

For Immediate Release: February 7, 2017 Contact: Jian Paolucci | pio@cs.ny.gov | 518.457.9375

## New York State Announces New Professional Career Opportunities in State Government

State Exam Provides Access to Wide Array of State Government Job Opportunities

## College Juniors Now Eligible to Apply

The Department of Civil Service today announced the upcoming Professional Career Opportunities (PCO) exam, a State exam that provides individuals with access to a wide array of job opportunities in New York State government. The PCO exam, scheduled to be held this year on April 8, 9, and 15, is one exam that is used by State agencies to fill more than 100 entrylevel professional jobs across a range of disciplines, including health and human services, environmental conservation, human resources, administrative analysis, and transportation.

This year, the PCO exam will be expanded to college juniors for the first time, including approximately 80,000 SUNY and CUNY juniors pursuing bachelor's degrees. In addition, this will be the first year that the PCO exam will be held at SUNY Albany, SUNY Old Westbury and Bronx Community College, among other locations throughout the State, to complement the Department's larger strategic recruitment efforts to expand testing venues and reach a diverse pool of candidates.

"The PCO exam is an exciting initiative by the Department of Civil Service that provides college graduates with opportunities for employment in State government," said Acting Civil Service Commissioner Lola W. Brabham. "This year, we are pleased to offer the exam to college juniors and seniors who are interested in pursuing meaningful careers in public service."

"SUNY is pleased to partner with the Department of Civil Service to bring this exam to students and alumni on our SUNY campuses," said Carlos Medina, Vice Chancellor and the Chief Diversity Officer at The State University of New York. "The exam opens doors to many jobs in New York State, and we encourage college juniors and seniors interested in pursuing a career in public service to apply for this exam and learn more about available job opportunities."

Individuals with a bachelor's degree and college juniors and seniors expecting to earn a bachelor's degree by September 1, 2018, are eligible to apply for the PCO exam. Qualified

candidates must complete and submit an exam application by February 22, 2017. To view the exam announcement and apply online, visit: <u>www.cs.ny.gov/pco</u>.

The majority of positions filled through this exam require two-year traineeships during which individuals gain the necessary knowledge and experience to perform the full responsibilities of the position.

An introductory video, questionnaire, and more details regarding exam eligibility can also be found at <u>www.cs.ny.gov/pco</u>.

Since the launch of the PCO exam in 2014, more than 1,100 job seekers have been hired to positions in various State agencies across New York.

The New York State Department of Civil Service is the principal human resources provider for the Executive Branch of State Government, serving approximately 150,000 employees. The Department provides examination services and supports civil service administration to 70 State and 95 municipal agencies.

To receive notifications for announcements of upcoming State exams, sign up for <u>email</u> <u>notifications</u>.

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