



ERIC L. ADAMS
Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
BUREAU OF EXAMINATIONS

DAWN M. PINNOCK
Commissioner

NOTICE OF EXAMINATION

ASSOCIATE PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST
Exam No. 3086

WHEN TO APPLY:	From: March 8, 2023	APPLICATION FEE: \$54.00
	To: March 28, 2023	If you choose to pay the application fee with a credit/debit/gift card, you will be charged a service fee of 2.00% of the payment amount. This service fee is nonrefundable.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR READING THIS ENTIRE NOTICE BEFORE YOU SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION.

WHAT THE JOB INVOLVES:

Associate Public Information Specialists, under direction, perform responsible work in the development and implementation of a public relations program for a City department or agency, and serve as liaison with the general public, news publications, and other public relations officers; perform research and draft correspondence connected to public relations, prepare press releases and answers to press inquiries, and write and/or edit brochures, articles, and other official publications. All Associate Public Information Specialists 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 \$37,993 per annum. This rate is subject to change. There are two 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 level at the discretion of the agency.

HOW TO QUALIFY:

You are responsible for determining whether or not you meet the education and experience requirements for this examination prior to submitting your application. If you are found "Not Qualified," your application fee will not be refunded and you will not receive a score.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

1. A master's degree in journalism or public relations from an accredited college or university; **or**
2. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university **and** one year of full-time satisfactory experience in public relations, journalism or advertising; **or**
3. An associate degree or completion of 60 semester credits from an accredited college or university **and** two years of full-time satisfactory experience in public relations, journalism or advertising; **or**
4. Education and/or experience equivalent to "1", "2", or "3" above. Education may be substituted for experience on the basis that 60 undergraduate or graduate semester credits are equivalent to one year of experience. However, all candidates must have at least 60 semester credits from an accredited college or university.

Note: Clerical or secretarial experience, experience in technical support for public relations functions, or experience in providing routine information to the public will not be accepted either for meeting the qualification requirements or for additional credit.

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. For more information see the Foreign Education Evaluation Guide in the Required Information section.

During the Education and Experience Exam (EEE), you may answer questions about your experience. If your experience was on a part-time basis working less than 35 hours per week, you will need to convert your part-time experience to full-time experience using the formula below. Once you have determined your full-time experience equivalent, use this amount to answer questions about your experience.

(number of hours worked per week/35) x (number of months worked)

READ CAREFULLY AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

For example, if you worked at a job for 21 hours per week for 12 months, you would make the following calculation: $21/35 \times 12 = 7.2$ months.

You have until midnight Eastern time on the last day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023) to clearly specify in detail all of your relevant education and experience and Final Submit your Education and Experience Exam in the Online Application System (OASys). Once you Final Submit your Education and Experience Exam in OASys, you will not be permitted to submit new or additional information on your Education and Experience Exam online.

If you do not Final Submit your Education and Experience Exam in OASys by midnight Eastern time on the last day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023), your examination will be considered incomplete, you will not receive a score, you will not be invited to subsequent portions of this examination (if applicable), and your application fee will not be refunded.

You will not receive credit for education which you obtain after June 30, 2023 or experience which you obtain after the end of the Application Period (March 28, 2023).

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 an agency under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner, Department of Citywide Administrative Services.

HOW TO APPLY:

If you believe you meet the requirements in the "How to Qualify" section, apply using the Online Application System (OASys) at 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 apply to ensure the accuracy of candidate information. Verification is instantaneous for most accounts and you will receive a confirmation email with instructions to activate your account. For any account creation issues, you will receive onscreen prompts to contact DCAS. This review may require up to two (2) business days to be reviewed and 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-exams.nyc.gov/OASysWeb/Home/Faq>. **Effective January 2020, the Online Application System is no longer supported on Windows 7 or earlier versions of Windows operating systems.**

You may come to the DCAS Computer-based Testing & Applications Centers to apply for this examination online. However, you must schedule a customer service appointment prior to your visit. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DCAS no longer permits walk-ins at DCAS sites. The centers will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM:

Manhattan

2 Lafayette Street
17th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Brooklyn

210 Joralemon Street
4th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Queens

118-35 Queens Boulevard
5th Floor
Forest Hills, NY 11375

Staten Island

135 Canal Street
3rd Floor
Staten Island, NY 10304

Bronx

1932 Arthur Avenue
2nd Floor
Bronx, NY 10457

To schedule a customer service appointment through OASys for an exam-related or eligible list-related inquiry, find **Exam #1889**, click **Apply**, and follow the instructions provided to reserve your appointment location, date, and time.

