



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
APPLICATION UNIT  
1 CENTRE STREET, 14<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

REQUIRED INFORMATION

APPLICATION

BILL DE BLASIO  
Mayor

STACEY CUMBERBATCH  
Commissioner

# NOTICE OF EXAMINATION

## PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST Exam No. 5521 Amended Notice - April 29, 2015

**WHEN TO APPLY:** From: April 1, 2015

**APPLICATION FEE:** \$82.00

To: April 21, 2015

If you choose to pay the application fee with a credit/debit/gift card, you will be charged a fee of 2.49% of the payment amount. This fee is nonrefundable.

**THE TEST DATE:** The multiple-choice test is expected to be held on Saturday, July 18, 2015.

The Notice of Examination is amended to add the Written Test Description.

**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR READING THIS NOTICE IN ITS ENTIRETY  
BEFORE YOU SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION.**

**WHAT THE JOB INVOLVES:** Under direction, Associate Housing Development Specialists perform very complex and responsible analytical or coordination work related to the development, and/or implementation of housing programs designed to preserve and upgrade neighborhoods, or to improve urban renewal areas or public and private housing; may supervise subordinate staff. May perform the duties of subordinate personnel; may perform the duties of the supervisor in his/her absence. All Associate Housing Development Specialists perform related work.

Some of the physical activities which may be performed by Associate Housing Development Specialists and environmental conditions experienced include walking to, from and within buildings and neighborhoods; visiting neighborhoods with a high incidence of crime and buildings having hazardous conditions; climbing and descending stairs; and working outdoors in all kinds of weather.

**Special Working Conditions:** Associate Housing Development Specialists may be required to work shifts including nights, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

(This is a brief description of what you might do in this position and does not include all the duties of this position.)

**THE SALARY:** The current minimum salary is \$65,822 per annum. This rate is subject to change.

**HOW TO APPLY:** If you believe you are eligible to take this examination, submit an application on the Online Application System (OASys) at [www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs](http://www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs). Follow the onscreen application instructions for electronically submitting your application and payment, and completing any required information. A unique and valid email address is required to file online. Several internet service providers, including but not limited to Google, Yahoo!, AOL, Outlook.com, and Mail.com offer free email addresses. **All new OASys accounts require verification before a candidate can submit an application to ensure the accuracy of candidate information. Verification is instantaneous for most accounts, but some accounts may require up to 24 hours to be reviewed by a staff member and resolved. Email notification will be sent to those creating accounts that require additional documentation before they can be resolved. Please keep this information and the application period deadline in mind when creating your account.** The following methods of payment are acceptable: major credit card, bank card associated with a bank account, or a prepaid debit card with a credit card logo which you may purchase online or at various retail outlets. You may come to the DCAS Computer-based Testing & Applications Centers to file for this examination online and submit a money order payable to DCAS (Exams).

The centers will be open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM:

**Manhattan**  
2 Lafayette Street  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

**Brooklyn**  
210 Joralemon Street  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

**READ CAREFULLY AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**

**Special Circumstances Guide:** This guide is located on the DCAS website at [www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/exam\\_special\\_circumstances.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/exam_special_circumstances.pdf) and available at the DCAS Computer-based Testing & Applications Centers. This guide gives important information about requesting an alternate test date because of religious observance or a special test accommodation for disability, claiming Veterans' or Legacy credit, and notifying DCAS of a change in your mailing address. Follow all instructions on the Special Circumstances Guide that pertain to you when you complete your "Application for Examination."

**ELIGIBILITY TO TAKE EXAMINATION:** This examination is open to each employee of an agency under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner, Department of Citywide Administrative Services who **on the date of the multiple-choice test:**

- (1) holds a permanent (not provisional) competitive appointment or appears on a Preferred List (see Note, below) for the title of Housing Development Specialist; and
- (2) is not otherwise ineligible.

(Note: A "Preferred List" is a civil service list which is only for certain former permanent incumbents of the eligible title who have rehiring rights.)

This examination is also open to employees who were appointed to an eligible title pursuant to New York State Civil Service Law, section 55-a, and who meet all other eligibility requirements.

