

**Temporary Assistance Specialist 1 RIS (NY HELPS); OR**  
**Temporary Assistance Specialist RIS Trainee 1; OR**  
**Temporary Assistance Specialist RIS Trainee 2**

**Announcement Posted:**

1/14/2026

**Responses must be hand delivered or postmarked by:**

1/24/2026

**Salary Range:**

\$66,951 to \$85,138 (Temporary Assistance Specialist 1 RIS); **OR**  
\$53,764 (Temporary Assistance Specialist RIS Trainee 1); **OR**  
\$59,994 (Temporary Assistance Specialist RIS Trainee 2)

**Location:**

Bureau of Refugee Services  
40 North Pearl Street  
Albany, NY 12243

**Grade:**

18/NS

**# of Positions:**

1

**Candidates Must Meet the Following Qualifications:**

NY HELPS: This title is part of the New York Hiring for Emergency Limited Placement Statewide program (NY HELPS). For the duration of the NY HELPS Program, candidates may be hired via a non-competitive appointment if they meet the below NY HELPS minimum qualifications.

At a future date (within one year of permanent appointment), it is expected employees hired under NY HELPS will have their non-competitive employment status converted to competitive status, without having to compete in an examination. Employees will then be afforded all of the same rights and privileges of competitive class employees of New York State. While serving permanently in a NY HELPS title, employees may take part in any promotion examination for which they are qualified.

**NON-COMPETITIVE QUALIFICATIONS:**

Trainee 1: Four years of professional experience assessing or determining refugees and immigrants' eligibility for programs to assist with assimilation, economic self-sufficiency or other needs; designing and developing plans or proposals, and implementing and evaluating programs to assist refugees and immigrants with assimilation, economic self-sufficiency, or other needs; or providing human

services to refugees and immigrants to assist in gaining and retaining employment, language skills, housing, or medical care.

Substitution: An associate degree may substitute for two years of experience; a bachelor's degree may substitute for four years of experience; a master's degree may substitute for five years of experience; and a doctorate may substitute for six years of experience.

Trainee 2: Five years of professional experience assessing or determining refugees and immigrants' eligibility for programs to assist with assimilation, economic self-sufficiency or other needs; designing and developing plans or proposals, and implementing and evaluating programs to assist refugees and immigrants with assimilation, economic self-sufficiency, or other needs; or providing human services to refugees and immigrants to assist in gaining and retaining employment, language skills, housing, or medical care.

Substitution: An associate degree may substitute for two years of experience; a bachelor's degree may substitute for four years of experience; a master's degree may substitute for five years of experience; and a doctorate may substitute for six years of experience.

For the Full Performance Level: Six years of professional experience assessing or determining refugees and immigrants' eligibility for programs to assist with assimilation, economic self-sufficiency or other needs; designing and developing plans or proposals, and implementing and evaluating programs to assist refugees and immigrants with assimilation, economic self-sufficiency, or other needs; or providing human services to refugees and immigrants to assist in gaining and retaining employment, language skills, housing, or medical care.

Substitution: An associate degree may substitute for two years of experience; a bachelor's degree may substitute for four years of experience; a master's degree may substitute for five years of experience; and a doctorate may substitute for six years of experience.

**OR**

55 B/C: This position is eligible for 55b/c appointment, and candidates with 55b/c eligibility are encouraged to apply. To be eligible for a 55b/c appointment, candidate must be currently enrolled in the Civil Service 55b/c program and must meet the minimum qualifications listed above. Information about the 55b/c program can be found here: [55b/c Recruitment Resources Center \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ny.gov/55b/c).

#### **COMPETITIVE QUALIFICATIONS:**

Eligible for a lateral transfer or eligible for transfer under Section 70.1 of the Civil Service Law by having one year of permanent competitive service in an appropriate title. Information regarding transfer eligibility is available on the Civil Service Career Mobility Office website at <https://careermobilityoffice.cs.ny.gov/cmo/gotit/>.

**OR**

Reachable on the appropriate eligible list in Albany.

#### **Duties of Position:**

Reporting to a Temporary Assistance Specialist 2 (RIS), the Temporary Assistance Specialist 1 (RIS) will assist the Bureau of Refugee Services in directing resources to local contracted agencies to provide assistance to refugees and their families with employment and support services towards early economic and social self-sufficiency, to assure foster care for unaccompanied refugee minors, to

assist victims of human trafficking, and to help repatriated U.S. citizens arrive home safely from abroad.

Duties will include, but not be limited to:

- Manage the state procurement process, including developing and distributing Requests for Proposals and the subsequent proposal review process using the Statewide Financial System;
- Develop new contracts and amend continuing contracts as needed;
- Engage in planning meetings;
- Engage with other divisions within OTDA and other state agencies as necessary;
- Review and process claims for payment;
- Monitor program and contractor performance;
- Prepare written reports summarizing the results of monitoring;
- Produce other written documents such as letters, e-mails, templates and memorandums;
- Participate in the development of new programs and policies;
- Participate in the analysis of state and federal policies to ensure proper direction is provided to contractors;
- Provide guidance, technical assistance and training to contractors and other stakeholders;
- Coordinate activities involving internal and external auditors/investigators when necessary;
- Perform various tasks involving data collection and analysis using the Bureau of Refugee Services (BRS) Information Network client data system and other data collection systems and tools;
- Complete special projects as assigned and attend meetings to represent the Bureau as required;
- Travel statewide including to NYC and Long Island to conduct monitoring visits and attend meetings

### **Conditions of Employment:**

A full-time, permanent appointment will be made. If certified by Civil Service, mandatory reemployment list candidates must be considered first for appointment to this title. Candidates must be legally authorized to work in the United States.

Your resume must indicate how you meet the minimum qualifications for this position. Non-specific submissions may be disqualified from further consideration if the information you provide does not meet the minimum qualifications.

Telecommuting up to 50% may be available in accordance with The Office of Temporary and

Disability Assistance policy and can be discussed during the interview.

**Remarks:**

- **Candidates should reference posting 26-006 when submitting your application.**
- **If submitting electronically, please reference posting 26-006 as part of your subject line.**
- **If you are interested in applying to this position, please visit [how to apply](#) for applicant instructions.**

NYS OTDA seeks to promote a diverse workforce that is a representation of the various cultures, voices, backgrounds, ideas, and talents of the citizens and communities that we serve. In alignment with New York State's Executive Orders 187 and 31, OTDA is committed to advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility by fostering an inclusive workplace.