

**SECRETARY I (SPANISH-SPEAKING) (OC)**  
**RC/EL #25123010**

Examination to be held **May 31, 2025**; Last filing date **May 1, 2025**

A \$15 non-refundable application filing fee is required. Please refer to Supplement A for further information regarding the application/examination process. Applications are available at: <https://mycivilservice.rocklandgov.com/exams>.

1. **If applying online, completed applications and electronic payment must be submitted by 11:59 PM EST on the last filing date.**
2. **If applying by mail, completed applications must be postmarked no later than the last filing date accompanied by a check or money order made payable to the Rockland County Commissioner of Finance.**

**POSITION EXISTS IN:** East Ramapo Central School District, North Rockland Central School District and Suffern Central School District. Some of the agencies/departments listed above may not have vacancies or be filling their vacancies at this time.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS:** Candidates must be legal residents of the States of New York, New Jersey or Connecticut at the time of application submission for the examination.

**SALARY:** The starting salary is \$46,029 annually for a 36.25-hour workweek with the Suffern Central School District. Salary will be pro-rated for less than full-time positions. Salary may vary in other locations.

**WHAT THE JOB IS LIKE:** This is a second-level title in the clerical line responsible for performing secretarial tasks and clerical processing work in accordance with established policies and procedures. The secretarial responsibilities require the ability to independently assess and manage non-routine situations and information, as well as prioritize tasks effectively to support an administrator\* in their decision-making process. The clerical duties encompass ordering, documentation and processing of office paperwork, which involves exercising judgment, organizing work schedules and assessing submitted data for adherence to established standards. While stenography and typing are required, they may not reflect the primary responsibilities of the job. This title is distinguished from that of a Secretary I in that some of the duties performed in this position require the incumbent to possess speaking and reading ability in Spanish at the fluency level indicated below in the Notes. The work is performed under the general supervision of an administrator and work guidance (e.g. lead work) may be given to lower-level clerical employees. Does related work as required.

**When completing the application, your description of experience must specify the dates of your employment, the number of hours worked per week, your title, and the main duties for each. Be specific; vagueness will not be resolved in your favor. Candidates who submit incomplete applications or documentation may be disqualified.**

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** At the time of application submission, you must have: Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma and two (2) years of office clerical or business experience.

- NOTES:**
1. Additional qualifying experience or any academic, technical or vocational training may be substituted for schooling on a year-for-year basis.
  2. An Associate's degree or higher may be deemed fully qualifying.
  3. Incumbents are expected to possess a level II proficiency in Spanish (as defined by the Examinations Division of the State of New York Department of Civil Service) which requires that the incumbent be able to speak the language with sufficient structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in most formal and informal conversations on practical, social and professional topics not requiring specialized vocabulary (e.g. technical engineering, medicine, etc.); can discuss particular interests and special fields of competence in general terms with reasonable ease; possesses adequate comprehension to normal rate of speech; has good control of grammar and errors do not interfere with understanding; can read with understanding a standard newspaper, correspondence and official documents.

\*An administrator is someone who is responsible for the direction and control of an organization or organizational unit. In addition to the supervision of work groups, an administrator is involved in planning, resource allocation, program evaluation and policy formulation.

**TRANSCRIPTS:**  
If using college credits to qualify, official college transcripts must be sent directly from the educational institution to the Rockland County Department of Personnel at [rcexams@co.rockland.ny.us](mailto:rcexams@co.rockland.ny.us) no later than two (2) months after the last filing date; student transcripts are not acceptable. Failure to comply with the deadlines set herein may result in the disapproval of your application and/or disqualification from a resulting list of eligible candidates. Your college degree and/or college credit must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. Candidates are responsible for any required evaluation fees. General Information Concerning Evaluation of Foreign Education and Training, including a list of acceptable companies who provide this service, is available here: <https://rocklandcountyny.gov/departments/personnel/applicant-candidate-resources-forms>.

**SECRETARY I (SPANISH-SPEAKING) (OC) #25123010 (CONTINUED)**

**ANTICIPATED ELIGIBILITY – AGE AND EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

According to Civil Service Law, section 54 which became effective September 4, 2024, applicants who are within 12 months of meeting the minimum age or attaining the minimum educational requirements following the date of examination, may take the civil service exam, but will be restricted from certification until such a time that the minimum age or educational requirements are met. Candidates will be required to provide proof of qualifying age and or education within 12 months of exam date in order to be eligible for appointment from a certified list.

