



NOTICE OF CORRECTION:

DATE: May 6, 2022

EXAM TITLE: Associate Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician)

EXAM CODE: 2FA07

ORIGINAL FINAL FILING DATE: May 6, 2022

REVISED FINAL FILING DATE: May 20, 2022

LOCATION: Sacramento

NOTE: The Final Filing Date for the Associate Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician) has been extended to May 20, 2022. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.



ASSOCIATE PLANT PATHOLOGIST (DIAGNOSTICIAN) Exam Code: 2FA07

Department: California Department of Food & Agriculture

Exam Type: Open

Release Date: 4/15/22

Final Filing Date: 5/20/22

Location: Sacramento

CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

Associate Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician): \$6,224 - \$8,496 per month.

View the [class specification](#) for Associate Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician).

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Final Filing Date: 5/20/2022

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:

Emailed applications are preferred. Submit your completed Examination / Employment Application (STD. 678) via email at exams@cdfa.ca.gov. Please include Exam Code: **2FA07** in the subject line of your email. Emailed applications must be received no later than 11:59 pm Pacific Time on the final filing date.

You may also submit your completed Examination / Employment Application (STD. 678) by mail, parcel delivery, or courier service to:

Exam Code: **2FA07**

Examination Unit, Attention: Casey Gates
California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street, Room 242
Sacramento, CA 95814

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS Continued

Dates printed on Mobile Bar Codes, such as the Quick Response (QR) Codes available at the USPS are not considered Postmark dates for the purpose of determining timely filing of applications.

All applications must be received by the **Final Filing Date: Friday, May 20, 2022**. Mailed applications must be **POSTMARKED** no later than the Final Filing Date. Applications personally delivered or received via interoffice mail must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the final filing date. Any applications received after the final filing date will not be accepted for any reason. Also note:

- The Examination / Employment Application (STD. 678) is available through your [CalCareer account](#).
- The STD. 678 must include “to” and “from” dates (month/day/year) and hours worked. STD. 678s received without this information may be rejected.
- Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of a completed STD. 678.
- Your signature on your STD. 678 indicates that you have read, understood, and possess the basic qualifications required.

DO NOT SUBMIT EXAMINATION / EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS (STD. 678) OR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATIONS TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES (CalHR).

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.

Associate Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician)

Either I

Experience: One year of experience in the California state service as a Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician).

Or II

Two years of experience conducting diagnosis and research of plant diseases and pathogens gained after obtaining a master's degree; **AND**

Education: Possession of a Master's Degree or its equivalency from an accredited college or university or an equivalent degree approved by the California Superintendent of Public Instruction under the provisions of California Education Code Section 94310(b) in Plant Pathology.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS Continued

Or III

Possession of a Doctoral Degree or its equivalency from an accredited college or university or an equivalent degree approved by the California Superintendent of Public Instruction under the provisions of California Education Code Section 94310(b) in Plant Pathology.

NOTE: SUBMISSION OF TRANSCRIPTS FROM AN ACCREDITED U.S. COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IS REQUIRED TO VERIFY THE EDUCATION REQUIREMENT. APPLICANTS WITH FOREIGN DEGREES MAY BE ASKED TO PROVIDE AN OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION WHICH INDICATES COURSE WORK IS EQUIVALENT TO A DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED U.S. COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY. FAILURE TO ATTACH TRANSCRIPTS MAY RESULT IN A DELAY OF YOUR APPROVAL TO COMPETE IN THE EXAMINATION.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Associate Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician)

This is the fully qualified journey level of this series. Under general direction incumbents perform professional work concerned with the diagnosis of plant diseases, identification of plant pathogens, and research on diseases and pathogens which may be detrimental to California agriculture.

Incumbents are assigned to the laboratory unit where they isolate and identify casual agents of plant disease in their respective area of specialization (virology, mycology, bacteriology, nematology, physiology, or phytotoxicology); compile data on the biology, epidemiology, and economic significance of pathogens; perform applied and/or basic research on pathogens and/or diseases which may be a threat to California agriculture; develop new procedures for diagnosis and identification; prepare reports of findings to be published in recognized scientific publications; develop and maintain collections of reference cultures, literature, and photographic materials; perform field surveys for the purpose of positive identification and collection of new or unusual finds and may train and provide guidance to seasonal employees and/or laboratory technicians.

