



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF

Mental Health

www.dmh.ca.gov

CONTINUOUS EXAMINATION

OPEN FOR DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

CONSULTING PSYCHOLOGIST

The Department of Mental Health is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer committed to ensuring the rights of every applicant and employee to work in an environment free from unlawful discrimination and harassment and without regard to race, color, sex/pregnancy, gender, age (40 and above), religion, marital status, national origin, ancestry, disability (mental and physical, including HIV/AIDS), medical condition (i.e., cancer or genetic characteristics), political affiliation or opinion, or sexual orientation.

It is the objective of the State of California to achieve a drug-free state workplace. Any applicant for State employment will be expected to behave in accordance with this objective because the use of illegal drugs is inconsistent with the law of the State, the rules governing civil service, and the special trust placed in public servants.

EXAMINATION TYPE

This is an open examination for the Department of Mental Health. Examination and/or Employment Applications will not be accepted on a promotional basis. Career credits do not apply.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit an Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) form to the address indicated below. **DO NOT SUBMIT EXAMINATION AND/OR EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION FORMS TO THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD.**

NOTE: All Examination and/or Employment Application forms must include: "to" and "from" dates (month/day/year); time base; and civil service class titles. Examination and/or Employment Application forms received without this information will be rejected. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of a completed Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) form.

WHERE TO APPLY

MAIL OR HAND DELIVER EXAMINATION AND/OR EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION FORMS TO:

**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
SELECTION SERVICES UNIT
1600 9TH STREET, ROOM 121
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 654-2351 / TDD (916) 654-1782**

EXAMINATION ELIGIBILITY LIMITATION

A candidate may be tested only once during any testing period. The testing period for this classification is once every 12 months. If you have taken an examination for this classification with the Department of Mental Health, Atascadero, Coalinga, Metropolitan, Napa or Patton State Hospitals or with Salinas Valley or Vacaville Psychiatric Programs, within the last 12 months, you are not eligible to compete in this examination.

FINAL FILE DATE

Continuous Testing – No Final File Date. Testing is considered continuous as dates can be set at any time.

SPECIAL TESTING ARRANGEMENTS

If you have a disability and need special testing arrangements, mark "yes" on Question #2 on the Examination and/or Employment Application form. The Selection Services Unit will contact you to make special testing arrangements.

SALARY RANGE

\$7,401 - \$9,158

*Plus an additional pay differential of \$682 per month through June 30, 2009

The salaries in this bulletin may not reflect all pay raises or any additional bonuses. You should verify the salary level(s) with the department personnel office before making any commitments.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CONSULTING PSYCHOLOGIST

XL57/7620/8MHLL

Final Filing Date: Continuous

**REQUIREMENTS FOR
ADMITTANCE TO THE
EXAMINATION**

It is your responsibility to make sure you meet the education and/or experience requirements stated on this announcement on the date you submit your application. Your signature on your Examination and/or Employment Application form indicates that you have read, understood, and possess the basic qualifications required.

NOTE: All applicants must meet the education and/or experience requirements for this examination by the final filing date.

**MINIMUM
QUALIFICATIONS**

Qualifying experience may be combined on a proportionate basis if the requirements stated below include more than one pattern and are distinguished as "Either" I, "or" II, "or" III, etc. For example, candidates possessing qualifying experience amounting to 50% of the required time of Pattern I, and additional experience amounting to 50% of the required time of Pattern II, may be admitted to an examination as meeting 100% of the overall experience requirement.

Possession of a valid license as a Psychologist issued by the California Board of Psychology.

Unlicensed individuals who are recruited from outside the State of California and who qualify for licensure may take the examination and may be appointed for a maximum of one year at which time they must have obtained licensure or the employment shall be terminated. Candidates appointed under this provision must take the licensure examination at the earliest possible date after their date of employment. An extension of the waiver may be granted for an additional one year based on extenuating circumstances as provided by Section 1277(e) of the Health and Safety Code, whichever is applicable. Individuals granted such an extension must obtain licensure during the additional year or their employment shall be terminated.