**ALL OUTSTANDING APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION:** Must be submitted to the Rockland County Department of Personnel no later than two (2) weeks prior to the exam date. Failure to comply with the deadlines set herein may result in the disapproval of your application; disqualification from sitting for the examination; and/or disqualification from a resulting list of eligible candidates. These deadlines are subject to change by the Rockland County Department of Personnel upon notice to a candidate.

**SUBJECT OF WRITTEN EXAMINATION:** This examination will consist of two parts:

- A. A weighted multiple-choice written test; and
- B. A qualifying Spanish Language Oral Proficiency Test.

**A. WRITTEN TEST-**

1. Spelling – These questions test for the ability to spell words that are used in written business communications.
2. Grammar, Usage, Punctuation – The grammar and usage questions test for the ability to apply basic rules of grammar and usage. The punctuation questions test for a knowledge of the correct placement of punctuation marks in sentences.
3. Keyboarding Practices – These questions test for a knowledge of preferred practices in such areas as letter format, capitalization, hyphenation, plurals, possessives, word division, word and figure style for numbers, and common proofreading marks. In addition, you will be given a passage to proofread and asked questions about how to correct the errors in the passage.
4. Office Record Keeping – These questions evaluate your ability to perform common office record keeping tasks. The test consists of two or more “sets” of questions, each set concerning a different problem. Typical record keeping problems might involve the organization or collation of data from several sources; scheduling; maintaining a record system using running balances; or completion of a table summarizing data using totals, subtotals, averages and percents.
5. Office Practices – These questions test for a knowledge of generally agreed upon practices governing the handling of situations which office support staff, typists, and secretaries encounter in their work, as well as a knowledge of efficient and effective methods used to accomplish office tasks. The questions will cover such topics as planning workflow; setting priorities; dealing effectively with staff, visitors, and callers; filing and retrieving information; safeguarding confidentiality; using office equipment; and making procedural decisions and recommendations which contribute to a well-managed office.

**B. ORAL PERFORMANCE TEST-**

The qualifying Spanish Speaking Language Oral Proficiency Test is designed to evaluate the candidate’s proficiency in the Spanish language at a Level II. Only a sufficient number of candidates needed to fill the present vacancies will be called to take part in this qualifying portion of the examination **to be held at a later date**. As additional vacancies occur, other candidates who were successful on the written portion of the examination will be invited to take the qualifying oral test. Candidates must pass both parts of this examination in order to be eligible for appointment. This Language Oral Proficiency Test is held on a pass-fail basis. The qualifying oral language proficiency test will be waived for candidates who have previously passed an oral test at the required proficiency level given under the direction of this department or in any local jurisdiction in New York State. **If you wish to waive the oral portion of the exam, a request in writing must be submitted within thirty days of the written test to our department indicating the title, number of the test and the jurisdiction for which it was held.** Those who receive written notification of failing the oral test, may make a request in writing within thirty days for a retest. The Rockland County Department of Personnel reserves the right to offer one more retest to all those candidates who failed or failed to appear for the first oral language proficiency test. Retests will not be scheduled until all passing candidates have been given an opportunity for testing. Candidates have been given an opportunity for testing.

A candidate must qualify on both portions of the examination in order to be eligible for appointment from the resulting eligible list.

**USE OF CALCULATORS IS ALLOWED FOR THIS EXAMINATION**

**TEST GUIDE:** A Guide for the Written Test for **Senior Stenographer/Senior Typist** is available at the New York State website: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/testing/testguides.cfm> or the Rockland County Department of Personnel website: <https://rocklandcountyny.gov/departments/personnel/applicant-candidate-resources-forms>. If you do not have access to the internet, you may contact the Rockland County Department of Personnel to request a copy at (845) 364-3737 or [RCEXAMS@co.rockland.ny.us](mailto:RCEXAMS@co.rockland.ny.us).

**Civil Service is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer**

**Date Issued: 03/28/2025**