



# Notice of Examination

## Transit Electrical Helper, Exam No. 1601

**Application Deadline:**

March 23, 2021

**Types of Tests:**

Education and Experience Test  
and Multiple-Choice Test

**Application Fee:**

\$68.00

**Test Date:**

Multiple-choice testing is  
expected to begin on July 6, 2021

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Pursuant to Section 61(1) of the New York Civil Service Law, the eligible list resulting from this examination may also be used to fill vacancies in the title of Signal Maintainer Trainee. Eligible candidates accepting or declining appointment either as a Transit Electrical Helper or as a Signal Maintainer Trainee will have their names removed from the eligible list.

**Transit Electrical Helpers**, under direct supervision, assist maintainers and supervisors in the installation, maintenance, testing and repair of electrical, electro-mechanical and electronic equipment in various MTA New York City Transit departments. Transit Electrical Helpers operate motor vehicles to and from work assignments; keep records and write reports; perform related work. Under direct supervision, Transit Electrical Helpers perform the duties indicated below in the following areas:

1. In Signal Maintenance, they assist Signal Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Signals), with their work on railroad signal apparatuses, including signals, automatic train stops, electronic control systems, track circuit equipment, compressors, interlocking machines, and related apparatuses; and work with some materials containing asbestos.
2. In Lighting Maintenance, they assist Light Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Lighting) in the maintenance, installation, inspection, testing, alteration and repair of lighting and related equipment.
3. In Electronic Equipment Maintenance, they assist Electronic Equipment Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Electronic Equipment) with their work on electronic communication equipment, closed circuit televisions, control systems and equipment.

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**JOB DESCRIPTION (Continued)**

4. In Elevator and Escalator Maintenance, they assist Elevator and Escalator Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Elevators and Escalators) with their work on elevators, escalators, electrically operated drawbridges and all related electrical and mechanical equipment.
5. In Ventilation and Drainage Maintenance, they assist Ventilation and Drainage Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Ventilation and Drainage) in the maintenance and repair of ventilation and drainage systems, including fans, blowers, compressors, pumps, sewage ejectors and related equipment.
6. In Power Distribution (Third Rail) Maintenance, they assist Power Distribution Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Power Distribution) with their work on contract rail power distribution systems, including positive and negative cables, rail connections, circuit breakers and related equipment.
7. In Electrical Power Maintenance, they assist Power Maintainers – Group B, Power Cable Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Electrical Power) in the maintenance and repair of mercury arc and silicon rectifiers, rotary converters, high tension switch gear, automatic relay panels and circuits, power, telephone and fiber optics cables, and auxiliary equipment and accessories; and work with materials containing asbestos, mercury and lead.
8. In Telephone Maintenance, they assist Telephone Maintainers and Maintenance Supervisors (Telephones) with their work on telephones, intercom systems, emergency alarms, fire alarms, cables, electronic and other communications systems and materials containing asbestos.

**Signal Maintainer Trainees**, under close supervision, receive a course of training both in the classroom and on the job, leading to qualification and competency as a Signal Maintainer in the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical and electronic equipment in the Maintenance of Way Division of the Department of Subways of MTA New York City Transit.

Some of the environmental conditions experienced and physical activities performed by Transit Electrical Helpers and Signal Maintainer Trainees are: climbing and descending ladders and stair ways; walking on and between catwalks and roadbeds; hearing audible signals such as alarms bells, train whistles and horns; working in confined areas; lifting and carrying heavy material and equipment; observing colored light signals in tunnels, on elevated tracks, and on open-cut road beds; differentiating color-coded wires, and working outdoors in all weather conditions.

**Transit Electrical Helpers** in Electrical Power Maintenance may work in the presence of infectious and biological waste.

**Special Working Conditions:** Transit Electrical Helpers and Signal Maintainer Trainees 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 AND BENEFITS**

1. The current minimum salary for Transit Electrical Helpers working in Electrical Power Maintenance is \$22.89 per hour for a 40-hour week increasing to \$32.71 per hour in the sixth year of service.
2. The current minimum salary for Transit Electrical Helpers working in other subdivisions is \$22.38 per hour for a 40-hour week increasing to \$31.98 per hour in the sixth year of service.
3. The current minimum salary for Signal Maintainer Trainee is \$23.66 per hour for a 40-hour week. Upon advancement to the title of Signal Maintainer, the salary is expected to increase to \$39.47 per hour for a 40-hour week (based on the current minimum salary).

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## **SALARY AND BENEFITS (Continued)**

These rates are subject to change. The benefits of these positions include, but are not limited to, night and weekend differentials, paid holidays, vacation and sick leave, a comprehensive medical plan and a pension plan.

