



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  
FOREIGN EDUCATION  
EVALUATION GUIDE  
(IF APPLICABLE)

BILL DE BLASIO  
Mayor

LISETTE CAMILO  
Commissioner

**NOTICE  
OF  
EXAMINATION**

**SECRETARY  
Exam No. 8005  
(For Agencies Under the Jurisdiction of the Commissioner, DCAS Only)**

**WHEN TO APPLY:** From: August 2, 2017  
To: August 22, 2017

**APPLICATION FEE: \$40.00**

**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:** Multiple-choice testing is expected to begin on **Tuesday, January 16, 2018.**

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

**WHAT THE JOB INVOLVES:** Secretaries, under supervision, perform typing, secretarial and related office work with limited latitude for independent judgment; perform typing work including copy typing from rough or clear drafts, typing statistical tables, and typing transcription from tapes and varityping; perform secretarial work, including scheduling appointments and other general office work; perform basic word processing assignments using a personal computer, word processing equipment or other automated office equipment; may perform basic data entry functions; review and correct typed material to ensure correct spelling, syllabification, punctuation, and proper format; may respond to routine telephone calls; refer calls and visitors to appropriate staff. All Secretaries perform related work.

(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 \$27,446 per annum. This rate is subject to change. There are four assignment levels within this class of positions. Appointments will generally be made to Assignment Level I. After appointment, employees may be assigned to the higher assignment levels at the discretion of the agency.

**HOW TO APPLY:** If you believe you meet the requirements in the "How to Qualify" section, 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 apply 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.

If you are receiving or participating in certain forms of public assistance/benefits/programs, or are a veteran, you may qualify to have the application fee waived. For more information on eligibility for a fee waiver and documentation requirements, visit the Fee Waiver FAQ on the Online Application System at <https://a856-eeexams.nyc.gov/OLEE/oasys/FAQFeeWaiver.aspx>.

You may come to the DCAS Computer-based Testing & Applications Centers to apply for this examination online and submit a money order payable to DCAS (Exams) or to submit documentation for a fee waiver.

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

**Queens**  
118-35 Queens Boulevard  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Forest Hills, NY 11375

**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/pdf\\_c\\_special\\_circumstances\\_guide.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/pdf_c_special_circumstances_guide.pdf) and available at the DCAS Computer-based Testing & Applications Centers. This guide gives important information about 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."

**HOW TO QUALIFY: This is a computer-based Qualifying Education and Experience Test. Your education will be evaluated online and you will receive immediate tentative results.** You are responsible for determining whether or not you meet the qualification requirements for this examination prior to submitting your application. If you are marked "Not Qualified," your application fee will not be refunded and you will not receive an Admission Notice or score.

**Education Requirement:**

A four-year high school diploma or its educational equivalent.

**The education requirement must be met by January 31, 2018.**

The high school diploma or its educational equivalent must be approved by a State's Department of Education or a recognized accrediting organization. The college or university must be accredited by regional, national, professional, or specialized agencies recognized as accrediting bodies by the U.S. Secretary of Education and by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

If you were educated outside the United States, you must have your foreign education evaluated to determine its equivalence to education obtained in the United States. This is required only if you need credit for your foreign education in this examination.

**You must clearly specify in detail all of your relevant education on your Online Education and Experience Test. You have until midnight Eastern time on the last day of the Application Period (August 22, 2017) to complete and submit your Online Education and Experience Test by clicking on the "Final Submit" button or it will be automatically submitted after midnight on the last day of the Application Period (August 22, 2017).** Once your Online Education and Experience Test is final submitted, it will be rated based on the information you provided and saved. If you are currently employed by the City of New York, be sure to include information about your current job. If you have applied for a previous examination, do not assume information you provided on a previous Education and Experience Test has been saved. If you are found "Not Qualified," you will **not** be able to submit new or additional information about your education and/or experience online.

You will not receive credit for education which you obtain after January 31, 2018.

