



New York City Transit

Notice of Examination

Promotion to Tower Operator, Exam No. 4713

Application Deadline:

April 15, 2024

Type of Test:

Multiple-Choice Test

Application Fee:

\$68.00

Multiple-Choice Test Date:

(subject to change)

Saturday, July 27, 2024 or
Sunday, July 28, 2024

Note: Unless otherwise specified, you will be randomly scheduled to test on one of the dates indicated above.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Tower Operators, under supervision, operate all-electric, electro-pneumatic, all-relay, centralized traffic control and mechanical interlocking machines; monitor train movements; are responsible for the safe passage and proper routing of trains over tracks and switches in assigned territory; operate public address systems and starting lights; maintain records and prepare reports; and perform related work.

Some of the physical activities performed by Tower Operators and environmental conditions experienced are: ascending and descending ladders and stairways to and from towers, trains, catwalks and roadbeds in all weather conditions; responding to audible signals such as alarm bells, train whistles and horns; understanding and responding to radioed requests for routes; operating levers requiring hand and finger dexterity; and following train movements represented by colored moving lights on model boards.

Special Working Conditions: Tower Operators may be required to work various shifts, including nights, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

(This brief description does not include all of the duties of this position.)

SALARY

The current minimum salary for Tower Operator is \$27.11 per hour for a 40-hour work week increasing to \$38.73 per hour in the sixth year of service. These rates are subject to change.

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Application Period Opened: March 1, 2024

ELIGIBILITY TO TAKE EXAMINATION

This examination is open to each employee of MTA New York City Transit who **on the first date of the multiple-choice test**:

1. Is permanently (not provisionally) employed in or appears on a Preferred List (see Note, below) for the eligible title of Conductor, Station Agent, or Transit Electrical Helper assigned to the Electrical (Signals and Power) Subdivision of the Maintenance of Way Division; and
2. Is not otherwise ineligible.

(Note: A "Preferred List" is a civil service list which is only for certain former permanent incumbents of the eligible title who have rehiring rights.)

This examination is also open to employees who were appointed to an eligible title pursuant to New York State Civil Service Law, section 55-a, and who meet all other eligibility requirements.

You are responsible for determining whether you meet the eligibility requirements for this examination prior to submitting the Application. If you do not know if you are eligible, check with **your department's Human Resources representative**. You may be given the test before we verify your eligibility. If you are marked "Not Eligible," your application fee will **not** be refunded, and you will **not** receive a score.

This examination is **not** open to employees of MaBSTOA or MTA Bus Company, or to employees of MTA agencies other than MTA New York City Transit.

THE TEST

You will be given a multiple-choice test. A score of at least 70% is required to pass the competitive multiple-choice test.

You will be scheduled to take the test on one of the dates listed in the above "Test Date" box. You will be assigned to a test date and location, and you cannot request that your scheduled test date or location be changed, unless you meet the conditions in the "Special Test Accommodations" subsection below.

Your score on the multiple-choice test will determine 85% of your final score. Your seniority will determine the remaining 15%. You must pass the multiple-choice test to have your seniority credited. Your seniority score will be 70 plus $\frac{1}{2}$ point for each three months of completed, permanent, continuous service with an agency under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner, Department of Citywide Administrative Services, in competitive class titles. Your service will be credited through the first date of the multiple-choice test, up to a maximum of 15 years. Time served prior to a break in service of more than one year will not be credited.

Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit will be granted only to eligible passing candidates who request that they be applied. Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit should be requested at the time of application but **must** be requested before the date the eligible list is established. Claims for Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit cannot be made once the eligible list is established.

The multiple-choice test may measure your knowledge, skills and abilities in the following and other related areas:

- **Critical Thinking** – Ability to analyze situations and data from relevant sources and apply this information to answer problems, form valid conclusions, and determine relationships among seemingly unrelated events. This includes the ability to perform mathematical calculations.
 - Example: *Ensuring there is space between two trains before permitting a train to make a reverse move.*
- **Rules and Regulations** – Knowledge of standard operating procedures in accordance with MTA New York City Transit Rules and Regulations.
 - Example: *Recalling a procedure to use in an emergency situation.*

