

CITY OF WATERTOWN, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

245 Washington Street, Room 205

Watertown, New York 13601

www.watertown-ny.gov

Issued: March 10, 2026

ANNOUNCES A PROMOTION EXAMINATION FOR **Police Sergeant** EXAM # 70029-410

FILING FEE: \$15.00 **non-refundable** fee. Cash, check or money order payable to City Comptroller are accepted. Include examination number on your check. **Credit cards are ACCEPTED ONLINE ONLY.** See general instructions regarding exceptions to the fee requirement. Applicants whose personal checks are returned for insufficient funds will be charged an additional fee

TO BE HELD: Saturday, **June 13, 2026**

LAST FILING DATE: Applications must be **received** no later than 11:59 PM **Sunday, May 10, 2026**

VACANCIES: The eligible list resulting from this examination will be used to fill appropriate vacancies as they occur in the City of Watertown Police Department

SALARY: \$75,540 - \$93,459

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: You must meet the minimum qualifications as written.

For Appointment: Candidate must have five (5) years of full-time experience as a sworn officer with the Watertown City Police Department.

SENIORITY: Points will be added to an eligible score as follows:

- Less than one year seniority 0 points
- One year up to six 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: An employee in this class is responsible for the police work of subordinates or for specialized duties that he or she personally performs. Supervision is exercised over the work of patrol officers, school traffic officers, and other subordinate departmental personnel. Work is performed under supervision of superior officer. Does related work as required. **A complete job description is available from the office of the Civil Service Commission.**

SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION: You must pass a **written test** with a score of 70 or higher to be considered for appointment. The written test is designed to test for knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in areas such as:

Law enforcement methods and practices- 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.

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.

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.

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.

New York State Laws - These questions test for knowledge of the laws in effect on January 1, 2025 that law enforcement personnel may encounter in the course of their day-to-day work-related activities. The questions are a sampling of job-related sections of the Penal Law, Criminal Procedure Law, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Family Court Act and other laws relevant to law enforcement in New York State.

A Guide for the Written Test for Police Supervisors/Investigators 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.

USE OF CALCULATORS: Calculators are **PROHIBITED** for this exam.

HOW TO APPLY: Applications may be obtained from and must be filed at the Watertown Civil Service Commission, Room 205 Municipal Building, 245 Washington Street, Watertown, New York. Applicants must answer every question on the application and make sure it is complete in all respects. Incomplete applications will be disapproved. Falsification of any part of the application will result in disqualification. Education and work experience must be documented on the application regardless if the candidate has elected to attach a resume. All statements made by candidates in their applications are subject to verification. Applications will not be accepted past the last filing date of the examination.

APPLICATION FEE: If your application is disapproved, the fee will not be refunded. You should carefully review the announced minimum qualifications. Please make sure you meet the minimum qualifications before applying to any examination. Applicants whose personal checks are returned for insufficient funds will be charged an additional fee.

VETERANS' CREDIT: Veterans or disabled veterans who are eligible for additional credit must submit an application for veterans' credit available from the Civil Service Commission. Applications for veterans' credit may be submitted with your application for examination or at any time before the new eligible list is established. Candidates currently serving in the armed forces may apply for conditional veterans' credits in examinations. Candidates who apply for such credit must provide proof of military status. 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 the New York State Civil Service Law, and that the candidate received an honorable discharge or was released under honorable conditions. No credit may be granted after the new eligible list is established.

ADDITIONAL CREDITS 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 addition ten (10) 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 the City of Watertown, please inform the Civil Service Commission at the time you submit your application.

SPECIAL TEST DATE ACCOMMODATIONS/SABATH OBSERVERS/DISABLED CANDIDATES/MILITARY MEMBERS: Applicants whose religious beliefs or military service prevent their taking examinations on the scheduled date and disabled candidates 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 Watertown Civil Service Commission as soon as possible before the test date. Please see back of application for further information and instruction.

MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY: 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 take all your examinations at the State examination center. Please complete the Cross Filing form located on the City's website and submit it with your application, include all exams for which you have applied and at which agency you wish to take the exams. Your request must be received by this office no later than three (3) weeks before the date of the examinations. Requests received less than three (3) weeks before the date of the examinations will NOT be honored.

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION: The Watertown Civil Service Commission does not acknowledge receipt of applications but all applicants are notified of the disposition of their application. Approved candidates will be notified at least five days in advance of the examination of the place, date and hour of the examination.

RATINGS REQUIRED: Unless the announcement states otherwise, this examination is being prepared and rated in accordance with Section 23(2) of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of the New York State Civil Service Laws, Rules and Regulations dealing with the 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.

ELIGIBLE LIST: The duration of the eligible list may be fixed for a minimum period of one (1) year up to a maximum period of four (4) years. As employment opportunities arise, appointments from the eligible list will be made from the top three candidates willing to accept appointment.

CONTACT THIS OFFICE AT 315-785-7733 OR CIVILSERVICE@WATERTOWN-NY.GOV WITH ANY QUESTIONS. FILE YOUR APPLICATION PROMPTLY.
THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS AVAILABE ON THE INTERNET AT: www.watertown-ny.gov