



# HEALTH SERVICES SPECIALIST (SAFETY)

**Exam Code: 5MH61**

**Administering Department:** Department of State Hospitals

**Exam Type:** Servicewide, Open

**Final Filing Date:** Continuous

**Class Code:** 9699

## CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

**HEALTH SERVICES SPECIALIST (SAFETY) – \$6,042.00 - \$10,164.00 per month.**

View the [Health Services Specialist \(Safety\) classification specification](#)

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Final Filing Date: Continuous**

Applications are accepted on a continuous basis. The cut-off-dates are the first and third Friday of each month. All completed applications and Training and Experience examinations submitted by each cut-off-date will be processed for that administration.

Note: Applications and examinations may be processed on a flow basis prior to the cut-off-date to meet the hiring needs of the department.

Dates printed on envelopes by mobile barcodes or equivalent mobile print technology are not acceptable proof of the date the application and any other required documents or materials were filed.

### **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 **six (6)** months.

Unless otherwise stated on this bulletin, you must meet the Minimum Qualifications by the Final Filing Date or cut-off-date stated above.

**How to Apply:**

Applicants are required to submit an Examination Application (STD 678), found at [www.calcareers.ca.gov](http://www.calcareers.ca.gov), either by mail, in person, or via email to the address listed below.

Once your application has been submitted, applicants must complete the **Training and Experience (T&E) Evaluation** below.

Examination Services staff will screen each application. Applicants meeting the minimum qualifications will be admitted into the examination. **Applicants must submit the STD. 678 as well as the T&E. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the examination process.**

**The preferred method to apply is by emailing your STD 678 to:**

**[HealthServiceSpecialistSafety@dsh.ca.gov](mailto:HealthServiceSpecialistSafety@dsh.ca.gov)**

**Electronic signatures are acceptable.**

You may apply by mail or in person to:  
Department of State Hospitals – Sacramento  
Selection Services Unit, MS-14  
1215 O Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Indicate the Classification on your Examination Application (STD 678).

In person hours: Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm (excluding State holidays)

**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.

## 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.

Possession of the legal requirements to practice as a professional Registered Nurse in California as determined by the California Board of Registered Nursing. (Applicants who are in the process of securing approval of their qualifications by the California Board of Registered Nursing will be admitted to the examination, but they must possess all legal requirements as determined by that Board before they will be eligible for appointment.)

**And**

### **Either I**

Education/Experience: Bachelor of science degree with a major in a health-related field and one year of nursing experience working with developmentally or mentally disabled persons.

### **Or II**

Experience: One year of experience performing the duties of a nursing classification comparable in level of responsibility to a Registered Nurse, Range B, in a California developmental center or State hospital working with developmentally or mentally disabled persons.

### **Or III**

Experience: One year of experience directing the nursing services of a developmental center or State hospital level-of-care unit during an eight-hour shift working with developmentally or mentally disabled persons.

## SPECIAL PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Willingness to work at developmental centers, State hospitals, or correctional facilities contracting with the Department of Mental Health for diagnostic and treatment services; demonstrated leadership ability; sympathetic and objective understanding of the problems of developmentally or mentally disordered offenders; tact; patience; and emotional stability.

## **SPECIAL PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Incumbents must possess and maintain sufficient strength, agility, and endurance to perform during physically, mentally, and emotionally stressful and emergency situations encountered on the job without endangering their own health and well-being or that of their fellow employees, forensic clients, patients, inmates, or the public.

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

At developmental centers, State hospitals, or correctional facilities contracting with the Department of Mental Health for diagnostic and treatment services, under administrative direction of a Program Director and professional direction of the Coordinator of Nursing Services in a forensic facility, is responsible for the ongoing monitoring, assessing, and making of recommendations for the maintenance of quality nursing services with primary emphasis on the physical care needs of forensic clients, patients, or inmates in a program on an assigned shift; assures education and training in nursing care is provided to unit personnel; and performs other related duties.

## **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.

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. Knowledge of California healing arts licensure laws and regulations.
2. Knowledge of regulations pertaining to hospital licensing, certification, and accreditation.
3. Knowledge of principles and practices used in training nursing services staff of a treatment program.
4. Knowledge of professional nursing principles and techniques.
5. Knowledge of concepts and methods of consultation.
6. Knowledge of principles of specialized treatment and training techniques as they relate to developmentally or mentally disordered offenders.
7. Knowledge of program organization in California forensic facilities.

## Ability to:

1. Ability to evaluate and monitor the quality of nursing services with specific emphasis on physical care.
2. Ability to plan, conduct, and evaluate training for the nursing services staff of a treatment program.
3. Ability to work effectively with a multidisciplinary clinical staff.
4. Ability to perform evaluations and write reports.
5. Communicate effectively.

## ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A Servicewide, Open eligible list for the **HEALTH SERVICES SPECIALIST (SAFETY)** classification will be established for use by all state agencies.

The names of **successful** competitors will be merged onto the eligible list in order of final score regardless of exam date. Eligibility expires **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.

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 at the following website:

<https://www.jobs.ca.gov/CalHRPublic/Landing/Jobs/VeteransInformation.aspx>

Additional information on veteran benefits is available at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Career credits are not granted for examinations administered on an Open or Promotional basis.

## PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

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

1. **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.

2. **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.
3. **Training:** Class titles, certifications received, names of persons who can verify your training, and phone numbers of persons listed above.

## TAKING THE EXAMINATION

**Step 1. Submit your application following the instructions above.**

**Step 2. [Click on this link to take the Health Services Specialist \(Safety\) examination.](#)**

**Once your examination has been completed and submitted, your examination will be processed, and you will receive your exam results by mail within 4 – 6 weeks of the cut-off-date stated above.**

## TESTING DEPARTMENTS

Department of State Hospitals

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions relating to this exam should be directed to:

Department of State Hospitals  
Selection Services Unit  
Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm (excluding State Holidays)  
Phone: 916-651-8832  
Email: [HealthServiceSpecialist@dsh.ca.gov](mailto:HealthServiceSpecialist@dsh.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 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 at the following website:

**<http://www.CalCareers.ca.gov/>**

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 Department of State Hospitals 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. This examination may be canceled by the Department of State Hospitals at any time prior to the establishment of the employment list. Such revision or cancellation 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.