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- **Attention to Detail** – Ability to pay close attention to detail and to review information and work in order to ensure that it is accurate, complete, and free from error.
 - Example: *Ensuring that reports contain relevant and accurate information.*
- **Interpreting Schedules and Schematics** – Ability to read, interpret, and apply information contained in tables, charts, and blueprints or maps used on the job, such as: train schedules, supplements, and track schematics etc.
 - Example: *Reading and understanding the train schedule for the 7 line.*
- **Written Comprehension and Report Writing** – Ability to read written material contained in General Orders, Bulletins, and Memorandums and to produce written records and reports.
 - Example: *Writing incident reports regarding unusual occurrences.*
- **Track Safety and Flagging** – Knowledge of New York City Transit Track Safety and Flagging rules and procedures.
 - Example: *Using an approved tool bag without a shoulder strap while walking on the tracks.*
- **Data Organization** – Ability to identify pertinent information, organize data according to specific rules, and compare similarities and differences among visual or auditory data.
 - Example: *Taking the correct action based on specific visual indicators that appear on the switch board.*
- **Visual Acuity** – Ability to monitor gauges, dials, alarms, or other visual indicators that equipment used on the job is working correctly. This includes the ability to match or detect differences between colors, including shades of color and brightness.
 - Example: *Ensuring the switches are in the correct position based on the colors on the switch board.*

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

If you believe you meet the requirements in the “Eligibility to Take Examination” section, you may submit an application during the application period. If you believe you have a special circumstance (e.g., a disability, military duty) that prevents you from applying as instructed below, please refer to the Special Circumstances Guide referenced in the “Special Test Accommodations” subsection below. Applications will **not** be accepted in person.

Online Applications:

1. If you are an active MTA employee, apply using the MTA Business Service Center (BSC) employee portal at www.mymta.info by the last day of the application period (non-active MTA employees and applicants requesting a fee waiver must email us by the last day of the application period at examsunit@nyct.com for application instructions). **Note:** The application system may not function properly with mobile devices or tablets. For best results when applying, please use the latest version of Microsoft Edge, open a new window, and avoid having multiple tabs open in the same window.
2. Once you have logged in, click on the My Job Search ribbon and then click on Exams (non-Railroad).
3. Follow the steps to submit an application.
4. Active MTA employees must pay the application fee via payroll deduction.
5. A confirmation number will appear on the same page after submitting your application and authorizing a payroll deduction (Save this number for future reference).

IMPORTANT: Your application submission confirms that you have read this Notice of Examination, including any dates and the requirements.

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Application Fee: This fee is generally not refundable. Under special circumstances, you may be entitled to a refund. Please refer to the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (“DCAS”) General Exam Regulation E.3.4 to determine if you are entitled to a refund. Please visit http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms_instructions.htm to access the DCAS General Exam Regulations online. Application fee refund requests, along with any relevant supporting documentation, should be emailed to examsmakeups@nyct.com or mailed to the address in the “Correspondence” section below.

Late Applications: Refer to the “Correspondence” section below to contact the Examinations Unit to determine the procedure for submitting a late application if you meet one of the following conditions:

1. You are absent from work for at least one-half of the application period and are unable to apply for reasons such as vacation, sick leave or military duty; or
2. You become eligible after the above application period, but before the first test date.

Special Test Accommodations: If you plan to request an alternate test date due to your religious observance or special testing accommodations due to disability, please follow the instructions included in the Special Circumstances Guide, which is accessible online at http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms_instructions.htm and will be attached to this Notice of Examination during the application period. An alternate test date due to religious observance must be requested no later than 15 days prior to the date on which multiple-choice testing is expected to begin. Special testing accommodations due to disability must be requested no later than 30 days prior to the date on which multiple-choice testing is expected to begin.

Make-Up Tests: You may apply for a make-up test if you cannot take the multiple-choice test as scheduled for any of the following reasons:

1. Compulsory attendance before a public body; or
2. On-the-job injury or illness caused by municipal employment where you are an officer or employee of the City; or
3. Absence from the test within one week after the death of a spouse, domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, sibling, child, or child of a domestic partner where you are an officer or employee of the City; or
4. Absence due to ordered military duty; or
5. A clear error for which MTA New York City Transit is responsible; or
6. A temporary disability; or
7. Pregnancy, childbirth or a related medical condition.

To request a make-up test, submit your request with documentation of the special circumstances that caused you to miss your test (as attachments) by email to examsmakeups@nyct.com or by mail to the address in the “Correspondence” section below as soon as possible.

CORRESPONDENCE

Change of Contact Information: It is critical that you keep your contact information (i.e., telephone number, mailing address and/or email address) current with MTA New York City Transit. You may miss important information about your exam(s) or consideration for appointment or promotion, including important information that may require a response from you by a specified deadline, if we do not have your correct contact information. To update your contact information, you may:

1. Email us at examsunit@nyct.com with the subject “Contact Info Update;” or
2. Mail your request to the address at the end of this section.

