



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

In the Matter of Gwen Carrick, Program Specialist 4, Social/Human Services (PS6123K), Department of Human Services

CSC Docket No. 2014-2559

FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Examination Appeal

ISSUED:

AUG 0 1 2014

(DASV)

Gwen Carrick appeals the determination of the Division of Selection Services that she did not meet the experience requirement for the promotional examination for Program Specialist 4, Social/Human Services (PS6123K), Department of Human Services.

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By way of background, the subject examination was announced with a closing date of December 21, 2013 and requirements pursuant to the attached announcement. One employee was found eligible for the examination and appears on the resulting eligible list, which promulgated on April 17, 2014 and expires on April 16, 2017. There has not been a certification of the eligible list. Additionally, the appellant has remained serving provisionally pending promotional examination procedures in the subject title since March 9, 2013.

On her application, the appellant indicated that she possessed a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design and a Master's degree in Art Therapy. The appellant listed her employment as a Program Specialist 4, Social/Human Services from March 2013 to the closing date. She also served as a Program Coordinator, Mental Health from December 2008 to March 2013; a Therapist, Art from December 2002 to December 2008; and a Therapist, Art from November 1995 to June 2001. Moreover, the appellant indicated that she supervises four professional staff as a Program Specialist 4, Social/Human Services, and as a Program Coordinator,

¹ Agency records indicate that the appellant commenced employment as a Therapist, Art in August 1996, and from June 2001 to June 2002, she was employed as a Teacher 2, 12 Months.

Mental Health, she supervised 23 professional and support staff. Upon its review, the Division of Selection Services found that the appellant possessed 16 years of applicable general experience, but only 10 months of supervisory experience. It noted that supervisory responsibilities for a Program Coordinator, Mental Health would be considered out-of-title work and could not be accepted. Consequently, the Division of Selection Services determined that the appellant was not eligible for the examination.

On appeal to the Civil Service Commission (Commission), the appellant maintains that she meets the educational requirement and possesses over four years of the required experience in planning, monitoring, coordinating, implementing, modifying and/or evaluating a social or human services program. She also contends that, as a Program Coordinator, Mental Health from December 2008 to March 2013, she was responsible for supervising 23 staff members. In addition, she has supervisory experience in the subject title and explains the duties of her positions. Therefore, the appellant contends that she exceeds the required experience for the examination.

CONCLUSION

N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.6(a) provides that applicants shall meet all requirements specified in the promotional examination announcement by the closing date. Further, *N.J.A.C.* 4A:1-1.2(c) states that the Commission may relax a rule for good cause in order to effectuate the purposes of Title 11A, New Jersey Statutes.

In the instant matter, the Division of Selection Services found that the appellant lacked only two months of supervisory experience as of the examination closing date. It noted that supervisory responsibilities as a Program Coordinator, Mental Health would be considered out-of-title work. In this regard, N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.6(c) provides that, except when permitted for good cause, applicants for promotional examinations with open-competitive requirements may not use experience gained as a result of out-of-title work to satisfy eligibility requirements or for credit in the examination process. Nevertheless, the Commission need not determine whether the appellant's work as a Program Coordinator, Mental Health provided her with applicable out-of-title experience. The appellant now has over one year of applicable supervisory experience since she remains serving provisionally in the subject title. The examination process also did not result in a competitive situation, as there is only one eligible on the subject eligible list. Furthermore, there is no dispute that the appellant meets the educational and general experience requirements. Under these circumstances, good cause exists to relax the provisions of N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.6(a) and accept the appellant's experience beyond the closing date and admit her to the subject examination.

ORDER

Therefore, it is ordered that this appeal be granted and Gwen Carrick's application be processed, for prospective appointment only.

This is the final administrative determination in this matter. Any further review should be pursued in a judicial forum.