If you do not know if you are eligible, check with **your agency's personnel office**. You may be given the test before we verify your eligibility. You are responsible for determining whether or not you meet the eligibility requirements for this examination prior to submitting your application. If it is determined prior to the test date that you are not eligible to participate in this examination, you will not receive an Admission Notice to take the multiple-choice test, you will not be permitted into the test site, and your application fee will not be refunded. If it is determined after the test date that you are not eligible to participate in this examination, your application fee will not be refunded and you will not receive a score.

**ELIGIBILITY TO BE PROMOTED:** In order to be eligible for promotion, you must have completed your probationary period in the eligible title as indicated in the above "Eligibility To Take Examination" section, and you must be permanently employed in the eligible title or your name must appear on a Preferred List for the eligible title at the time of promotion. Additionally, you must have served permanently in the eligible title for at least one year, unless your probationary period in that eligible title has been waived pursuant to Rule 5.2.4 of the Personnel Rules and Regulations of the City of New York.

**THE TEST:** The multiple-choice test may be given at a computer terminal or in a paper and pencil format. You will be informed of the format on your Admission Notice. A score of at least 70% is required to pass this test. Your score on this test will determine 85% of your final score. Your seniority will determine the remaining 15%. You must pass the multiple-choice test to have your seniority credited. Your seniority score will be 70 plus 1/2 point for each three months of completed, permanent, continuous service with an agency under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner, Department of Citywide Administrative Services in competitive class titles. Your service will be credited through the date of the test, up to a maximum of 15 years. Time served prior to a break in service of more than one year will not be credited.

The multiple-choice test is designed to assess the extent to which candidates have certain knowledge and abilities determined to be important to the performance of the tasks of an Associate Housing Development Specialist (AHDS). Task areas to be tested are as follows: coordinates and/or supervises the coordination of activities related to the management, financing, and/or disposition of City-owned land or buildings for a geographic area, or unusually sensitive land use issues; develops and/or administers housing programs requiring the formulation and implementation of new procedures and guidelines; and supervises employee(s) and/or a unit.

The test may include questions on terms used in financial documents and contracts; Federal, State, and City laws relating to housing programs; Federal, State, and City housing development programs; housing development tools such as tax incentive programs; personnel rules, regulations and programs; standards of proper employee ethical conduct, including the provisions of Mayor's Executive Order No. 16 of 1978 as amended; and other related areas.

The test may also include questions requiring the use of any of the following abilities:

**Analytical Thinking** - Analyzing information and using logic to address specific work-related issues and problems; involves the identification of problems, not implementation of solutions. Example: An AHDS may research why a project is behind on tax payments.

**Quantitative Analysis and Interpretation** - Analyzing, interpreting, and understanding the underlying principles and meaning of numerical data; recognizing inconsistencies and errors in reports containing numerical data. May involve making projections. Example: An AHDS may analyze financial documents to figure out if a co-op is in arrears.

**Judgment and Decision-Making** - Reviewing information to develop and evaluate the relative costs and benefits of potential solutions to problems and choosing the most appropriate one; implementing a course of action determined by thinking analytically. Example: An AHDS may decide whether or not to submit an underpayment proceeding based upon whether there is enough evidence to support the finding.

**Planning and Organizing** - Establishing a method of execution to accomplish a specific goal over an extended period of time; determining appropriate assignments and allocation of resources. Example: An AHDS may meet with shareholders of a financially distressed co-op to devise strategies to keep the co-op solvent such as recommend a loan program or hire a 3rd party manager.

**Monitoring** - Monitoring/assessing performance of oneself, other individuals or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action; overseeing the quality of performance. Example: An AHDS may monitor the payroll of projects and make sure all documents are filled out properly.

**Written Expression** - Appropriately communicating information and ideas in written words and sentences so intended audience will understand. Example: An AHDS may prepare emails, letters, and other written documents.

Certain questions may need to be answered on the basis of documents or other information supplied to the candidates on the date of the multiple-choice exam.

**Warning:** You are not permitted to enter the test site with cellular phones, beepers, pagers, cameras, portable media players, or other electronic devices. Calculators are permitted; however, they must be hand-held, battery or solar powered, numeric only. Calculators with functions **other than** addition, subtraction, multiplication and division **are prohibited**. Electronic devices with an alphabetic keyboard or with word processing or data recording capabilities such as planners, organizers, etc. are prohibited. If you use any of these devices in the building at any time before, during, or after the test, you may not receive your test results, your test score may be nullified, and your application fee will not be refunded.