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Your request must include your full name, exam title(s), exam number(s) and your old and new telephone numbers, mailing and/or email address. **MTA New York City Transit employees must also visit the employee portal at www.mymta.info to update their contact information through the “BSC.”**

All other correspondence should be sent to examsunit@nyct.com and must include “Promotion to Tower Operator, Exam No. 4713” in the Subject. Alternatively, you can mail your correspondence to the following address:

Promotion to Tower Operator, Exam No. 4713
MTA New York City Transit
149 Pierrepont Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Attn: Exam Administration, 3rd Floor, Room 3.600

TEST SITE REQUIREMENTS

An Admission Letter will be mailed to you about 10 days before the first date of the multiple-choice test. If you do not receive an Admission Letter at least 4 days before this date, you must email a request for a duplicate Admission Letter to examsunit@nyct.com. A paper copy of the Admission Letter is your ticket for admission to the test.

Applicants **must** keep their mailing address **up to date**. Please refer to the “Correspondence” section above for instructions on how to update your address and other contact information.

Warning: You are not permitted to enter the test site with cellular phones, smart watches, beepers, pagers, cameras, portable media players, or other electronic devices. Calculators are permitted; however, they must be hand-held, battery or solar powered, numeric only. Calculators with functions **other than** addition, subtraction, multiplication and division **are prohibited**. Electronic devices with an alphabetic keyboard or with word processing or data recording capabilities such as planners, organizers, etc. are prohibited. If you use any of these devices in the building at any time before, during or after the test, you may **not** receive your test results, your test score may be nullified, and your application fee will **not** be refunded.

You are also not permitted to use on site any medical assistive devices, including those that give notification or alerts, or that vibrate, without the prior express written authorization of MTA New York City Transit. You can contact MTA New York City Transit by email at: examsmakeups@nyct.com.

You may not have any other person, including children, present with you while you are being processed for or taking the test and no one may wait for you inside of the test site while you are taking the test.

Leaving: You must leave the test site once you finish the test. If you leave the test site after being fingerprinted but before finishing the test, you will not be permitted to re-enter. If you disregard this instruction and re-enter the test site, you may not receive your test results, your test score may be nullified, and your application fee will not be refunded.

Proof of Identity: You must present your MTA New York City Transit employee ID when you arrive to take the test.

THE TEST RESULTS

If you pass the multiple-choice test and are marked eligible, your name will be placed in final 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 promotion when your name is reached on the eligible list.

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REQUIREMENTS TO BE PROMOTED

Probationary Period: At the time of promotion, you must have completed your probationary period in one of the eligible titles indicated in the above "Eligibility to Take Examination" section, and you must be permanently employed in one of those titles or your name must appear on a Preferred List for one of those titles. Additionally, you must have served permanently in an eligible title for at least one year. Time served prior to a break in service of more than one year will not be credited.

Medical Requirement: Medical guidelines have been established for the position of Tower Operator. Candidates will be examined to determine whether they can perform the essential functions of the position. Where appropriate, a reasonable accommodation will be provided for a person with a disability to enable such person to perform the essential functions of the job.

Drug Screening Requirement: You must pass a drug screening in order to be promoted, and if promoted, you will be subject to random drug and alcohol tests for the duration of your employment. Additionally, if you have tested positive on a drug or alcohol test or had a refusal to test during pre-employment or while employed by a Federal DOT-regulated employer during the applicable period, you must have completed the Substance Abuse Professional (SAP) evaluation, referral and education/treatment process required by federal law in order to be promoted to this safety-sensitive position.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Training: You may be required to undergo a formalized training course during your probationary period. Failure to successfully complete the training course may result in termination or being returned to your previously held permanent title.

Probationary Period: You will be required to complete a probationary period. If you do not successfully complete the probationary period, you may be terminated or returned to your previously held permanent title.

PENALTY FOR MISREPRESENTATION

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



IMPORTANT: If you believe you have a special circumstance (e.g., disability, military duty) that prevents you from applying as instructed in the Notice of Examination, you may email us during the application period at examsmakeups@nyct.com to inquire about any available alternative application options.

(A) RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE:

Please be advised that if you are unable to test on any of the test dates listed on the Notice of Examination because of religious observance, you must notify us of the potential conflict at least **fifteen (15) days** before the first listed test date. Please do not wait to submit your request until you have been sent an Admission Letter, or your request could be denied due to lateness. A separate request must be submitted for each exam, and each request must include:

- your full name and Applicant ID (if known) or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN),
- the exam number and title, and
- a signed statement on letterhead from your religious organization certifying that your religious observance prohibits you from taking the test on the scheduled date. Please note that you must submit your religious organization's statement with your request; the statement must be dated within the last 12 months; and the statement must be signed by your religious leader or their designee.