**Skill Requirement:** Immediately after the multiple-choice exam, you will be required to meet the skill requirement of keyboard familiarity by demonstrating the ability to type accurately on a personal computer at a minimum speed of 175 keystrokes (35 words) per minute after errors are deducted. You must meet this requirement in order to be appointed.

**Residency Requirement Advisory:** Under New York City Administrative Code Section 12-120, you might need to be a resident of the City of New York within 90 days of the date you are appointed to this position. Since residency requirements vary by title, appointing agency and length of service, consult the **appointing agency's personnel office** at the time of the appointment interview to find out if City residency is required.

**English Requirement:** You must be able to understand and be understood in English.

**Proof of Identity:** Under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, you must be able to prove your identity and your right to obtain employment in the United States prior to employment with the City of New York.

**REQUIRED INFORMATION:**

- 1. Application for Examination:** Follow the online instructions, including those relating to the payment of fee and, if applicable, those found in the Special Circumstances Guide.
- 2. Foreign Education Evaluation Guide (Required only if you need credit for your foreign education to meet the education and experience requirements):** If you were educated outside the United States, you must have your foreign education evaluated to determine its equivalence to education obtained in the United States. The services that are approved to make this evaluation are listed on the Foreign Education Evaluation Guide located on the DCAS website at [www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/foreigneducation.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/misc/foreigneducation.pdf). When you contact the evaluation service, ask for a "**document-by-document**" (**general**) evaluation of your foreign education. You must have one of these services submit its evaluation of your foreign education directly to the Department of Citywide Administrative Services no later than eight weeks from the last date for applying for this examination.

**THE TEST:** The multiple-choice test will be given at a computer terminal. Your score on this test will be used to determine your place on the eligible list. You must achieve a score of at least 70% to pass the test. The multiple-choice test may include questions on standards of proper employee ethical conduct and questions which require the use of any of the following abilities:

**Deductive Reasoning:** The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to come up with logical answers. It involves deciding if an answer makes sense. It is also defined as Alphabetical and Numerical Coding, or the ability to classify or code files, records, correspondence, and forms according to their contents using a standard/prescribed classification system. **Example:** A Secretary may use this ability to sort applications based on given rules.

**Information Ordering:** The ability to follow correctly a rule or set of rules or actions in a certain order. The rule or set of rules used must be given. The things or actions to be put in order can include numbers, letters, words, pictures, procedures, sentences and mathematical or logical operations. Specifically for Secretary it includes the ability to file items in the proper alphabetical or numerical sequence. **Example:** A Secretary may use this ability to enter client information into a computer database.

**Number Facility:** The degree to which adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing can be done quickly and correctly. This can be steps in other operations like finding percentages. **Example:** A Secretary may use this ability to calculate the percentage of processed applications.

**Matching:** The degree to which one can compare letters, numbers, objects, pictures or patterns accurately. It includes the ability to detect errors, make the appropriate corrections, and recognize similarities in clerical materials. **Example:** A Secretary may use this ability to compare original documents with typed duplicates.

**Written Expression:** The ability to use English words or sentences in writing so that others will understand. **Example:** A Secretary may use this ability to determine if statements contain errors in grammar or word usage.

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.

After you have completed the multiple-choice test you will receive a tentative score. If you achieve a passing score, you will immediately be given a qualifying practical typing test to determine if you meet the **typing skill requirement**. In order to pass this test you must be able to type accurately on a personal computer at a minimum speed of 35 words per minute after errors are deducted. You must meet this requirement in order to be appointed.

**Warning:** You are not permitted to enter the test site with cellular phones, smart watches, 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, IDNYC, 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 date on which testing is expected to begin. If you do not receive an Admission Notice at least 4 days before the date on which testing is expected to begin, you must go to Administration, Customer and Exam Support, 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 meet the education requirement, pass the multiple-choice test, and pass the qualifying practical typing test, 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 appointment 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.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

**Selective Certification for Stenographic Skill:** If you can take dictation at a minimum speed of 80 words per minute, you may be considered for appointment to positions requiring stenographic skills through a process called Selective Certification. If you pass a qualifying test, you may be given preferred consideration for positions requiring this ability. Follow the instructions given to you on the day of the multiple-choice test to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification.