## **HOW TO QUALIFY**

**Experience Requirements** must be met by the **last day of the Application period**. **Education Requirements** must be met by **June 30, 2021**:

1. Two years of full-time satisfactory experience as a helper in the electrical, electronic, or electromechanical fields in the maintenance, repair, testing, construction or installation of electrical equipment; or
2. Graduation from a trade school or technical school, with a major course of study in electrical, electronic, or electro-mechanical technology, or a closely related field, totaling 600 hours; or
3. Graduation from a vocational high school with a major course of study in electrical, electronic, or electro-mechanical technology, or a closely related field; or
4. An Associate degree or higher degree in electrical, electronic, or electro-mechanical technology or a closely related field from an accredited college or university.

The vocational high school, technical school, or trade school must be approved by a State's Department of Education or a recognized accrediting organization. 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).

Qualifying part-time experience will be credited on a pro-rated basis.

You are responsible for determining whether you meet the qualification requirements for this examination prior to submitting the *Application*. If you are marked "Not Qualified," your *Application* fee will **not** be refunded and you will **not** receive a score.

**Foreign Education Fact Sheet (required only if you need credit for your foreign education for this examination):** 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, as well as instructions on how to submit this evaluation are listed in the Foreign Education Fact Sheet, which will be attached to this Notice of Examination during the application period. When you contact the evaluation service, ask for a "document-by-document" (general) evaluation of your foreign education. Your foreign education evaluation **must** be submitted directly to NYC Transit's Examinations Unit by the service completing the evaluation. Foreign education evaluations received directly from applicants will **not** be accepted. You may also visit [http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms\\_instructions.htm](http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms_instructions.htm) to access the Foreign Education Fact Sheet on our website.

**Note:** If you have earned a higher-level degree in the United States that supersedes the level and type of education required to meet the qualification requirements, you do not need to submit a foreign education evaluation. However, you must indicate that you have completed the higher-level degree in the United States; proof of acceptance into an academic program or school is not sufficient to determine satisfactory equivalency.

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## REQUIREMENTS TO BE APPOINTED

**Driver License Requirement:** At the time of appointment, you must have a motor vehicle driver's license valid in the State of New York with no disqualifying restrictions that would preclude the performance of the duties of this title. If you have serious moving violations, a license suspension or an accident record, you may be disqualified. This license must be maintained for the duration of your employment in the title.

**Drug Screening Requirement:** You must pass a drug screening in order to be appointed, and if appointed, 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 appointed to this safety-sensitive position.

**Medical Requirement:** Medical guidelines have been established for the positions of Transit Electrical Helper and Signal Maintainer Trainee. You will be examined to determine whether you can perform the essential functions of the position. Where appropriate, a reasonable accommodation will be provided for a person with a disability to enable him or her to perform the essential functions of the job.

**Residency:** New York City residency is not required for this position.

**English Requirement:** You must be able to understand and be understood in English to perform the duties and responsibilities of the position.

**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 MTA New York City Transit.

**Qualifying Safety Proficiency Assessment:** If you pass the education and experience and multiple-choice tests, you will be scheduled to take the qualifying safety proficiency assessment as vacancies occur. However, based on the projected number of vacancies, it is possible that not all candidates who pass the education and experience and multiple-choice tests will be scheduled for the qualifying safety proficiency assessment. A score of 70% is required to pass the qualifying safety proficiency assessment. In this qualifying safety proficiency assessment, you will be required to demonstrate the following abilities:

- **Oral Comprehension**—The ability to understand spoken English words and sentences.
- **Oral Expression**—The ability to use English words or sentences in speaking so others will understand.

## HOW TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION

During the application period, you may apply online for this examination (see the Online Applications sub-section below). Or, if you are unable to apply online, you may obtain an electronic copy of the mail-in application package for this examination by emailing a request to [examsunit@nyct.com](mailto:examsunit@nyct.com) during the application period. The MTA Exam Information Center, located in the lobby of 180 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, is currently closed. 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 Arrangements" section below.

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## HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

You must submit an application during the application period, and applications will **not** be accepted in person. Applicants who apply online and wish to request a Fee Waiver **must** only complete the Online Applications Steps 1 through 4 below.

### Online Applications:

1. If you are not an active MTA employee, apply using [www.mymta.info/exams](http://www.mymta.info/exams) by the last day of the application period (Active MTA employees can apply using the “BSC” employee portal at [www.mymta.info](http://www.mymta.info)). **Note:** The application system may **not** function properly with mobile devices or tablets. For best results when applying, please use Internet Explorer, open a new window, and avoid having multiple tabs open in the same window.
2. To apply, log into your existing account, or create an account if you do not yet have one.
3. Follow the steps to submit an application.
4. A confirmation number will appear on the same page after submitting your application (save this number for future reference).