To submit the request and documentation described above, you must email or write to:

examsmakeups@nyct.com (Please include your signed statement from your religious leader as an attachment.)

Mail: MTA NYC Transit, **(Insert Exam Title & Number)** – Spec. Circumstances, 149 Pierrepont Street, Room 3.600, Brooklyn NY 11201 NOTE: Mail must be postmarked by the deadline.

(B) DISABILITY:

If you have a disability which will interfere with your ability to take any test in this examination without special accommodation(s) or other assistance, you must submit a written request for specific special accommodation(s) for each test no later than **thirty (30) days** before the first test date listed on the Notice of Examination (NOE). Each request must include:

- your full name and Applicant ID (if known) or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN),
- the exam number and title,
- the specific nature of your disability and a justification for the special accommodation(s), and
- a statement corroborating your disability by a doctor or agency authorized for this purpose. Please note that MTA New York City Transit may request additional information, including medical documentation evidencing that you have a disability and the need for specific special testing accommodation(s). If you have been approved for special testing accommodations in the past, either while attending school or for employment purposes, feel free to include that supporting documentation, as it may expedite the review process.

If you have a temporary disability, pregnancy-related, or child-birth-related condition which prevents you from taking a test on the date that it is scheduled, which is listed on the Notice of Examination (NOE), you may request a make-up exam by submitting a request no later than **one week following close of the application period**, or, if the temporary disability, pregnancy-related, or child-birth-related condition arises after that date, within **one week following the occurrence**. In addition to the information specified above, the request must include original medical documentation signed by an appropriate, licensed doctor specifying 1) the nature of the condition, 2) the duration of the condition, 3) the functional limitations of the condition, and 4) why the condition prevents you from taking the test as scheduled. Where appropriate and practicable, MTA New York City Transit may provide an alternative form of accommodation, such as an alternative test site.

IMPORTANT: Supporting documentation **must** satisfy the criteria above. Documentation satisfying an employer's requirement(s) for a leave of absence may **not** be sufficient.

To submit the request and documentation described above, you must email or write to:

Email: examsmakeups@nyct.com (Please attach documentation signed by your doctor or authorized agency.)

Mail: MTA NYC Transit, **(Insert Exam Title & Number)** – Spec. Circum., 149 Pierrepont Street, Room 3.600, Brooklyn, NY 11201 NOTE: Mail must be postmarked by the deadline, and you are strongly encouraged to purchase tracking when mailing.



(C) VETERANS' / DISABLED VETERANS' CREDIT (ONLY FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS):

For Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit, you must meet the following requirements by the date of appointment or promotion:

- Be a resident of New York State; **and**
- Be a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence; **and**
- Received an honorable discharge or release under honorable conditions from the Armed Forces of the United States. The "Armed Forces of the United States" means the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard, including all components thereof, and the National Guard when in the service of the United States pursuant to call as provided by Law; **and**
- Have served on full-time active duty, other than active duty for training, in at least one of the following Time of War periods below:

Armed Forces of the United States during: World War II (Dec 7, 1941 - Dec 31, 1946); or Korean Conflict (Jun 27, 1950 - Jan 31, 1955); or Vietnam Conflict (Feb 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975); or Persian Gulf Conflict (Aug 2, 1990 - to be determined).	O R	You must have received the armed forces expeditionary medal, navy expeditionary medal, or marine corps expeditionary medal for: Hostilities in Lebanon (Jun 1, 1983 - Dec 1, 1987); or Hostilities in Grenada (Oct 23, 1983 - Nov 21, 1983); or Hostilities in Panama (Dec 20, 1989 - Jan 31, 1990).
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For Disabled Veterans' Credit, in addition to a, b, c, and d, at the time the list is established, you must have been found to have a service connected disability incurred in a Time of War period listed above, which has been rated at least 10 percent by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.). If the V.A. has not certified the disability as permanent, it must have been rated at least 10 percent by a V.A. physician no more than one year prior to the date of filing your application or the date of establishment of the eligible list. **Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit should be requested at the time of application but MUST be requested before the date the eligible list is established.** Claims for Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit will **not** be processed once the eligible list is established. All claims for Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit will be investigated and you will be required to produce documentation, such as discharge papers, to prove that you are eligible for the credit. **All requests for Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit must include your full name and Applicant ID (if known) or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN), and the exam number and title.**

POINTS: Disabled veterans are entitled to receive ten additional points in an exam for original appointment or five additional points in a promotion exam. Non-disabled veterans are entitled to receive five additional points in an exam for original appointment or two and one-half additional points in a promotion exam. **Exception:** If you were certified as a disabled veteran after using non-disabled Veterans' Credit, please refer to <https://www.cs.ny.gov/vetcredits/> for additional information.