**Selective Certification for Foreign Language:** If you can speak a foreign language, you may be considered for appointment to positions requiring this ability through a process called Selective Certification. If you pass a qualifying test, you may be given preferred consideration for positions requiring this ability. Follow the instructions given to you on the day of the multiple-choice test to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification.

**Selective Certification for Microsoft Office:** If you meet the requirements below, you may be considered for appointment to positions requiring this experience through a process called Selective Certification. If you qualify for Selective Certification, you may be given preferred consideration for positions requiring this experience. Follow the instructions given to you on the day of the multiple-choice test to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification. Your experience will be checked by the appointing agency at the time of appointment.

**Requirements:** Six months of full-time satisfactory experience using **Microsoft Office**. This includes basic knowledge of Word (including the ability to open, save, print, and re-open a document; change fonts, align paragraphs, and insert graphics), Excel (including basic data entry, number formatting, and simple functions and formulas), and Outlook (including opening, sending, forwarding and responding to email and scheduling appointments).

**Selective Certification for Experience in Medical Billing:** If you meet the requirements below, you may be considered for appointment to positions requiring this experience through a process called Selective Certification. If you qualify for Selective Certification, you may be given preferred consideration for positions requiring this experience. Follow the instructions given to you on the day of the multiple-choice test to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification. Your experience will be checked by the appointing agency at the time of appointment.

**Requirements:** Two years of full-time satisfactory medical billing experience in a hospital or physician's office. Experience should include, but not be limited to, entering, collecting and verifying insurance information with payers via websites; entering explanations of benefits (EOBs); processing rejections, denials and appeals; using classification and coding systems (such as ICD-10, CPT, HCPCS, and/or RCMS); and, knowledge of HIPAA guidelines and Medicaid, Medicare and commercial insurance billing practices and regulations.

**The above Selective Certification requirements may be met at anytime during the duration of the list.** If you meet this requirement at some future date, please submit a request by mail to: DCAS Bureau of Examinations - Exam Development Group, 1 Centre Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007. Please include the examination title and number, your social security number, and the Selective Certification you are requesting on your correspondence.

**Promotion Test:** A promotion examination for this title is being held for eligible employees. The names appearing on the promotion list will be considered first in filling vacancies.

#### **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:**

**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 Administration, Customer and Exam Support 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 appointment, and may result in criminal prosecution.

### **Special Insert: Guide for Completing the Online Examination**

This online examination consists of the following sections:

Application, including the Notice of Examination and payment of fee  
Education Level  
Selective Certification  
Survey

There are detailed instructions online for each of these sections, so make sure that you read these instructions before you begin to fill out each section. In addition, the **Overview** and **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**, which are accessible throughout the examination process, contain valuable information about the online examination process and civil service procedures governing examinations. This guide is a brief summary of some of the items found in these instructions.

1. You **must** complete the application and examination by midnight, Eastern time, of the last day of the filing period. If you do **not** complete your application, which includes payment of the filing fee, there will be no record that you applied for the examination.
2. You **must** meet qualification requirements in order to qualify for this examination. If you do **not** meet the qualification requirements, you will be found **Not Qualified** and your application fee will **not** be returned.

3. **Completing the Education Level section:** For each degree you select, you **must** fill out the information requested. If you were educated in a foreign country, you **must** have an evaluation of your education sent directly to DCAS by a DCAS approved foreign education evaluation service no later than eight weeks from the last day of the application period. Your examination will be tentatively scored based on the education level you claim. Your foreign education evaluation will then be reviewed by DCAS examiners. If the evaluation differs from what you claimed, or if you did **not** submit a foreign education evaluation, your examination will be re-scored.
4. **Completing the Selective Certification section:** This section is optional and will not affect your score.

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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 and Application Centers.

The City of New York is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
Title Code No. 10252; Stenographer/Secretary 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)