



## **Executive Assistant**

**Exam Code: 0PBCX**

**Department: State of California**

**Exam Type: Servicewide, Open**

**Final Filing Date: Continuous**

### **CLASSIFICATION DETAILS**

**Executive Assistant – \$4,125.00 - \$5,162.00 per month**

View the [Executive Assistant classification specification](#)

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Final Filing Date: Continuous

#### **Who Should Apply:**

Applicants who meet the minimum qualifications as stated on this bulletin may apply for and take this examination.

#### **How To Apply:**

The link to connect to the online multiple choice exam is located farther down on this bulletin in the “Taking the Exam” section.

Once you have taken this examination, you may not retake it for **twelve (12)** months.

#### **Special Testing Arrangements:**

If you require special testing arrangements due to a verified disability or medical condition, please contact:

California Department of Human Resources  
CalCareer Service Center  
1810 16<sup>th</sup> Street Sacramento,  
CA 95814 Phone: (866) 844-  
8671  
Email: [CalCareer@CalHR.CA.GOV](mailto:CalCareer@CalHR.CA.GOV)

California Relay Service: 7-1-1 (TTY and voice)

TTY is a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf, and is reachable only from phones equipped with a TTY Device

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

All applicants must meet the education and/or experience requirements as stated on this exam bulletin to be accepted into the examination. Part-time or full-time jobs, regardless of whether paid or volunteer positions, and inside or outside California state service will count toward experience.

### **Executive Assistant**

#### **Either 1**

One year of experience in the California state service performing secretarial duties at a level of responsibility not less than those of an Executive Secretary 1 or two years of secretarial experience in the California state service at a level of responsibility not less than Secretary or Office Technician.

#### **Or 2**

One year of experience performing technical duties in the California state service in a class comparable in level of responsibility to Management Services Technician.

#### **Or 3**

Four years of experience as a Secretary or Administrative Assistant outside of California state service of which at least one year must have been at the level of responsibility of Executive Secretary 1 or Management Services Technician or at least two years must have been at the level of responsibility of Secretary or Office Technician. (Up to two years of intensified secretarial training in an approved curriculum or college level course work in business, personnel or public administration may be substituted for the general outside experience on a year-for-year basis).

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Executive Assistant**

Researches confidential and sensitive departmental or program issues; using microcomputers and/or video display terminals, accesses inputs, revises and extends information contained in the data banks; screens, redirects and/or responds to telephone calls and written inquiries from the Governor's Office and Legislature and other high level contacts on behalf of the Administrator; maintains the administrator's working schedule and calendar; develops and implements computer-based management information systems for the administrator; implements computer-based office management systems; follows up on projects and requests assigned to programs; as delegated by the administrator, reviews materials submitted by programs for format, content and grammar; develops or assists in the development of office workload and planning standards, staffing requirements and budgets; prepares and signs correspondence in the absence of the administrator; directs the activities of the support staff of the administrator's office; supervises subordinate staff; establishes office procedures and operating systems; provides and/or directs the typing and secretarial support services for the administrator.

## **EXAMINATION SCOPE**

This examination consists of the following components:

**Multiple Choice Written Examination – Weighted 100% of the final score.**

The written examination is designed to evaluate a candidate's knowledge in the areas of:

1. Situational Judgment
2. Written Communication

A final score of 70% must be attained to be placed on the eligibility list. In addition to evaluating applicants' relative knowledge, skills, and ability, as demonstrated by quality and breadth of education and/or experience, emphasis in each exam component will be measuring competitively, relative job demands, each applicant's:

### **Knowledge of:**

1. The principles and methods of public and business administration
2. office management principles, methods and procedures
3. good personnel and fiscal management practices
4. the organization's relationship with other governmental entities
5. the administrator's responsibilities with regard to the organization's programs

6. the functions, programs and operations in the Administrator's area of responsibility
7. the principles and practices of supervision
8. the Department's Affirmative Action Program objectives
9. a supervisor's role in the Affirmative Action Program and the processes available to meet affirmative action objectives **Ability to:**
  1. Think clearly and analyze problems of organization and management and take effective action
  2. handle sensitive and confidential assignments with tact and diplomacy
  3. work under pressure and time constraints
  4. handle changing priorities
  5. establish and maintain cooperative working relationships
  6. communicate effectively
  7. type a at a speed of 45 words per minute
  8. supervise the work of others
  9. effectively contribute to the Department's affirmative action objectives

### **Additional Desirable Qualifications**

Familiarity with microcomputers, personal computers and/or video display terminals and their capabilities.