You may not have any other person, including children, present with you while you are being processed for or taking the test, and no one may wait for you inside of the test site while you are taking the test.

**Required Identification:** You are required to bring one (1) form of valid (non-expired) signature and photo bearing identification to the test site. The name that was used to apply for the exam must match the first and last name on the photo ID. A list of acceptable identification documents is provided below. **If you do not have an acceptable ID, you may be denied testing.** Acceptable forms of identification (bring one) are as follows: State issued driver's license, State issued identification card, US Government issued Passport, US Government issued Military Identification Card, US Government issued Alien Registration Card, Employer ID with photo, or Student ID with photo.

**Leaving:** You must leave the test site once you finish the test. If you leave the test site after being fingerprinted but before finishing the test, you will not be permitted to re-enter. If you disregard this instruction and re-enter the test site, you may not receive your test results, your test score may be nullified, and your application fee will not be refunded.

**ADMISSION NOTICE:** You should receive an Admission Notice in the mail about 10 days before the test date. If you do not receive an Admission Notice at least 4 days before the test date, you must go to the Exam Support Group, 1 Centre Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Manhattan, to obtain a duplicate notice. Test site assignments will take your address into consideration, but proximity cannot be guaranteed.

**THE TEST RESULTS:** If you pass the multiple-choice test and are marked eligible, your name will be placed in final score order on an eligible list and you will be given a list number. You will be notified by mail of your test results. If you meet all requirements and conditions, you will be considered for promotion when your name is reached on the eligible list.

**CHANGE OF MAILING AND/OR EMAIL ADDRESS:** It is critical that you promptly notify DCAS of any change to your mailing address and/or email address. You may miss important information about your exam(s) or consideration for appointment, including important information that may require a response by a specified deadline, if we do not have your correct mailing and/or email address. Change of mailing and/or email address requests submitted to any place other than DCAS, such as your Agency or to the United States Postal Service will NOT update your records with DCAS. To update your mailing and/or email address with DCAS, you must submit a change request by mail or in person. Your request must include your full name, social security number, exam title(s), exam number(s), old mailing and/or email address, and your new mailing and/or email address. Your request can be mailed to DCAS Records Room, 1 Centre Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007 or brought in person to the same address Monday through Friday from 9AM to 5PM.

#### **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:**

**Late Filing:** Consult your **agency's personnel office** to determine the procedure for filing a late application if you meet one or more of the following conditions:

- (1) You are absent from work for at least one-half of the application period and cannot apply for reasons such as vacation, sick leave or military duty; or
- (2) You become eligible after the above application period but on or before the date of the multiple-choice test.

**Make-up Test:** You may apply for a make-up test if you cannot take the test on the regular test date(s) for any of the following reasons:

- (1) compulsory attendance before a public body;
- (2) on-the-job injury or illness caused by municipal employment where you are an officer or employee of the City;
- (3) absence from the test within one week after the death of a spouse, domestic partner, parent, sibling, child or child of a domestic partner where you are an officer or employee of the City;
- (4) absence due to ordered military duty;
- (5) a clear error for which the Department of Citywide Administrative Services or the examining agency is responsible; or
- (6) a temporary disability, pregnancy-related, or child-birth-related condition preventing you from taking the test.

To request a make-up test, contact the Exam Support Group in person or by mail at 1 Centre Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007, as soon as possible and provide documentation of the special circumstances that caused you to miss your test.

**PENALTY FOR MISREPRESENTATION:** Any intentional misrepresentation on the application or examination may result in disqualification, even after promotion, and may result in criminal prosecution.

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The General Examination Regulations of the Department of Citywide Administrative Services apply to this examination and are part of this Notice of Examination. They are posted and copies are available at [nyc.gov/dcas](http://nyc.gov/dcas) and at the Computer-based Testing & Applications Centers.

The City of New York is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
Title Code No. 22508; Housing Development Specialist Occupational Group

For information about other exams, and your exam or list status, call 212-669-1357.  
Internet: [nyc.gov/dcas](http://nyc.gov/dcas)