EXAMINATION SCOPE

This examination will consist of a **Supplemental Application (Weighted 100%)**. All candidates will be required to complete the Supplemental Application. **The Supplemental Application will be sent to your email address, at a later date.** Competitors who do not return the supplemental application will be disqualified. In order to obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum rating of 70% must be attained.

EXAMINATION SCOPE Continued

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION – WEIGHTED 100%

The California Department of Food and Agriculture and 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 competitors will be notified.

In addition to evaluating the competitor's relative abilities as demonstrated by quality and breadth of experience, emphasis in the examining interview will be on measuring competitively, relative to job demands, each competitor's:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

1. General knowledge of all aspects of plant pathology and related fields (entomology, chemistry, physiology, etc.)
2. Knowledge of, and experience with sophisticated and complex scientific instrumentation and specialized investigative procedures and techniques for isolating, identifying and evaluating plant pathogens, various literature sources pertaining to plant pathology
3. Agricultural, horticultural, and native plants, the relationships of plants, plant pests, and pest control to agriculture and the environment
4. Principles and procedures of research planning, design, methodology, and analysis
5. Methods of preparation of research reports
6. Statistical methods and procedures
7. Data processing techniques
8. Problems involved in bibliographic survey of previous related research
9. Determination and qualification of variables and mechanization of compilation of analysis of data
10. A high degree of specialization in a prescribed area of plant pathology
11. Current research literature and trends applicable to the research area
12. Provisions of the Food and Agricultural Code, and applicable rules and regulations

ABILITY TO:

1. Apply and interpret provisions of the California Food and Agricultural Code, applicable rules and regulations
2. Perform increasingly complex plant pathological diagnosis
3. Demonstrate professional competence in a specialized area of plant pathology
4. Do highly specialized analysis and research, and train technicians and other personnel in associated tasks

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

If conditions warrant, this examination may utilize an evaluation of each competitor's experience and education compared to a standard developed from the class specification. For this reason, it is especially important each candidate take special care in accurately and completely filling out his or her application. List all education and experience relevant to this classification, even if that experience goes beyond the ten-year limit printed on the application. Supplementary information will be accepted.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

An eligible list for the **Associate Plant Pathologist (Diagnostician)** classification will be established for the **California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for Sacramento**. The eligible lists will be abolished **12** months after established **unless** the needs of the service and conditions of the list warrant a change in this period.

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](#) (CalHR 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 of this examination, because it does not meet the requirements to qualify for Career Credits.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

The final filing date for this examination is **Friday, May 20, 2022**. It is anticipated the examination will be conducted sometime in **June/July 2022**.

Special Testing Arrangements:

If you require assistance or alternative testing arrangements due to a disability, please contact the testing department listed in the Contact Information section of this bulletin.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning this examination bulletin, please contact:

Exam Code: **2FA07**
Examination Unit, Attention: Casey Gates
California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street, Room 242
Sacramento, CA 95814
casey.gates@cdfa.ca.gov

California Relay Service: 1-800-735-2929 (TTY), 1-800-735-2922 (Voice)

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

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 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.

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](#).

For an examination without a written feature, it is the candidate's responsibility to contact the California Department of Food and Agriculture Examinations Unit at (916) 654-0790 three (3) weeks after the final filing date if he/she has not received his/her notice.

If a candidate's notice of oral interview or performance test fails to reach him/her 3 days prior to their scheduled appointment due to a verified postal error, he/she will be rescheduled upon written request.

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. All candidates who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

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. If an offer of employment is made, 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: sub-divisional promotional, departmental promotional, multi-departmental promotional, service-wide promotional, departmental open, open. When there are two lists of the same kind, the older must be used first. Eligible lists will expire in from one (1) to four (4) years unless otherwise stated on this bulletin.