



Examination No. & Title	Salary Grade	Beginning Salary	Non-Refundable Processing Fee (Waivers Available)
31-378020 Investigative Specialist 2 (Law)	23	\$86,681	\$0
31-379020 Investigative Specialist 3 (Law)	25	\$96,336	\$0

Multiple-Choice Test
To Be Held:
APRIL 18, 2026

Applications MUST Be Submitted
Online or Postmarked By:
MARCH 4, 2026

You may be assigned to either Saturday or Sunday to take your test. You cannot request or change your scheduled day.

ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS AVAILABLE at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker>

Due to current testing space limitations, candidates may need to travel to a test site to take this examination. Candidates will be notified of their test site location on their admission notice.

**Promotion examination open to all qualified employees of the New York State
Department of Law (Office of the Attorney General).**

Minimum Qualifications: On or before April 18, 2026, you must be a qualified employee of the New York State Department of Law (Office of the Attorney General) and have had permanent competitive, non-competitive NY HELPS*, or 55-b/55-c service as shown below. If you have received a permanent appointment to a qualifying title listed and served provisionally** in that title immediately preceding your permanent appointment, such provisional service may be counted towards meeting the time in title required for this examination.

For Exam No. 31-378020: three months as an Investigative Specialist 1 (Law)***.

For Exam No. 31-379020: three months as an Investigative Specialist 2 (Law)*** or two years as an Investigative Specialist 1 (Law)****.

Only the title or titles listed are qualifying.

***If you were permanently appointed to a qualifying title on or before January 18, 2026, and have served continuously in this title since that date, you are eligible to file for this examination.

****If you were permanently appointed to a qualifying title on or before May 18, 2024, and have served continuously in this title since that date, you are eligible to file for this examination.

*If you were permanently appointed via the New York Hiring for Emergency Limited Placement Statewide (NY HELPS) program to a qualifying title in the non-competitive class on or before January 18, 2026, or May 18, 2024 (where required), and have served continuously in this title since that date, you may apply for this examination.

**If you were permanently appointed to a qualifying title and had provisional service in the same title immediately preceding the permanent appointment, such provisional service may be counted towards meeting the time in title required to apply for this examination. Your provisional appointment must have been on or before January 18, 2026, or May 18, 2024 (where required), to qualify for this examination.

Qualifying Experience For Appointment From The Eligible List:

For No. 31-378020: After one year of service described in the Minimum Qualifications, successful candidates will be qualified for appointment from the eligible list.

For No. 31-379020: After one year of service as an Investigative Specialist 2 (Law), OR four years of service as an Investigative Specialist 1 (Law), successful candidates will be qualified for appointment from the eligible list.

Employees appointed via the NY HELPS program to a qualifying title in the non-competitive class will have their names restricted from appointment from the eligible list until their position is covered-in to the competitive class by action of the New York State Civil Service Commission or otherwise obtain permanent competitive status in the position.

If you have received a permanent appointment to a qualifying title listed and served provisionally in that title immediately preceding your permanent appointment, such provisional service may be counted towards meeting the one year or four years of time (where required) time in title required for appointment from the eligible list.

The Positions: The Investigative Specialist 2 (Law) and Investigative Specialist 3 (Law) positions exist in the New York State Department of Law (Office of the Attorney General) only. Investigative Specialist 2 (Law) positions are located statewide; whereas Investigative Specialist 3 (Law) positions are located only in Albany, Buffalo, Mineola, and New York.

Duties: As an **Investigative Specialist 2 (Law)**, you would conduct a wide variety of enforcement, regulatory and licensing investigative activities to gather information and report facts. You would scope and plan the method of investigation and coordinate field activities of assignments. You would review field reports for accuracy, prepare status reports, conduct undercover field investigations and may investigate difficult and sensitive investigations with interagency task forces. You would schedule and assign work according to investigators' workloads and experience. Additionally, you would provide supervision to two or more Investigative Specialists 1 (Law).

As an **Investigative Specialist 3 (Law)**, you would conduct investigations and perform any duties performed by the Investigative Specialists 2 (Law). You would establish and implement procedures and protocols within the unit. You would review and investigate findings and recommendation of staff regarding the closing and re-opening of cases. You would schedule and assign work according to investigators' workloads and experience. You would conduct field investigations and undercover investigations, serve subpoenas and transport witnesses and documents to trial. Additionally, you would provide supervision to two or more Investigative Specialists 2 (Law).

Note:

- **Travel Requirements:** Appointment to certain positions requires extensive travel within an area of assignment. Appointees may need to operate a motor vehicle or have other means to meet the transportation needs of the job. If the position requires that you operate a motor vehicle, you must continuously have a driver's license valid in New York State to continue employment. Field work and travel expenses are reimbursed on a fixed schedule.