**IMPORTANT:** If you are requesting a fee waiver, you should not complete Steps 5, 6, or 7 below. Instead, by Tuesday, April 6, 2021 you must submit documentation supporting your fee waiver request by mail to Transit Electrical Helper, Exam No. 1601, MTA NYC Transit, 180 Livingston Street, Room 4070, Brooklyn, NY 11201. You must include your full name, last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN), your Applicant ID Number (if known), your online application confirmation number, and the exam title and number with your request. For fee waiver request documentation requirements, please refer to the Fee Waiver Request Guide, which is accessible online at [http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms\\_instructions.htm](http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms_instructions.htm) and will be attached to this Notice of Examination during the application period.

5. Below the confirmation number, a Pay Examination Fee button will appear for you to click to open the payment page.
6. A major credit card or a bank card associated with a bank account must be used when paying the application fee, and this fee will appear on your credit or bank card statement as “MTA NYCT Exam Fee.” **Note:** Disputing the application fee could result in removal from this examination, and it might affect your ability to apply online for any future examinations.
7. You will be sent a confirmation email after you submit payment for the application fee (Save this email for future reference).

**Note:** If you have trouble paying the application fee after submitting your online application, please visit [http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms\\_instructions.htm](http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms_instructions.htm) to access the Online Payment Tutorial.

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

**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 Regulations’ E.3.4 to determine if you are entitled to a refund. Please visit [http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/forms\\_instructions.htm](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](mailto:examsmakeups@nyct.com) or mailed to the address in the “Correspondence” section below.

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## ADMISSION LETTER OR NOTICE OF PROPOSED DISQUALIFICATION

An Admission Letter or a Notice of Proposed Disqualification will be mailed to you about 10 days before the date on which multiple-choice testing is expected to begin. 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@nycct.com](mailto:examsunit@nycct.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 below for instructions on how to update your address and other contact information.

## THE TEST

This examination consists of a competitive education and experience test and a qualifying multiple-choice test. Your score on the competitive education and experience test, which you will submit with your application, will be used to determine your place on the eligible list. You will receive a score of 70% on the competitive education and experience test for meeting the education and experience requirements listed in the “How to Qualify” section above. A score of at least 70% is required to pass the competitive education and experience test and the qualifying multiple-choice test.

If you achieve a passing score on the competitive education and experience test, you will be scheduled to take the qualifying multiple-choice test. 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 Arrangements” section below.

To receive additional points on the competitive education and experience test, you must have supplemental experience performing at least one of the tasks shown below. This experience must be in addition to the experience requirement listed in the “How to Qualify” section above.

1. Assisting Maintainers and supervisory employees in the installation, maintenance, testing and repair of electrical, electro-mechanical and electronic equipment
2. Inspecting components, parts and equipment, for cleanliness, damage, and defects to ensure proper functioning and compliance with standards or regulations
3. Examining electrical units for loose connections and broken insulation
4. Utilizing electrical theory to detect equipment malfunctions

If you have supplemental full-time experience of:	Your score will be:
One year to two years and eleven months	80
Three years to four years and eleven months	90
Five or more years	100

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.

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## THE TEST (Continued)

The qualifying multiple-choice test may include questions that require the use of any of the following abilities:

**Written Comprehension** – The ability to understand written sentences or paragraphs. Example: Understanding written bulletins released by MTA New York City Transit.

**Written Expression** – The ability to use English words or sentences in writing so others will understand. Example: Writing incident reports regarding unusual occurrences.

**Deductive Reasoning** – The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to come up with logical answers. It involves deciding if an answer makes sense. Example: Applying MTA New York City Transit rules and regulations to situations to determine the appropriate action that must be taken.

**Information Ordering** – The ability to follow correctly a rule or set of rules to arrange things or actions in a certain order. The rule or sets of rules used must be given. The things or actions to be put in order can include numbers, letters, words, pictures, procedures, sentences, and mathematical or logical operations. Example: Following a step-by-step procedure to connect a cable to the third rail for power.

**Number Facility** – The ability involving the degree to which adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing can be done quickly and correctly. Example: Performing mathematical calculations using track markers to determine the current work location on the track.

## TEST ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES

**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.

**Social Distancing** and other safety protocols, **including the wearing of masks**, will be required during the administration of the test. Further details will be provided on your Admission Letter.

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.