AND**EITHER****Experience:**

1. Two years of experience in the California state service performing clinical psychology duties equivalent to those of a Psychologist (Various Specialties), Psychologist (Health Facility) Various Specialties, or Psychologist – Clinical, Correctional Facility. **Or**
2. Five years of full-time postdoctoral, postinternship experience in the practice of psychology involving either training, research, consultation, or program planning in mental health services.

**SPECIAL PERSONAL
CHARACTERISTICS**

Willingness to make frequent field visits away from established headquarters; empathetic and objective understanding of the issues of persons with mental or developmental disabilities; demonstrated leadership ability; tact; patience; keenness of observation; and scientific and professional integrity.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Under direction in headquarters or in a State hospital, serves as departmental psychology consultant with specialized skills in the application of public health and psychosociological concepts in resource development, community organization, and planning for the delivery of mental health services; performs assessments and clinical evaluations of forensic commitments to determine adequacy of existing treatment and community management plans; and does other related work.

In a community psychology specialty, assists in therapeutic intervention and social change at the community level; surveys and licenses or certifies mental health facilities or programs in compliance with California Code of Regulations; assists in long-term program development plans for mental health programs; participates and assists in program reviews of mental health programs as scheduled by the Department; interprets the objectives and procedures of the program to other facility personnel, members of the public, and other agencies and organizations; evaluates mental health treatment records to make recommendations on appropriate extended mental health treatment; reviews and interprets the results of psychological evaluations conducted in accordance with applicable laws and regulations; and reviews second – level appeals for payment authorizations by contract hospitals.

In a forensic psychology specialty, performs reviews of forensic mental health programs; provides oversight of conditional release programs dealing with forensic patients; develops statewide policies on forensic issues such as evaluation, risk assessment and program review protocols, and performs assessments, psychological testing, clinical evaluations, diagnosis and risk assessment determinations of correctional facility inmates, and applies findings of psychological examination as required by statute.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

POSITION LOCATION(S)

Positions exist at the Department of Mental in Sacramento.

EXAMINATION SCOPE**Education & Experience Evaluation -- Weighted 100%.****Knowledge of:**

1. Clinical psychological theories and research.
2. Principles, techniques, and problems in developing and coordinating a specialized psychological treatment program.
3. Principles, techniques, and trends in psychology with particular reference to normal and disordered behavior, human development, learning, individual differences, adaptation, and social interaction.
4. Methods for the assessment and modification of human behavior.
5. Characteristics and social aspects of mental disorders and disabilities.
6. Program evaluation.
7. Institutional and social process, group dynamics, and professional training.
8. Current trends in the field of mental health.
9. Functions of psychologists in the various mental health services.
10. Consultative methods in various mental health fields.
11. Court and legal proceedings and the role of an expert witness in legal proceedings.

Ability to:

1. Plan, organize, evaluate and work in a clinical psychological treatment program.
2. Promote the organization of community mental health resources and their effective utilization in a mental health program.
3. Teach and participate in professional training.
4. Plan, organize, and conduct research, data analysis and program evaluation.
5. Evaluate and assess forensic mental health treatment procedures.
6. Evaluate the quality and scope of psychological services provided under mental health programs.
7. Provide professional consultation and leadership.
8. Recognize situations requiring the creative application of technical skills.
9. Develop and evaluate creative approaches to the assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation of mental disorders.
10. Perform completed staff work in the development of major clinical policies affecting mental health facilities and programs.
11. Review and keep apprised of mental health and forensic laws and regulations to implement program services.
12. Train other psychologists and other mental health professionals.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

Names of successful competitors are merged onto the existing eligible list in order of final scores, regardless of date. Eligibility expires 12 months after it is established, unless the needs of the service and conditions of the list warrant a change in this period.

VETERANS PREFERENCE

Veterans preference credit will not be granted in this examination since it does not qualify as an entrance examination under the law.

