

# THE MUNICIPAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION



## NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

### ANNOUNCES AN EXAMINATION FOR

Room 14 City Hall

Phone 716-286-4313

<http://www.niagarafallsusa.org>

### Foreman- Water Distribution and Wastewater Collections NIAGARA FALLS WATER BOARD

**SALARY RANGE: \$57,226-\$71,706 PER YEAR**

**EXAM: #70016320 PROM**

**APPLICATION FEE: \$30.00** A NON-REFUNDABLE application fee must accompany your application and is required for each exam for which you apply. **DO NOT USE CASH.** Make check or money order payable to the City Controller and write the examination number on your check or money order. **AS NO REFUND WILL BE MADE,** you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.

**EXAMINATION DATE:**

November 1, 2025

**FIRST DAY FOR FILING**

Wednesday August 20, 2025 – 8:00 AM

**LAST DAY FOR FILING**

Tuesday September 30, 2025 at 3:00 PM

**FILING FOR THE EXAM:** Applications can be filed in person at Niagara Falls City Hall, 745 Main St., Room 14 or by mail. Tie scores are broken and ranked on the eligible list by a totally random method as recommended by the NYS Department of Civil Service. The method that will be used is the last four digits of social security number.

1. PREFERENCE IN APPOINTMENT WILL BE GIVEN TO CANDIDATES IN THE DEPARTMENT IN WHICH THE VACANCY EXISTS.

An incomplete application will be disapproved. List your current or most recent position first and then any experience that qualifies you for the minimum qualifications of the position sought. To receive credit for experience on a job, all information requested on the application must be shown. Be very specific in explaining experience that qualifies you for the position sought. Ambiguity and vagueness will not be resolved in your favor. A RESUME WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ALL EXPERIENCE MUST BE ON OUR APPLICATION OR ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE FORM. Unless otherwise specified, experience will be interpreted to mean "PAID EXPERIENCE" only. Part-time paid work experience will be accepted based on its full-time equivalent. If a degree or special license is required, a copy must be submitted with application.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is responsible supervising work involving the maintenance, repair, cleaning and installation of the Niagara Falls Water Board's water distribution and wastewater collection systems. This also includes the operation and maintenance of Regulators and Lift Stations. Field coordinates/inspects capital projects and field operation programs. General supervision is received from the Supervisor (pipes) Water distributions and wastewater collections applicable with considerable latitude for independent judgement in planning of work and deployment of working crews. General and direct supervision is exercised over assigned skilled and unskilled maintenance workers. The Foreman performs related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Supervises and deploys maintenance crews engaged in the maintenance, repair and minor construction of the water distribution and wastewater collection systems;  
Supervises the sterilization of water mains and tanks;  
Supervises the installation and repair of mains, valves, hydrants and other water and wastewater services;  
Recommends personnel status changes to the Supervisor;  
Recommends the requisition of necessary materials, tools, equipment and supplies;  
Assists in the operation and updating of a maintenance service, computerized and/or manual;  
Performs and supervises hydrant pressure, flow testing, regulator inspections and lift station repairs;  
Assigns working crews and records time and materials needed to accomplish work;  
Consults with supervisor on technical problems;  
Keeps record of work completed and makes reports to superior;  
Responds at all times to emergency repair calls;  
Inspects work in progress and upon completion

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## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

(Please read carefully)

1. COMPLETION OF APPLICATION - A regular application form must be filed for each exam. The applicant should make sure that every question is answered and that the application is complete in all respects. An incomplete application may be disapproved.
2. VETERAN AND DISABLED VETERAN CREDITS - Forms for claiming point credits as Veteran and/or Disabled Veteran must be filed with application. Evidence of military discharge (form DD-214) must be presented with this form. You will be allowed the option of waiving these credits after the completion of the examination. For the purpose of claiming veterans credits on a Civil Service examination, an applicant must have served in the armed forces of the United States at any time during the following periods:
  - World War II - December 7, 1941 to and including December 31, 1946\*\*
  - Korean War - June 27, 1950 to and including January 31, 1955\*\*
  - Southeast Asia Hostilities - February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 (Starting date changed per Chapter 179 of Laws of 2006)
  - Lebanon\* - June 1, 1983 - December 1, 1987\*\*
  - Grenada\* - October 23, 1983 - November 21, 1983\*\*
  - Panama\* - December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990\*\*
  - Persian Gulf - August 2, 1990 to the end of such hostilities (not yet determined)\*\*
  - U. S. Public Health Service - July 29, 1945 to September 2, 1945 or June 26, 1950 to July 3, 1952

\*Credit for Lebanon, Grenada, and Panama will be limited to those who received the armed forces expeditionary medal, the navy expeditionary medal, or the marine corps expeditionary medal.