**Required Identification:** You are required to bring one (1) form of valid (non-expired) signature and photo bearing identification to the test site. The name that was used to apply for the exam must match the first and last name on the photo ID. A list of acceptable identification documents is provided below. **If you do not have an acceptable ID, you may be denied testing.** Acceptable forms of identification (bring one) are as follows: State issued driver's license, State issued identification card, US Government issued Passport, US Government issued Military Identification Card, US Government issued Alien Registration Card, IDNYC, Employer ID with photo, or Student ID with photo.

**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.

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## THE TEST RESULTS

If you pass the competitive education and experience test and the qualifying multiple-choice test, 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 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

**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.

**Probationary Period:** The probationary period for **Transit Electrical Helper** is one year.

**Signal Maintainer Trainee Appointment Conditions:** Signal Maintainer Trainee is a trainee class of positions subject to Rule 5.8.1 of Personnel Rules and Regulations of the City of New York, with a probationary period of 12 months; however, the Trainee service and corresponding probationary period may be extended to a maximum of 18 months. Upon satisfactory completion of the Trainee service and corresponding probationary period, permanent employees in this class of positions will advance, without further examination, to the title of Signal Maintainer.

**Selective Certification for Education, Special Experience and Licensure:** If you have the education, experience or license listed below, you may be considered for appointment to positions requiring this education, experience or licensure through a process called Selective Certification. If you meet the qualification requirements in the "How to Qualify" section and have a qualifying degree and experience, as listed below, follow the instructions given to you on the day of the multiple-choice test to indicate your interest in such Selective Certification(s). Your education, experience and/or licensure will be verified by MTA New York City Transit at the time of consideration for appointment.

1. **Selective Certification for Education or Experience in the Mass Transportation Industry (MTI):** You must meet the conditions in "A" or "B" below.
  - A. **Education:** When meeting the education requirements in the "How to Qualify" section above, you must have attended a specialized program that focused on electrical, electronic, or electro-mechanical technology in the mass transportation industry; or
  - B. **Experience:** When meeting the experience requirements in the "How to Qualify" section above, you must have worked as a helper performing repairs or maintenance on electrical, electronic or electro-mechanical equipment in the mass transportation industry.
  
2. **Selective Certification for Commercial Driver License (CDL):** If you qualify for this Selective Certification, you may be given preferred consideration for such positions in Electrical Power Maintenance. To qualify for this Selective Certification, you will be required to possess at the time of appointment either:
  - A. A Class B Commercial Driver License valid in the State of New York with endorsement for hazardous materials and no disqualifying restrictions; or
  - B. A Motor Vehicle Driver License valid in the State of New York and Learner's Permit for a Class B Commercial Driver License valid in the State of New York.

If you qualify under "2B" above, you will be appointed subject to receipt of a Class B Commercial Driver License valid in the State of New York with an endorsement for hazardous materials within six months of appointment. For all appointments through Selective Certification, the Class B Commercial Driver License valid in the State of New York with an endorsement for hazardous materials and no disqualifying restrictions must be maintained for the duration of employment in the Electrical Power Maintenance Group. If you have serious moving violations, license suspension or an accident record you may be disqualified.

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Continued)**

**Commercial Motor Vehicle Driving Experience in the Military or New York National Guard:** If you are an active member or former member (discharged in the past year) of the military or New York National Guard and have experience driving a Commercial Motor Vehicle in the military or New York National Guard, you may be eligible for a waiver of the New York State commercial driving skills test through the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles. If you believe that you may be eligible for this waiver, you must apply for the waiver through the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles.

The above Selective Certification requirements may be met at any time during the duration of the list. If you meet this requirement at some future date, please submit a request by mail to the address in the correspondence section below. Please include the examination title and number, your social security number, and the Selective Certification you are requesting in your correspondence.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

**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](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 first scheduled test date. Special testing accommodations due to disability must be requested no later than 30 days prior to the first scheduled test date.

**Make-Up Tests:** You may apply for a make-up test if you cannot take the qualifying 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, 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, pregnancy-related, or child-birth related condition preventing you from taking the test.

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](mailto:examsmakeups@nyct.com) or by mail to the address in the "Correspondence" section below as soon as possible.

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## 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 email us at [examsunit@nyct.com](mailto:examsunit@nyct.com) with the subject "Contact Info Update," or you may mail your request to the address at the end of this section. 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 employees must also visit the employee portal at [www.mymta.info](http://www.mymta.info) to update their contact information through the MTA Business Service Center (BSC).**

All other correspondences should be sent to [examsunit@nyct.com](mailto:examsunit@nyct.com) and must include "Transit Electrical Helper, Exam No. 1601" in the Subject. Or, you can mail your correspondence to the following address:

Transit Electrical Helper, Exam No. 1601  
MTA New York City Transit  
180 Livingston Street, Room 4070  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

## PENALTY FOR MISREPRESENTATION

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