing the operations of a B or C level police department as well as the knowledge of the principles and practices involved in supervising a large subordinate staff, including subordinate supervisors. These questions cover such areas as: developing objectives and formulating policies; forecasting and planning; organizing and coordinating; informing and instructing; guiding and leading; decision-making and problem solving; communicating effectively; staffing and staff development; time management; assigning work and evaluating performance; handling conflict and grievances; and budgeting.

### **4. Job simulation exercises in police administration and command**

Against the background of knowledge required for the position, this will include two job simulation exercises that cover such areas as: human resources management, management of operations, problem-solving, decision-making under pressure, public relations, and police procedure.

### **5. Understanding and interpreting written material**

These questions test how well you comprehend written material. You will be provided with brief reading selections and will be asked questions about the selections. All the information required to answer the questions will be presented in the selections; you will not be required to have any special knowledge relating to the subject areas of the selections.

### **6. Preparing written material in a police setting**

These questions test for the ability to prepare the types of reports that police personnel write. Some questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately. They consist of restatements of information given in note form. You must choose the best version from each set of four choices. Other questions test for the ability to organize paragraphs. They consist of paragraphs with their sentences out of order. For each of the paragraphs you must choose, from four suggestions, the best order of the sentences.

#### **P. E. R. C. Statement**

The final rating key for this examination will be established by the State Civil Service Commission prior to the testing date, upon recommendation of a committee of police experts who will review all the questions for appropriateness and accuracy. There will be no review of the questions by candidates. The committee was selected with the assistance and endorsement of the Police Conference of New York, Inc., the New York State Association of PBAs, Inc., and the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

A Guide for the Written Test for Police Chief/Assistant Chief is available at the New York State website: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.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.

**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 PROHIBITED 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  
December 3, 2018

**THE CITY OF ITHACA  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER WITH A COMMITMENT TO WORKFORCE DIVERSIFICATION**