



**NIAGARA COUNTY  
CIVIL SERVICE  
111 Main Street – Suite G2  
Lockport, New York 14094-2740**

*Malcolm A Needler  
Personnel Officer  
(716) 438-4071*

---

---

## **SENIOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR**

### **No 70-863 Promotional Examination**

**Salary Varies**

The examination will be held to establish an eligible list used to fill one current vacancy in the Town of Lewiston and any other appropriate vacancies in the Town of Lewiston and City of North Tonawanda that may occur during the life of the list. **The list established from this exam will supersede any existing list for this title.**

**PROMOTIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates must be permanently employed in the competitive class and must have served on a permanent basis for two (2) years as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator in his/her respective civil division immediately preceding the date of the written examination.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:**

1. Possession of a Grade 3 Wastewater Operator certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at time of appointment;
2. Possession of a Grade 4 Wastewater Operator certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation within two (2) years of permanent appointment and for the duration of employment. (This requirement does not apply for the Town of Lewiston.)

**SENIORITY CREDIT:** Seniority is based on the length of continuous permanent classified service in the jurisdiction in which promotion is sought, with points added to an eligible candidate's passing score for each appropriate five-year period or fraction thereof in accordance with the following schedule:

Less than 1 year	0 points
1 year up to 6 years	1 point
Over 6 years up to 11 years	2 points
Over 11 years up to 16 years	3 points
Over 16 years up to 21 years	4 points
Over 21 years up to 26 years	5 points

**DUTIES:** The work involves responsibility for assisting in the supervision of safe and efficient operation and maintenance of a Grade 3 or 4 wastewater treatment facility with either an activated sludge or other than activated sludge process plant. General supervision is received from the Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator with leeway allowed for planning work activities and dealing with emergency conditions. Supervision is exercised over subordinate operators, trainees, and technicians. Does related work as required.

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY OR POSTMARKED BY THE FILING DEADLINE.  
YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE DISAPPROVED IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED BY THE FILING DEADLINE.**

**FILING DEADLINE**

**JUNE 23, 2021**

A non-refundable \$15.00 application fee is required.  
Apply and pay online or submit a check or money order  
payable to: **Niagara County Civil Service**

ANNOUNCEMENT ISSUED: May 28, 2021

**EXAMINATION DATE**

**AUGUST 7, 2021**

**NOTICE TO CANDIDATES:** The use of calculators is **ALLOWED**. Unless otherwise notified, candidates are permitted to use quiet, hand-held, solar or battery powered calculators. Devices with typewriter keyboard such as computers, spell checkers, personal digital assistants, address books, language translators, dictionaries or any similar devices are prohibited. **Cell phones and smart watches are prohibited.**

**FEE WAIVERS:** Waivers for the filing fee must be completed in full and submitted with required supporting documentation or your application will be disapproved.

**SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION:** There will be a written test which you must pass in order to be considered for appointment. The written test will be designed to test for knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in such areas as:

1. **Operation and maintenance of pumps, valves, and related mechanical and electrical equipment:** These questions test for knowledge of the principles and procedures involved in the operation, maintenance, and repair of pumps, valves, and related mechanical and electrical equipment, including motors and electric circuitry; and for the ability to identify various types of pumps, valves, and related equipment and understand their functions.
2. **Physics, chemistry, and bacteriology related to wastewater treatment and disposal, including laboratory and field tests for plant operations:** These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices of wastewater treatment, disposal, and testing, including such areas as the principles of physics, chemistry, and bacteriology involved; terminology associated with wastewater treatment and testing; operating principles of the equipment and procedures used in wastewater treatment; measurements and measuring devices used; sampling and testing wastewater and interpreting the results; and identification and characteristics of chemicals and bacteria involved in wastewater plant operations and testing. Some questions may involve basic arithmetic calculations.
3. **Practices and equipment used in the operation and maintenance of a Type A wastewater treatment plant:** These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices associated with the operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment plants employing the activated sludge process or its modifications (Type A plants), including such areas as objectives of plant processes, techniques, and equipment; terminology associated with Type A wastewater treatment plants; conditions and situations encountered in Type A wastewater treatment plants; plant safety and monitoring; and equipment and materials used in Type A wastewater treatment plants. Some questions may involve basic arithmetic calculations.
4. **Tools, mechanical aptitude, and reading of scales, meters, and gauges:** These questions test for knowledge of the tools used in water and wastewater treatment plants; the ability to identify various types of tools and their uses; knowledge of general mechanical principles and the operation of various types of mechanical devices such as gears, pulleys, levers, valves, and similar types of mechanical equipment; and the ability to read and interpret information displayed on various types of scales, meters, and gauges.
5. **Supervision:** These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices employed in planning, organizing, and controlling the activities of a work unit toward predetermined objectives. The concepts covered, usually in a situational question format, include such topics as assigning and reviewing work; evaluating performance; maintaining work standards; motivating and developing subordinates; implementing procedural change; increasing efficiency; and dealing with problems of absenteeism, morale, and discipline.

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>.

**CANDIDATES NOTE:** You are responsible for completing all sections of the official application. To receive credit for experience on a job, basic information such as address, name and title of supervisor, hours in the work week, final salary, and duties performed by you, must be shown. Be very specific in explaining experience that will qualify you for the position sought. Ambiguity and vagueness will not be resolved in your favor. **EACH SEPARATE SHEET ATTACHED TO THE APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED.**

**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 arrangement for taking all tests at one test site. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State Examination Center.

This examination will be prepared and rated in accordance with Section 23(2) of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Law, Rules and Regulations dealing with preparation and rating of examinations, as well as establishment and certification of eligible lists for positions in the classified service will apply to this examination.

Please review **[IMPORTANT EXAMINATION INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES](#)**