Subject of Examination: To be considered for appointment to this title, you must pass the multiple-choice test . The multiple-choice test evaluates your knowledge, skills, and/or abilities in the following areas:	For Examination Nos.	
	31-378020	31-379020
1. Preparing written material - These questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately, and to organize paragraphs logically and comprehensibly. For some questions, you will be given information in two or three sentences followed by four restatements of the information. You must then choose the best version. For other questions, you will be given paragraphs with their sentences out of order. You must then choose, from four suggestions, the best order for the sentences.	X	X
2. Evaluating information and evidence - These questions test the candidates' abilities to evaluate and draw conclusions from information and evidence. Each question consists of a set of facts and a conclusion based on the facts. The candidate must decide if a conclusion is warranted by the facts.	X	X
3. Understanding and interpreting written material - These questions test for the ability to understand and interpret written material. You will be presented with brief reading passages and will be asked questions about the passages. You should base your answers to the questions only on what is presented in the passages and not on what you may happen to know about the topic.	X	X

Subject of Examination (continued):	For Examination Nos.	
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4. Advanced investigative techniques - These questions test for knowledge of the more complicated and technical aspects of field investigations. The questions will cover such areas as: interviewing principles and practices, investigative principles, sources of information and reporting methods commonly used in field investigations, securing statements, rules of evidence and evidence collection, preparing cases for court or legal hearings, and testifying in the courtroom or in hearings. Many of the questions are situational in nature. The questions are generic rather than dealing with investigations in a particular field.	X	X
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.	X	X
6. Legal terminology, procedures, and principles in the field of tort actions - These questions test for knowledge of definitions and import of terminology relating to tort actions. The questions may include examples and applications of procedures and principles in the area of tort actions. You must recognize or recall accepted descriptions or definitions of terms and may be required to analyze, appraise, and apply tasks and procedures in given situations to hypothetical cases, problems, or illustrations.		X

Test Guide: A Guide to the Written Test for the *Investigator Series* is available on the Department website at <http://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm>.

If you pass, your seniority credit(s), if any, will be included in the computation of your final score. Your final score on the eligible list will be determined after adding any Veterans' credits.

Credit For Seniority: Seniority is credited at the rate of one credit for each five-year period (or fraction thereof), excluding the first year of service.

Admission To The Test: If approved for a multiple-choice test, you will receive an admission notice which will indicate your assigned test date and the way your test will be administered. Your test may be administered with paper and pencil or online at a state test site. **You cannot request to change your scheduled day or request a specific type of test administration.**

Applicants are required to have a Personal NY.gov account and keep their email address up to date. The Department of Civil Service and other state agencies will communicate with you through email correspondence. This may include notification of your application status, your test arrangements, examination results, and canvassing you for interest in appointment. It will be important for you to keep your email address, phone number, and mailing address current by logging into <https://www.cs.ny.gov/home/myaccount>.

How To Apply: You will need a **personal NY.gov ID** to apply for these examinations. If you do not have a **personal NY.gov account**, please [create an account](#).

- Online our Internet address is <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker>; or
- Download an examination application [NYS-APP form](#); or
- Email cs.sm.examinfo@cs.ny.gov to request NYS-APP forms; or
- Obtain an NYS-APP form from a state agency or facility personnel/business office; or
- Request NYS-APP form by calling the Department of Civil Service in the Albany area at 518-457-2487 or toll free at 1-877-697-5627.

The NYS Department of Civil Service reserves the right to reject for lateness or to accept applications filed after the advertised filing period. All statements you make on your application are subject to investigation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NEW YORK STATE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER: It is the policy of the State of New York to provide for and promote equal opportunity employment, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment without unlawful discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, religion, disability, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, veteran or military service member status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, arrest and/or criminal conviction record, or any other category protected by law, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification or other exception.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION: Most multiple-choice tests are held on Saturdays. If you cannot take the test on the announced test date, due to a conflict with a religious observance or practice, check the box under "Religious Accommodation." We will make arrangements for you to take the test on a different date (usually the following day).

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS IN TESTING: It is the policy of the Department of Civil Service, in accordance with the New York State Human Rights Law and the Americans with Disabilities Act, to provide qualified persons with disabilities equal employment opportunity and equal opportunity to participate in and receive the benefits, services, programs, and activities of the Department. It is the policy of the Department to provide such persons reasonable accommodations and reasonable modifications as are necessary to provide equal opportunity. Persons with disabilities who require an accommodation to participate in an examination must note this on their application. Further information is available from the Test Accommodation Unit of the Department of Civil Service at Testaccommodation@cs.ny.gov.

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION: Notice to appear for the test may be conditional as review of applications may not be made until after the test. If you have not received your notice to appear for the multiple-choice test three days before the date of the test, email us at AdmissionNotices@cs.ny.gov. Please provide your first and last name, address, and the last four digits of your social security number, and we will provide you with the information you need to attend your multiple-choice test. If you have an issue other than not receiving your admission notice, please contact our office at (518) 474-6470 in the Albany area or toll free at 1-877-697-5627. Please leave a clear concise message and provide your first and last name, last four digits of your social security number and a daytime phone number.

TAKING STATE AND LOCAL EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY: If you have applied to take a multiple-choice test announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same test date as this multiple-choice test, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than two weeks before the test date to make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site. All tests will be held at the state examination center. For your convenience, contact information for all local civil service agencies is available on our website at: <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/local.cfm>.

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXAMINATION: To be considered a qualified employee eligible to compete in this examination, you must be employed in, or on leave from, the specified department or agency on a permanent or contingent permanent basis in the competitive class, or in the non-competitive class or labor class if specifically noted on this announcement (or be on an appropriate preferred list), and have the specified time in the specified title or salary grade. You may not compete in a test for a title if you are permanently employed in that title (unless you are still on probation) or in a higher direct line of promotion.

CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONIC/COMMUNICATION DEVICES AT THE TEST SITE: The use of cell phones, beepers, headphones, or any electronic or other communication devices at your personal testing site or in the test room, hallways, restrooms, building, grounds, or other areas, except as expressly authorized by the Department of Civil Service, could result in your disqualification.