Note:

- You may use Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' Credit only once after January 1, 1951 for appointment or promotion from a City, State, or County civil service list from a jurisdiction within the State of New York. **Note:** See exception above.
- Veterans' or Disabled Veterans' credit will be added only to the final score of those candidates who pass all tests associated with the examination.
- Above is only a summary of necessary conditions; complete provisions are contained in statutory and/or decisional law. **To submit a request after applying and before the eligible list is established, you must email or write to:**
 Email: examsunit@nycct.com (You can attach any relevant supporting documentation to your emailed request)
 Mail: MTA NYC Transit, (**Insert Exam Title & Number**) – Spec. Circum., 149 Pierrepont Street, Room 3.600, Brooklyn, NY 11201 **NOTE:** Mail must be postmarked by the deadline, and you are strongly encouraged to purchase tracking when mailing.

(D) LEGACY CREDIT (ONLY FOR OPEN COMPETITIVE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS):

Ten points can be added to the open competitive exam score of a candidate who is the child or sibling of (1) an individual who served the City of New York as a Firefighter, Police Officer, Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic and was killed in the line of duty; (2) an individual who served the City of New York as a Firefighter or Police Officer and died in the performance of duty as the result of the World Trade Center attack on September 11, 2001 or as the result of participation in the rescue efforts that took place in response to the attack; or (3) an FDNY EMS member in the service of the City of New York who died in the performance of duty as the result of the World Trade Center attack on September 11, 2001 or as the result of participation in the rescue efforts that took place in response to the attack. A candidate can receive Legacy



Credit for no more than one parent or one sibling. A candidate can, however, receive Legacy Credit for both a parent and a sibling, in which case, the candidate may be entitled to 20 points. **Legacy Credit must be requested in accordance with the instructions below before the date the eligible list is established.** Claims for Legacy Credit will **not** be processed once the eligible list is established. All candidates making such claims will be required to present to the hiring agency prior to appointment documentation verifying their claim. All claims for Parent or Sibling Legacy Credit will be investigated. **All Requests for Legacy Credit, whether sent by mail or email, must include your full name and Applicant ID (if known) or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN); the exam title and number; and whether the request is for Parent Legacy Credit, Sibling Legacy Credit, or both.**

Note:

1. You may use Legacy Credit only once for appointment from a City, State, or County open competitive civil service eligible list from a jurisdiction within the State of New York.
2. Legacy Credit will be added only to the final score of those candidates who pass all parts of the open competitive examination.
3. The above description of Legacy Credit is only a summary of necessary conditions. The complete provisions are contained in the relevant statutory and/or decisional laws governing Parent and Sibling Legacy Credit.

To submit the request described above, you must email or write to:

Email: examsunit@nycct.com (You can attach any relevant supporting documentation to your emailed request.)

Mail: MTA NYC Transit, **(Insert Exam Title & Number)** – Spec. Circum., 149 Pierrepont Street, Room 3.600, Brooklyn, NY 11201 NOTE: Mail must be postmarked by the deadline, and you are strongly encouraged to purchase tracking when mailing

(E) CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION:

It is critical that you keep your contact information (e.g., email address, mailing address, telephone number) current with MTA New York City Transit. If your contact information is not up to date, you could miss important information about your exam(s) or consideration for appointment, including important information that may require a response by a specified deadline. **Your request must include your full name and Applicant ID (if known) or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN), your exam title(s) and number(s), and your previous and new contact information.**

To update your contact information:

1. Email us at examsunit@nycct.com, with the subject named CONTACT INFO UPDATE, or
2. Mail us at MTA NYC Transit, **(Insert Exam Title[s] & Number[s])** – Spec. Circum., 149 Pierrepont Street, Room 3.600, Brooklyn NY, 11201.

IMPORTANT:

- If you are an MTA employee, all changes to your contact information must also be made through the MTA Business Service Center (BSC) via the employee portal at <http://www.mymta.info>.
- If you are on an established eligible list for a Civil Service exam (i.e., an exam for NYC Transit or Bridges and Tunnels), you must also keep your contact information current with New York City's Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS). To request a change to your name or SSN, you must complete and submit DCAS' Data Correction Form (<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dcas/downloads/pdf/employment/dp148a.pdf>). To request a change to your contact information, you must submit your request to DCAS by mail at 1 Centre Street, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10007, or by email at casys@dcas.nyc.gov. Please include your old (i.e., incorrect) and new (i.e., correct) information with your request(s). You may miss a chance for appointment or promotion if DCAS does not have your correct name, SSN, and/or contact information.