



Legal Assistant

Class Code: 1820 - Exam Code: 4PB29

Departments: State of California
Opening Date: 1/7/15
Final Filing Date: Continuous filing
Type of Examination: Servicewide Open
Salary: \$ 3,682.00 - \$4,748.00

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The State of California is an equal opportunity employer to all, regardless of age, ancestry, color, disability (mental and physical), exercising the right to 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.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Applicants who meet the Minimum Qualifications as stated on this bulletin may apply for and take this Training and Experience Evaluation at any time.

Once you have taken the Training and Experience Evaluation, you may not retake it for 12 months.

SPECIAL TESTING ARRANGEMENTS

If you have a disability and/or need special testing arrangements you will be able to request a reasonable accommodation during the filing and self-scheduling process.

If you have questions, please contact:

California Department of Human Resources Selection Division

1-866-844-8671

California Relay Service (7-1-1)

Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TTY) (916) 654-6336

TTY is a telecommunications device that is reachable only from phones equipped with a TTY device.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

An open, service wide eligible list will be established by the California Department of Human Resources for use by the participating state departments. The names of successful competitors will be merged onto the eligible list in order of final score regardless of test date. Eligibility expires 12 months after it is established. Competitors must then retake the Training and Experience Evaluation to reestablish eligibility.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTANCE TO THE EXAMINATION

NOTE: All applicants must meet the education and/or experience requirements as stated on this examination bulletin as of the date the test is taken.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education: [Successful completion of six semester units of paralegal or undergraduate legal courses, with at least three units of which must be in legal research.](#) (Candidates who have completed three semester units of paralegal course work necessary to fulfill the education requirement will be admitted to the examination, but they must submit evidence of completion of the required six units before they can be considered for appointment.)

And Either I

Experience: Two years of experience in the California state service as a Senior Legal Typist, Range B; Legal Secretary, or other classification with law-related duties, involving the review, preparation, or interpretation of legal documents or involving the conduct of investigations or studies leading to legal actions.

OR II

Experience: [Three years of responsible experience](#) in a law firm, corporate law office, governmental or public law office, non-profit organization, educational institution, court, or other entity under the direction and supervision of a licensed attorney or judicial officer. Academic education above the twelfth grade may be substituted for one year of the required experience on the basis of either (a) [one year of general education being equivalent to three months of experience](#), or (b) [two years of education in a recognized attorney assistant program in probate, tax law, labor law, corporate law, litigation, or other law-related areas](#) being equivalent to one year of experience.

DEFINITION

Under the immediate direction, control, and responsibility of an attorney, to perform a wide variety of paralegal duties; and to do other related work.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE EVALUATION – Weighted 100%

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. An applicant will receive his/her score upon completion of the Training and Experience Evaluation process.

Click [Training and Experience Evaluation](#) to preview the Legal Assistant Training and Experience Evaluation.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of: Basic legal concepts, terminology, principles, and procedures; use of legal reference material; and legal office management principles.

Ability to: Reason logically; analyze situations accurately and recommend an effective course of action; write effectively; prepare reports and summary sheets set forth a statement of the facts, applications of the relevant law, and conclusions; read and understand statutes, court decisions, legal documents, and similar material; work cooperatively with attorneys, clerical staff, technical staff, and the general public; and explain the provision of law, procedures, and problems to persons contacted in the work.

VETERANS' PREFERENCE

Veterans' Preference will be granted for this examination. Effective January 1, 2014, in accordance with Government Codes 18973.1 and 18973.5, whenever any veteran, widow or widower of a veteran, or spouse of a 100 percent-disabled veteran achieves a passing score on an open examination, he or she shall be ranked in the top rank of the resulting eligibility list. This section shall not apply to any veteran who has been dishonorably discharged or released.

CAREER CREDITS

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions concerning this announcement, please contact:

The California Department of Human Resources Selection Division

1515 S Street, North Building, Suite 400

Sacramento, CA 95811-7258

1-866 844-8671

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications are available at www.jobs.ca.gov and local offices of the Employment Development Department.

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 on this bulletin will be rated against a predetermined job-related rating, and all candidates who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

The California Department of Human Resources reserves the right to revise the examination plan to better meet the needs of the service, should the circumstances under which this examination was planned change. Such revision will be in accordance with civil service laws and rules, and all competitors

will be notified.

Candidates needing special testing arrangements due to a disability must mark the appropriate box on the application and contact the testing department.

Hiring Interview Scope: In a hiring interview, in addition to the scope described in this bulletin, the panel will consider education, experience, personal development, personal traits, and fitness. In appraising experience, more weight may be given to the breadth and recency of pertinent experience, and evidence of the candidate's ability to accept and fulfill increasing responsibilities than to the length of his/her experience. Evaluation of a candidate's personal development will include consideration of his/her recognition of his/her own training needs; his/her plans for self-development; and the progress he/she has made in his/her efforts toward self-development. For more information, you may refer to [Legal Assistant classification specification http://www.calhr.ca.gov/state-hr-professionals/pages/1820.aspx](http://www.calhr.ca.gov/state-hr-professionals/pages/1820.aspx).

General Qualifications: Candidates must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment, 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) service-wide promotional, 5) departmental open, and 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.

Veterans' Preference: Effective January 1, 2014, in accordance with Government Codes 18973.1 and 18973.5, Veterans' Preference will be awarded as follows: 1) Any veteran, widow or widower of a veteran, or spouse of a 100 percent disabled veteran, who achieves a passing score in an entrance examination, shall be ranked in the top rank of the resulting eligibility list. Any veteran who has been dishonorably discharged or released is not eligible for Veterans' Preference. 2) An entrance examination is defined, under the law, as any open competitive examination. And 3) Veterans' Preference is not granted once a person achieves permanent civil service status.

Veteran status is verified by the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR). Directions to apply for Veterans' Preference are on the Veterans' Preference Application (Std. Form 1093), which is available [online](#), and at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Bulletin Revision Date: 07/07/2017

TAKING THE EXAM

When you click the link below, you will be directed to the Training and Experience Evaluation. At the end of the Training and Experience Evaluation, it will be instantly scored.

Click [Legal Assistant Training and Experience Evaluation](#) to take the Training and Experience Evaluation.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Final Filing Date: Continuous