



Public Utilities Counsel III, PUC

Promotional – Continuous Examination

CPUC

California Public Utilities Commission

Exam #: 6UC03

Class Code: 5812

Min. Salary: \$7682/mth

Max Salary: \$9478/mth

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER-EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO ALL REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR, CREED, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, SEX, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL AFFILIATION, AGE, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

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 SERVICE.

HOW TO APPLY

You may access the online application at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/jobs/>

If you have a disability and need special testing arrangements, mark the appropriate box on question 2 of the "Examination and/or Employment Application." We will contact you to make specific arrangements that are convenient for you in advance of the examination.

WHEN MAY APPLICATIONS BE FILED

The testing office accepts applications continuously and will notify and test applicants as needed. Do not submit your application to the State Personnel Board.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

This is a departmental promotional examination for the California Public Utilities Commission.

1. Applicants must have a permanent civil service appointment with the California Public Utilities Commission as of the final filing date in order to participate in this examination; or
2. Must be a current or former employee of the Legislature for two or more years as defined in Government Code Section 18990; or
3. Must be a current or former non-elected exempt employee of the Executive Branch for two or more consecutive years as defined in Government Code Section 18992; or
4. Must be a person retired from the United States military, honorably discharged from active military duty with a service-connected disability, or honorably discharged from active duty as defined in Government Code Section 18991.

For applicants under Items 2, 3, or 4, if promotional examinations are given by more than one department for the same classification, the applicant must select one department in which to compete.

THE POSITION – General Description

A Public Utilities Counsel III independently conducts appellate court proceedings and litigation before the Commission and Federal regulatory agencies which involve compensation proceedings before the Commission; reviews and prepares digests of measures and amendments introduced in or adopted by the Legislature relating to utility regulations; appears for the Commission or legislative committee hearings; Prepares and recommends Commission orders; advises Commissioners and staff members on application of regulatory statutes to Commission powers, duties and procedures; may act as lead person in coordinating the work of other attorneys and does other job-related duties as required.

JOB LOCATION

This Exam covers positions located only in San Francisco, CA.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTANCE TO THE EXAMINATION - MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

All applicants must meet the education and/or experience requirements for this examination by the final filing date established by the testing office.

Qualifying experience may be combined on 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, candidate 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.

Active Membership in the State Bar of California **and**

Either I

One year of experience performing the duties of the class Public Utilities Counsel II, or two years performing the duties of the class Public Utilities Counsel I in the California State service. (Applicants who have completed ten months of experience at the Public Utilities Counsel II level or 18 months of experience at the Public Utilities Counsel I level will be admitted to the examination but must complete the one year or two years, respectively, of such experience before they will be eligible for appointment.)

Or II

Broad and extensive experience (more than five years) in the practice of law*, at least two years of which shall have been either:

1. In the field of public utility regulation; or
2. In the preparation and presentation of public utility proceedings before public utility regulatory agencies or the courts.

Experience in the California State service applied toward Pattern II must include at least one year performing the duties of a class at a level of responsibility equivalent to Public Utilities Counsel II.

***Experience in the "practice of law" or "performing legal duties" is defined as only that legal experience acquired after admission to the Bar.**

Note: Applicants must show the month/year of admission to The Bar on their application.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

This examination will consist of an oral interview (weighted 100%). In order to obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum rating of 70% must be attained in the examination process. Candidates who do not appear for their scheduled examination will be withdrawn from the examination process.

QUALIFICATIONS APPRAISAL INTERVIEW – WEIGHTED 100%

The interview may include the following:

A. Knowledge of:

1. Law governing and administered by the Public Utilities Commission and judicial interpretation of such law.
2. Rules and regulations of the Public Utilities Commission.
3. Conduct of proceedings and rules of evidence and procedure in State and Federal courts, and before public utility regulatory bodies.
4. General legal principles.
5. Purposes, organization, and operation of the Public Utilities Commission.
6. Administration law applicable to the Public Utilities Commission.
7. Basic principles or organization structure, and financing of public utilities.

B. Skill in:

1. Assembling and directing the assembling of facts and law for presentation before courts and regulatory Agencies, and in the conduct of such proceedings

C. Ability to:

1. Analyze legal problems and apply legal principles and precedents to particular sets of facts.
2. Make accurate summaries of evidence and prepare appropriate findings, opinions and orders.
3. Perform legal research.
4. Present statements of fact, law and argument clearly and logically in oral form.
5. Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.
6. Communicate effectively orally.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A candidate may only test once in a 12 month period. A list of eligible candidates will be established for the California Public Utilities Commission. Names of successful candidates will be merged onto the list in order of final scores, regardless of date. Eligibility expires 12 months after it is established; candidates may then retest to reestablish eligibility.

Veterans' preference points are not granted in promotional examinations.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications are available at the State Personnel Board office, local offices of the Employment Development Department, and in Human Resources of the California Public Utilities Commission.

If meeting the requirements stated above, you may take this competitive examination. Possession of the entrance requirements does not ensure a place on the eligible list. All candidates passing the examination will be ranked according to scores.

The California Public Utilities Commission reserves the right to revise the examination plan to better meet the needs and service of the Commission. Such revision will be in accordance with civil service law and rules and all competitors will be notified.

Examination Locations: Examinations are typically scheduled in San Francisco. However, there are instances when examinations are given in such places in California as the number of candidates and conditions warrant.

General Qualifications: Candidates 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.

Interview Scope: If an interview is conducted, in addition to the scope described on this bulletin, the panel may consider education, experience, personal development, personal traits, and fitness. In appraising experience, more weight will be given to the breadth of pertinent experience and evidence of the candidate's ability to accept and fulfill increasing responsibilities than to the length of the candidate's experience. Evaluation of a candidate's personal development will include consideration of own training needs; plans for self-development; and the progress the candidate has made towards self-development.