You must complete the entire application by midnight, Eastern Time, of the last day of the application period. If you have questions about applying for this examination, you may contact DCAS at OASys@dcas.nyc.gov.

Special Circumstances Guide: This guide is located on the DCAS website at https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dcas/downloads/pdf/employment/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."

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. Education and Experience Exam:** Fill out all the required sections displayed onscreen (if applicable). You will have until midnight Eastern time on the last day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023) to clearly specify in detail all of your relevant education and experience on your Education and Experience Exam and submit it in the Online Application System (OASys).

If you do not Final Submit your Education and Experience Exam in OASys by midnight Eastern time on the last day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023), your examination will be considered incomplete, you will not receive a score, you will not be invited to subsequent portions of this examination (if applicable), and your application fee will not be refunded.

- 3. 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 which is located on the DCAS website at <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dcas/downloads/pdf/employment/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 day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023).

THE TEST:

Your score will be determined by an Education and Experience Exam. You will receive a score of 70 points for meeting the education and experience requirements listed in the "How To Qualify" section. After these requirements are met, you will receive additional credit up to a maximum of 100 points on the following basis:

If you have satisfactory full-time experience in the field of public relations, including drafting and/or editing written materials, writing press releases and speeches, organizing and/or promoting special events, arranging for press coverage of events and news conferences, responding to inquiries from the press and the media, and conducting research to find out the necessary information for:

You will receive up to:

At least 3 months but less than 6 months	3 points
At least 6 months but less than 9 months	6 points
At least 9 months but less than 12 months	9 points
At least 12 months but less than 15 months	12 points
At least 15 months but less than 18 months	15 points
At least 18 months but less than 21 months	18 points
At least 21 months but less than 24 months	21 points
At least 24 months but less than 27 months	24 points
At least 27 months but less than 30 months	27 points
30 or more months	30 points

If you have satisfactory full-time experience in the field of journalism or advertising, including the drafting and/or editing of written materials for:

You will receive up to:

At least 3 months but less than 6 months	2 points
At least 6 months but less than 9 months	4 points
At least 9 months but less than 12 months	6 points
At least 12 months but less than 15 months	8 points
At least 15 months but less than 18 months	10 points
At least 18 months but less than 21 months	12 points
At least 21 months but less than 24 months	14 points
At least 24 months but less than 27 months	16 points
At least 27 months but less than 30 months	18 points
30 or more months	20 points

During the Education and Experience Exam (EEE), you may answer questions about your experience. If your experience was on a part-time basis working less than 35 hours per week, you will need to convert your part-time experience to full-time experience using the formula below. Once you have determined your

full-time experience equivalent, use this amount to answer questions about your experience.
(number of hours worked per week/35) x (number of months worked)

For example, if you worked at a job for 21 hours per week for 12 months, you would make the following calculation: $21/35 \times 12 = 7.2$ months.

You will receive a maximum of one year of experience credit for each year you worked. Each year of experience will be credited under only one category which will be the highest appropriate category. **Experience used to meet the minimum requirements cannot be used to gain additional credit.**

You must clearly specify in detail all of your relevant education and experience on your Education and Experience Exam and submit it by the end of the Application Period. You will not receive credit for education which you obtain after June 30, 2023 or experience which you obtain after the end of the Application Period.

You have until midnight Eastern time on the last day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023) to clearly specify in detail all of your relevant education and experience and Final Submit your Education and Experience Exam in the Online Application System (OASys). Once you Final Submit your Education and Experience Exam in OASys, you will not be permitted to submit new or additional information on your Education and Experience Exam online.

If you do not Final Submit your Education and Experience Exam in OASys by midnight Eastern time on the last day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023), your examination will be considered incomplete, you will not receive a score, you will not be invited to subsequent portions of this examination (if applicable), and your application fee will not be refunded.

Experience must be obtained by the last day of the Application Period (March 28, 2023).

CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS, AND/OR TELEPHONE NUMBER:

It is critical that you promptly notify DCAS of any change to your mailing address, email address and/or phone number. If we do not have your correct mailing address, email address and/or phone number, you will not receive information about your exam(s), consideration for appointment and/or important information that may require a response by a specified deadline. If you need to update your Mailing Address, Email Address, and/or Telephone Number, read below:

- City Employees - update this information in NYCAPS Employee Self-Service (ESS) at www.nyc.gov/ess
- All Others - update this information on your Profile page in the Online Application System (OASys) by logging into your OASys account and navigating to your Dashboard, then your Profile tab at www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs
- Submit a written request by email at OASys@dcas.nyc.gov, by fax (646) 500-7190, or by regular mail: DCAS, 1 Centre Street, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10007. Your written request must include your full name, social security number, exam title(s), exam number(s), previous mailing and/or email address, and your new mailing and/or email address, and/or new telephone number.

CHANGE OF NAME AND/OR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER:

Use the Data Correction Form and follow all instructions for changing your name and/or social security number with DCAS. The following link will provide you with the DCAS Data Correction form: <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dcas/downloads/pdf/employment/dp148a.pdf>.

THE TEST RESULTS:

If you pass the Education and Experience Exam, your name will be placed in final score order on an eligible list, you will be given a list number and you will be notified by email of your test results. The eligible list determines the order by which candidates will be considered for appointment. If you meet all requirements and conditions, you will be considered for appointment if your name is reached on the eligible list. Once a list has been established, it will typically remain active for four years. To learn more about the civil service system go to: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dcas/employment/civil-service-system.page>.

If you believe that your test part was rated incorrectly, you may submit an appeal of your score to DCAS, Committee on Manifest Errors, through the Online Application System (OASys). Your appeal must give specific reasons why your score should be higher. Your appeal may result in a higher or lower rating.

To access the appeal portal of OASys, please log into your OASys account at www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs and use the following steps:

1. Navigate to the Dashboard for the Appeals tab.
2. Click the NEW APPEAL button to create and submit your appeal.
3. Select the exam from the Exam drop-down list, and
4. Select the exam part from the Exam Part drop-down list.
5. Select the reason for your appeal from the Appeal Reason drop-down list (if applicable).
6. Enter the details of your appeal by providing specific reasons why your score should be higher.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Selective Certification for Foreign Language and/or American Sign Language: If you can speak Albanian (**ALB**), Arabic (**ARA**), Bengali (**BEN**), Bosnian/Serbo-Croatian (**SRC**), Chinese (Cantonese) (**CAN**), Chinese (Mandarin) (**MAN**), French (**FRE**), Greek (**GRE**), Haitian/Creole (**CRE**), Hindi (**HIN**), Italian (**ITA**), Japanese (**JAP**), Korean (**KOR**), Portuguese (**POR**), Polish (**POL**), Russian (**RUS**), Spanish (**SPA**), Tibetan (**TIB**), Urdu (**URD**), Vietnamese (**VIE**), West African Languages (e.g., Ibo, Swahili, Yoruba) (**WAL**), Yiddish (**YDD**) and/or you know American Sign Language (**ASL**), 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 onscreen instructions when completing the Education and Experience Exam to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification and Final Submit it in the Online Application System (OASys).

Selective Certification For Special Experience:

If you meet the requirements for Selective Certification, as described in the following sections, 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. If you wish to apply for this Selective Certification, follow the onscreen instructions when completing your Education and Experience Exam to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification and Final Submit it in the Online Application System (OASys). **Your experience will be checked by the appointing agency at the time of appointment.**

Selective Certification for Digital/Social Media Experience (DSE): At least two (2) years of full-time satisfactory experience working with website and social media management, including creating YouTube channels, Pinterest pages and Flickr accounts and writing/editing for Twitter and/or Facebook.

Selective Certification for Marketing Experience (MKE): At least two (2) years of full-time satisfactory experience with graphic or layout design, branding, and/or development of marketing materials.

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, 14th 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.

Application Receipt:

You will be emailed a receipt immediately after you have applied for the examination. If you do not receive this receipt, check "Junk", "Trash", or "Spam" folders for the primary email linked to your Online Application System (OASys) account. If you are unable to locate the email, you can view a summary of the notification email to you on your OASys Dashboard, then Notifications. If you are still unable to find the email, please email DCAS via the Contact feature available in OASys with a description of the issue and include the exam number and your profile number located on your Profile page. While on your Profile page, check that the email addresses you provided are correct and/or updated.

PENALTY FOR MISREPRESENTATION:

Any intentional misrepresentation on the application or examination may result in disqualification, even after appointment, and may result in criminal prosecution.

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

The City of New York is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Title Code No. 60816; Public Information Specialist Occupational Group.

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