Disabled Veterans must have been disabled in the actual performance of duty in any war and have a disability rated at 10% or more that exists at the time of application or promotion. (See Veterans Form for additional information.)
3. MILITARY MAKE-UP - Special test arrangements are available for active military members.
4. SPECIAL TEST ARRANGEMENTS - Most written tests are held on Saturdays. If you cannot take the test on this day due to a conflict with a religious observance or practice and/or need special accommodations due to a disability, indicate this on your application form.
5. INVESTIGATION OF CANDIDATES - Inquiries may be made as to character and ability, and all statements made by candidates in their applications are subject to verification.
6. ADMISSION NOTICES - The Commission will notify all candidates of the disposition of their applications. Approved candidates will be notified at least four days in advance of the place, date and hour of examination. **If you have not received notification of acceptance or rejection or information as to where to appear for the exam by the Wednesday before the exam date, contact this office at 716-286-4327.**
7. PASSING MARK - The passing grade in each announced subject of an examination is 70.
8. INTERVIEWS - As an aid in rating training and experience, interviews may be required at a later date.
9. DEGREES AWARDED FROM EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OUTSIDE OF US OR TERRITORIES: Your degree and/or college credit must have been awarded by a regionally accredited college or university or one recognized by the New York State Education Department as following acceptable educational practices and/or your high school diploma must be equivalent to one awarded in the U.S. If your high school diploma, degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside of the U.S. and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. You can write to this Department for a list of acceptable companies providing this service; you must pay the required evaluation fee.
10. APPLYING FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS ON THE SAME DATE IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS:
  - A) If you have applied for both State and Local government exams, you must make arrangements to take all your exams at the State exam center by calling (518) 474-6470 or toll-free at 1-877-697-5627 (press 2, then press 1), no later than two weeks before the test date and notify the Niagara Falls Civil Service Commission in writing, preferably prior to the last date for filing for the exam, but in no case less than two weeks prior to the exam date.
  - B) If you have applied for other local government exams, you must contact each jurisdiction as instructed. The City of Niagara Falls requires a written request no later than two weeks before the date of the exams. You must notify all jurisdictions at which test site you wish to take your exam(s). For more information regarding this policy, call 286-4430/286-4313.
11. 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 exam for original appointment in the same municipality in which his/her parent has served. The parent is deemed to have served in a municipality if he/she was employed by or worked primarily in that municipality. If you are qualified to participate in this exam and are a child of a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty in this municipality, please inform this office 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.
12. RATING OF EXAMS The written exam is being prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service in accordance with Section 23-2 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of New York State Civil Service Rules and Regulations dealing with the rating of exams will be applicable to this written exam.
13. In accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the City of Niagara Falls does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, marital status or national origin.

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

**CANDIDATES MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE WRITTEN EXAM:**

### **PROMOTIONAL:**

Eligibility to Take Examination:

Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and four (4) years of full time work experience with a public water or wastewater system.

NOTE: Additional appropriate education from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university beyond high school graduation in a technical/maintenance related curriculum can be substituted for experience on a year for year basis up to two (2) years

### **SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:**

Eligibles must obtain a NYS Department of Health Grade "D" (Distribution System) Operators License is required within six (6) months of appointment.

**Scopes / Subjects of examination: A test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas.**

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#### **Water distribution systems and fire hydrants**

These questions test for knowledge of the proper methods, materials, and equipment used in the installation, testing, repair, and operation of waterlines, fire hydrants, and related appurtenances, including trenching and safety practices.

#### **Mechanical devices and tools used in maintenance work**

These questions test for knowledge of general mechanical principles and for the ability to identify various types of hand tools and construction equipment and their proper use and maintenance.

#### **Understanding and interpreting technical information and construction and site plans**

These questions test for the ability to read, analyze, and perform computations based on written technical presentations and technical drawings related to water and/or sewer line systems. All the information needed to answer the questions will be presented in the written material and/or drawings.

#### **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.

#### **Test guide:**

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>.