



Environmental Scientist

Exam Code: 9PB01

Department: State of California

Exam Type: Servicewide, Open

Final Filing Date: Continuous

CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

Environmental Scientist – \$4,145.00 - \$7,926.00 per month.

View [the Environmental Scientist 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.

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

How To Apply:

The link to connect to the Training and Experience Evaluation is located farther down on this bulletin in the “Taking the Exam” section.

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 16th Street Sacramento,
CA 95814

Phone: (866) 844-8671

Email: 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.

All Levels:

Education: Possession of a bachelor's or advanced degree with a major in a biological, chemical, physical, or environmental science, soil science, water science, hydrology, agronomy, natural resource science, environmental or public health, physical geography, or a closely related scientific discipline. (Admission to a masters or doctoral degree program in a biological, chemical, physical, or environmental science, soil science, water science, hydrology, agronomy, natural resource science, environmental or public health, physical geography, or a closely related scientific discipline shall be considered to meet these education qualifications.)

Environmental Scientist

Education as indicated above. (Registration as a senior in a recognized institution will admit applicants to the examination, but they must produce evidence of a degree before they can be considered eligible for appointment.)

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Environmental Scientist

This class is the entry, intermediate working, and journey level of the series. Range A is the entry and first working level of the class. Under close supervision, incumbents perform a variety of the less difficult and responsible professional scientific office and field work. In accordance with detailed instructions and specific standards, incumbents gather data on public health, environmental, agricultural productivity, and natural

resource management issues; perform preliminary environmental analysis, research, surveys, investigations, and studies of less difficulty; prepare preliminary drafts of reports; prepare drafts of routine correspondence; answer questions of a routine and minor nature from the public; prepare regulatory and compliance documents; and do other related work. Work at this level is characterized by a reliance on detailed instructions and assistance from lead persons and supervisors in the application of proven techniques and methodologies to assigned work.

Range B is the intermediate working level of the class. Under general supervision, incumbents perform a variety of responsible scientific professional office and field work. Incumbents gather data on public health, environmental, agricultural productivity, and natural resources management issues; perform environmental analysis, research, surveys, investigations, and studies of average difficulty; write preliminary reports; prepare routine correspondence and answer questions of a routine nature from the public and other governmental entities and agencies; prepare regulatory and compliance documents; enforce environmental laws and regulations; and do other related work. Work at this level is characterized by a reliance on proven techniques and methodologies.

Range C is the journey level. Under direction, incumbents perform a variety of responsible professional scientific office and field work. Incumbents independently perform assigned public health, environmental, agricultural productivity, and natural resource management analysis, research, surveys, investigations, and studies; write final reports; prepare regulatory and compliance documents; enforce environmental law and regulations; prepare nonroutine correspondence and answer non-routine questions from the public; and do other related work. Incumbents allocated to this level perform a variety of tasks including the more responsible, varied, and complex assignments; incumbents may provide consultative advice to various governmental entities and agencies. Work at this level is often characterized by independent development and use of techniques and methodologies. Incumbents may be assigned lead responsibility for a specific project.

EXAMINATION SCOPE

This examination consists of the following components:

Training and Experience Evaluation – Weighted 100% of the final score.

The examination will consist solely of a **Training and Experience Evaluation**. To obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum score of 70% must be received. Applicants will receive their score upon completion of the Training and Experience Evaluation process.

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. Basic principles of land, water, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources research
2. principles of ecology
3. soil and irrigation sciences, resource management, hydrology, geology, and waste prevention
4. statistical methods
5. land-use practices with reference to their general effect on human health, natural resources, agricultural productivity, and the environment; effects of hazardous and non-hazardous waste material and their interactions on the environment
6. chemical reactions
7. California and Federal environmental laws, rules, regulations, and requirements
8. basic toxicology, hydrology, geology, and principles of risk assessment and risk management
9. concepts employed in a variety of disciplines including environmental planning, economics, and resource management
10. geolocation and geo-referencing software applications, resource conservation program impacts and implementation strategies
11. recycling issues

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A servicewide, open eligible list for the Environmental Scientist 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 **twelve (12) 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.

Veteran's 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.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

[Preview of the Environmental Scientist Training and Experience Evaluation](#)

PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

Here is a list of suggested resources to have available prior to taking the exam.

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.

Take [the Environmental Scientist examination](#)

TESTING DEPARTMENTS

State of California (all State of California departments)

CONTACT INFORMATION

California Department of Human Resources

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Sacramento, CA 95814

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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 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.