GENERAL INFORMATION

For an examination without a written feature it is the competitor's responsibility to contact the Department of Mental Health, Selection Services Unit at (916) 654-2351 three weeks after the application deadline date if she/he has not received a progress notice.

If a competitor's notice of oral interview or performance test fails to reach her/him prior to the day of the interview due to a verified postal error, she/he will be rescheduled upon written request.

Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) forms are available at the State Personnel Board, local offices of the Employment Development Department, the Department of Mental Health, and accessible on the internet at www.spb.ca.gov.

If you meet the requirements stated on this bulletin, you may take this examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. Competitors who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

The Department of Mental Health reserves the right to revise the examination plan to better meet the needs of the service if the circumstances under which this examination was planned change. Such revision will be in accordance with civil service law and rules and all competitors will be notified.

Examination Locations: When a written test is part of the examination, it will be given in such places in California as the number of competitors and conditions warrant. Ordinarily oral interviews are scheduled in Sacramento. However, locations of interviews may be extended as conditions warrant.

Eligible Lists: Eligible lists established by competitive examination, regardless of date, must be used in the following order: 1) subdivisional promotional, 2) departmental promotional, 3) multidepartmental promotional, 4) servicewide promotional, 5) departmental open, 6) open. When there are two lists of the same kind, the older must be used first. Eligible lists will expire in one to four years unless otherwise stated on this bulletin.

General Qualifications: Competitors must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment and ability to work cooperatively with others; and a state of health consistent with the ability to perform the assigned duties of the class. A medical examination may be required. In open examinations, investigation may be made of employment records and personal history and fingerprinting may be required.

Veterans' Preference: California law limits the granting of veterans preference credits to entrance examinations. Veterans, widows, widowers, and the spouse of a disabled veteran may qualify for veterans' preference credits in Open entrance examinations (15 points for disabled veteran; 10 points for other veterans). Applicable points will be added to the final score of all candidates who are successful in this examination, and who qualify for, and have requested these points. Due to changes in the law, which were effective January 1, 1996, CURRENT CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE ACHIEVED PERMANENT CIVIL SERVICE STATUS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE VETERANS' PREFERENCE CREDITS. Directions on how to apply for veterans' preference credits are on the Veterans' Preference Application Form (Form 1093) which is available from State Personnel Board Offices, written test proctors, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, P.O. Box 942895, Sacramento, CA 94295-0001.

High School Equivalence: Equivalence to completion of the 12th grade may be demonstrated in any one of the following ways; 1) passing the General Education Development (GED) Test; 2) completion of 12 semester units of college-level work; 3) certification from the State Department of Education, a local school board, or high school authorities that the competitor is considered to have education equivalent to graduation from high school; or 4) for clerical and accounting classes, substitution of business college work in place of high school on a year-for-year basis.

Career Credits: In open, nonpromotional examinations, career credits are granted to: 1) State employees with permanent civil service status, 2) full-time employees of the State who are exempt from State civil service pursuant to the provisions of Section 4 of Article VII of the California Constitution, and who meet all qualification requirements specified by the Board and have 12 consecutive months of service in an exempt position, and 3) individuals who have served one full year in, or are graduates of, the California Conservation Corps (eligibility shall expire 24 months after graduation from the California Conservation Corps). Three points are added to the final test score of those candidates who meet the above criteria, and who are successful in the examination. Such examinations cannot be for managerial positions described in Government Code 3513. Competitors not currently employed in State civil service who have mandatory reinstatement rights may also be eligible for career credits, but they must explain their civil service status in the appropriate section of the Examination and/or Employment Application (STD. 678) form. (Section 4 of Article VII of the California Constitution is posted at the State Personnel Board, 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.)

TDD is Telecommunications Device for the Deaf and is reachable only from phones equipped with a TDD Device.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

1600 9th Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

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From TDD Phones: 1-800-735-2929

From Voice Phones: 1-800-735-2922

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION