CONGREGATE CARE SPECIALIST

Exam. No. 0023

Amended Notice

WHEN TO APPLY: From: October 3, 2001 APPLICATION FEE: $30.00
To: November 30, 2001 Payable only by money order to D.C.A.S. (EXAMS)

THE TEST DATE: Multiple-choice test expected to be held on January 26, 2002.

The amendment as of October 24, 2001 is to extend the application period to November 30, 2001.

WHAT THE JOB INVOLVES: At Assignment Level I: Congregate Care Specialists, under direct supervision, oversee the care, development and guidance of dependent, neglected and emotionally disturbed children in a community-based home, group residence or diagnostic-reception center; and perform related work.

Congregate Care 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 $28,693 per annum. This rate is subject to change. There are two assignment levels within this class of positions. Appointments to the higher assignment level is made at the discretion of the agency.

HOW TO APPLY: If you believe you meet the requirements in the "How to Qualify" section, refer to the "Required Forms" section below for the form(s) that you must fill out. Return all completed form(s) and the application fee to DCAS Applications Section, 1 Centre Street, 14th floor, New York, NY 10007 by mail only. Applications will not be accepted in person.

HOW TO QUALIFY:

Education and Experience Requirements: By the last day of the Application Period you must have:

(1) A four-year high school diploma or its educational equivalent and two years of satisfactory experience working with children or youths in a congregate residential setting; or

(2) An Associate degree or 60 semester credits from an accredited college, including 12 semester credits in psychology, sociology, social work, human services, criminal justice, education, nursing, or cultural anthropology; or

(3) A satisfactory combination of education and experience that is equivalent to (1) or (2) above. College education may be substituted for the required experience in (1) above on the basis that thirty (30) semester credits, including 12 semester credits in psychology, sociology, social work, human services, criminal justice, education, nursing, or cultural anthropology from an accredited college, is equated to one year of
experience. However, all candidates must have at least a four year high school diploma or its educational equivalent.

You may be given the test before we check your qualifications.

**Drug Screening Requirement:** You must pass a drug screening in order to be appointed.

**Residency Requirement:** You must be a City resident within ninety days of the date you are appointed to this position if:

1. You begin City service as a result of this examination; or
2. You are currently a City employee and you began City service on or after September 1, 1986.

**English Requirement:** Candidates 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 FORM(S):**

1. **Application for Examination:** Make sure that you follow all instructions included with your application form, including payment of fee. Save a copy of the instructions for future reference.

2. **Education and Experience Test Paper:** Write your social security number, the examination title and number in the box at the top right side of the cover page. Fill out Sections A, A1, A2, A4, and B. This form must be filled out completely and in detail for you to receive your proper rating. Keep a copy of your completed Education and Experience Test Paper for your records.

3. **Foreign Education Fact Sheet (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 Fact Sheet included with your application packet. When you contact the evaluation service, ask for a "document-by-document" (general) evaluation of your foreign education. If you can meet the qualification requirements only by having completed the undergraduate credits specified in the "How to Qualify" section, you must request a "course-by-course" evaluation (including a "document-by-document" 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 (DCAS) no later than eight weeks from the last date for applying for this examination.

**THE TEST:** You will be given a multiple-choice test. Your score on this test will be used to determine your place on an eligible list. You must achieve a score of at least 70% to pass the test. The multiple-choice test may include questions on written communication, arithmetic reasoning, planning and organizing, ordering and analyzing information, identifying problems and making decisions, interacting with residents and staff; and other related areas.

**ADMISSION CARD:** You should receive an Admission Card in the mail about 10 days before the date of the test. If you do not receive an Admission Card at least 4 days before the test date, you must go to the Examining Service Section, 1 Centre Street, 14th floor, Manhattan, to obtain a duplicate card.

**THE TEST RESULTS:** If you meet the education and experience requirements and pass the multiple-choice test, your name will be placed in 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.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**
Selective Certification for Driver License: If, at the time of appointment, you have a motor vehicle Driver License that is valid in the State of New York, you may be considered for appointment to positions requiring this license through a process called Selective Certification. If you qualify for Selective Certification, you may be given preferred consideration for positions requiring this license. Follow the instructions given to you in the multiple-choice test booklet on the day of the test to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification.

List Termination: The eligible list resulting from this examination will be terminated one year from the date it is established, unless extended by the Commissioner.

Assignment Information: Section 424-a of the New York Social Services Law requires an authorized agency to inquire whether a candidate for employment with child-care responsibilities is or has been the subject of an indicated child abuse and maltreatment report on file with the statewide central register for child abuse and maltreatment. State Central Register screening will be obtained prior to considering a candidate for employment as a Congregate Care Specialist. Candidates who have been the subject of an indicated child abuse and maltreatment report will not be assigned to any position which requires child-care responsibilities. Employees who have been the subject of such a report may be terminated from employment from their positions as Congregate Care Specialists.

SPECIAL TEST ACCOMMODATIONS: If you plan to request special testing accommodations due to disability or an alternate test date due to your religious belief, follow the instructions included with the "Application for Examination."