ALBANY -- In an effort to maintain safety and security, while keeping pace with attrition rates in New York State prisons, a competitive Civil Service exam for the position of Correction Officer Trainee, both English- and Spanish-speaking, will be given statewide on January 10, 2015.

At the time of appointment, candidates must be a United States citizen, a New York State resident, be least 21 years of age, possess a high school diploma or GED/HSE, and have no previous felony convictions.

The hiring rate for a Correction Officer Trainee is $39,794 with an increase to $41,858 after six months. Upon successful completion of the training program, and a one-year probationary period, the annual salary increases to $47,930. Pay differentials exist where applicable.

Correction Officers also receive a health insurance program, benefits package, retirement program and multiple opportunities to grow within the Department.

Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci said, “As DOCCS continues to lose good, hard working, men and women to retirement, it is vitally important to replenish well trained Correction Officers.”

He added, “Safety and security is our number one goal and that is why we are looking for the best men and women possible to go through the best training offered at our accredited academy.”

The Albany Training Academy, where potential Correction Officer Trainees will be trained, is accredited by the American Correctional Association.

The Department’s security workforce oversees 52,911 inmates within 54 facilities and employs 73 Captains, 470 Lieutenants, 1,178 Sergeants, 17,326 Correction Officers, and another 264 Correction Officer Trainees in the training pipeline. New York’s modest 5 percent annual turnover rate for Correction Officers confirms job satisfaction.

Individuals interested in taking January’s competitive exam must complete and submit an application with a non-refundable $35 fee. Applications must be postmarked by November 25, 2014. Interested individuals may also apply online. Additional information is available at http://www.cs.ny.gov/exams.