

Job freeze over at state school

Willowbrook State School, Staten Island's largest employer, has begun looking for employees again, after a 2½-month job freeze.

"Many hundreds" of professional and non-professional positions are open, according to Dr. Jack Hammond, director. The state institution has job positions for 3,250 people, but not all are filled, he said.

The job freeze, which had stopped hiring in all state schools, was due to a budget restriction on the state level.

Although the exact number of job openings at Willowbrook was not released, it was noted that the large majority of positions are for attendants. Starting salary for psychiatric ward attendant, noted personnel director Hal Margosian, is \$89 a week.

Among the civil service positions available include housekeepers, laundry workers, recreation workers, food service workers, stationary engineers, maintenance men, stenographers, typists and mechanics.

Other professional positions include all levels of nursing, teachers, occupational and physical therapists and social workers. All civil service jobs, noted Hammond, guarantee the worker permanent status after a trial period of satisfactory service.

In many jobs, no previous

training or experience is required. The school offers training programs, with full pay for employees.

Many new positions have been authorized at the school, due to the expansion and improvement in the care, training and education of residents, he said.

These include, classes for pre-kindergarteners, blind children, cerebral palsied children who are mentally retarded and older, educable youngsters.

New programs using talking typewriters, and vocational training in domestic science and office practice have also led to new job demands.

The state school, which is an equal opportunity employer, will accept job applications for attendant positions any Tuesday. Those interested may report to the personnel office after 8 a.m. Applications for other positions will be accepted any day.

Civil service benefits include 11 paid holidays a year, annual increments, health insurance opportunities, paid vacations, sick and personal leave, social security and promotion possibilities.

More than 1,000 new job positions have been filled in the past four years, noted personnel director Margosian. Although there is always a demand for employees, the recent job freeze has increased that demand considerably, he added.