DECISION RENDERED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION ON THE 30TH DAY OF JULY, 2014

Robert M. Czech Chairperson

Civil Service Commission

Robert M. Crack

Inquiries

Henry Maurer

and

Director

Correspondence

Division of Appeals and Regulatory Affairs Civil Service Commission Written Record Appeals Unit

P.O. Box 312

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0312

Attachment

c: Gwen Carrick

Mary Beth Candelori-Longo

Dan Hill

Joseph Gambino

NEW JERSEY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION-STATE SERVICE

PROMOTIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT



\$25.00PROCESSING FEE REQUIRED Make Check/Money Order Payable to NJCSC

SYMBOL: PS6123K

TITLE: PROGRAM SPECIALIST 4 SOCIAL/HUMAN SERVICES

SALARY: \$72,975.00 - \$104,070.00

ISSUE DATE: December 01, 2013

CLOSING DATE: December 21, 2013

TITLE CODE: 64486N/XIRXR9

CLASS CODE: 29

WEIGHT CODE: *

DEPARTMENT: HSHT/HUMAN SERVICES UNIT SCOPE: K375 Trenton Psychiatric Hospital

APPLICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AND MUST BE RETURNED TO: ONLY ON LINE APPLICATIONS

WILL BE ACCEPTED

FOR THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

Open to employees in the competitive division who are currently serving in a title to which the announcement is open and have an aggregate of one year of continuous permanent service as of the closing date in the following title(s):

Program Specialist 3 Social/Human Services

Or to employees in the competitive division who have an aggregate of one year of continuous permanent service as of the closing date in any competitive title and meet the requirements listed below:

Education: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree. You must indicate either possession of a degree or total number of college credits completed to date on your application. (Foreign degrees/ transcripts must be evaluated by a recognized evaluation service.) Failure to do so will result in rejection from the examination process.

Applicants who do not possess the required education may substitute experience as indicated below on a year for year basis.

Experience: Four (4) years of professional experience in the development of plans, policies, or programs in the human services field, one (1) year of which shall have been in a supervisory capacity.

Note: A Master's degree in political science, social work, business or public administration, public affairs, economics, or a related field may be substituted for one (1) year of the basic experience. You must indicate the details of your Master's degree on your application. (Foreign degrees/ transcripts must be evaluated by a recognized evaluation service.) Failure to do so will result in rejection from the examination process.

License: Appointees will be required to possess a driver's license valid in New Jersey only if the operation of a vehicle rather than employee mobility, is necessary to perform the essential duties of the position. The responsibility for ensuring that employees possess the required motor vehicle license, commensurate with the class and type of vehicles they operate, rests with the Appointing Authority.

Note: This announcement may be tested via the Supervisory Test Battery, a computer-administered exam. For information regarding the Supervisory Test Battery, please refer to our website http://www.state.nj.us/csc/seekers/about/steps/step7.html.

NOTE: As of December 1, 2013, applications must be completed and submitted by 4:00 pm on the closing date.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- 1. NJAC 4A 4-26 states that all requirements listed, including assignment to the department and unit scope, must be met as of the closing date.
- 2. YOU MUST COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION IN DETAIL. Your score may be based on a comparison of your credentials with the job requirements. Failure to complete your application properly may lower your score or cause you to fail.
- 3. This examination is open to full- and part-time permanent employees. If an employment list results from this announcement, it may be certified to fill full-time and part-time positions. If 35- and 40-hour positions are used within the unit scope, the resulting list may be used to fill either work week position.
- 4. NJAC 4A 4-1.5 states that any employee who is serving on a provisional basis and who fails to file for and take an examination which has been announced for his/her title SHALL BE SEPARATED FROM THE PROVISIONAL TITLE.
- 5. In accordance with Public Law 2010 c.26, Veterans pay a reduced application fee of \$15.00 if they have previously established Veterans Preference with the DMAVA (as defined by N.J.S.A. 11A:5-1 et seq.), or your claim is approved by DMAVA at least 8 days prior to the issuance of this eligibility list. PLEASE NOTE THIS REDUCED FEE DOES NOT APPLY TO PUBLIC SAFETY TITLES.
- 6. SAVE ON POSTAGE! GO PAPERLESS! RECEIVE IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION THAT YOUR APPLICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED! You can now file an application for this examination on-line. Visit the Civil Service Commission website at http://info.csc.state.nj.us/epoa_Select the promotional announcement and click on the link, "Click Here to file On-Line" at the top of the announcement, You can now complete and submit your application and payment on-line to the Civil Service Commission and you will receive an immediate receipt confirmation!
- 7. SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL APPLICANTS Please make sure you are assigned to the unit scope indicated above. If you do not know your unit scope assignment, please contact your Human Resource Office. If you file an application for this announcement and you are not assigned to the unit scope indicated above, YOU WILL BE FOUND INELIGIBLE FOR THIS EXAM AND YOUR APPLICATION FEE WILL NOT BE REFUNDED.

DPF-256A * Revised 03/09