## **ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION**

A servicewide, open eligible list for the Executive Assistant classification will be established for the State of California (all State of California departments, statewide).

The names of successful competitors will be merged onto the eligible list in order of final score regardless of exam date. Eligibility expires **eighteen (18) months** after it is established. Applicants must then retake the examination to reestablish eligibility. Veterans' Preference will be granted for this examination. In accordance with Government Codes 18973.1 and 18973.5, whenever any veteran, or widow or widower of a veteran achieves a passing score on an open examination, he or she shall be ranked in the top rank of the resulting eligible list.

Veterans status is verified by the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR). Information on this program and [the Veterans' Preference Application](#) (Std. form 1093) is available online. Additional information on veteran benefits is available at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Career Credits **will not** be added to the final score for this exam, because it does not meet the requirements to qualify for Career Credits.

## PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

Here is a list of suggested resources to have available prior to applying for the examination:

**Employment History:** Employment dates, job titles, organization names and addresses, names of supervisors or persons who can verify your job responsibilities and phone numbers of persons listed above.

**Education:** School names and addresses, degrees earned, dates attended, courses taken (verifiable on a transcript), persons or office who can verify education, and phone numbers of persons or offices listed above.

**Training:** Class titles, certifications received, names of persons who can verify your training, and phone numbers of persons listed above.

## TAKING THE EXAMINATION

**We recommend using Chrome, Firefox, or Edge for optimal performance when accessing the examination.**

**Note: This examination is being given online and you are able to take the examination at any time on any day of the week. Once you click the [Take the Executive Assistant online exam](#) classification button, your time will begin. There is no way to pause, stop, or reset the timer once you start. A stable internet connection is recommended as no additional time will be provided for internet loss, power loss, or computer/browser issues. At this time, if you are unable to complete the timed examination, it is recommended you do not continue until you are able to do so.**

Please note: If you need special testing arrangements, please select the Reasonable Accommodation box during the self-scheduling process.

## TESTING DEPARTMENTS

State of California (all State of California departments)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

California Department of Human Resources  
CalCareer Service Center  
1810 16<sup>th</sup> Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (866) 844-8671

Email: [CalCareer@CalHR.CA.GOV](mailto:CalCareer@CalHR.CA.GOV)

California Relay Service: 7-1-1 (TTY and voice)

Bulletin Date: 10/4/2023

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## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The State of California is an equal opportunity employer to all, regardless of age, ancestry, color, disability (mental and physical), exercising the right of family care and medical leave, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital

status, medical condition, military or veteran status, national origin, political affiliation, race, religious creed, sex (includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and related medical conditions), and sexual orientation.

## **DRUG-FREE STATEMENT**

It is an objective of the State of California to achieve a drug-free State work place. 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.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Examination and/or Employment Application (STD 678) forms are available at the California Department of Human Resources, local offices of the Employment Development Department, and through your [CalCareer Account](#).

If you meet the requirements stated on this examination bulletin, you may take this examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. Your performance in the examination described in this bulletin will be rated against a predetermined job-related rating, and all applicants who pass will be ranked according to their score.

The California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) 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 laws and rules and all applicants will be notified.

**General Qualifications:** Applicants must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgement, the 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.

**Eligible Lists:** Eligible lists established by competitive examination, regardless of date, must be used in the following order: 1) sub-divisional promotional, 2) departmental promotional, 3) multi-departmental 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 the bulletin.

**High School Equivalence:** Equivalence to completion of the 12<sup>th</sup> 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.