



BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST I

Exam Code: 5MHEM

Administering Department: Department of State Hospitals

Exam Type: Servicewide, Open

Final Filing Date: Continuous

Class Code: 9823

CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST I – Range U: \$5,532.00 - \$7,060.00 per month.

Salary updated as of: July 1, 2020

View the [Behavior Specialist I 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 Transcripts with qualifying units as specified, and an [Examination Application \(STD 678\)](#), found at www.calcareers.ca.gov, either by mail, in person, or via email to the address listed below.

Once your Transcripts and application have been submitted, you must complete the **Training and Experience (T&E)** following the instructions below under, **Taking the Examination**.

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 Transcripts and STD 678 to:

BehaviorSpecialist1@dsh.ca.gov

Electronic signatures are acceptable.

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

You may apply by mail or in person to:

Department of State Hospitals – Sacramento
Attn: Selection Services Unit MS-14
1215 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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.

Experience: One year of experience implementing behavioral services.

AND

Education: Possession of a bachelor of arts or science degree in a human services field (which may include, but is not limited to, education, psychology, counseling, behavior analysis, social work, or rehabilitation) from an institution of higher education, fully accredited by a regional accrediting body, which includes a minimum of 12 semester units in applied behavior analysis (including basic principles and ethical issues).

ADDITIONAL DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Current certification (or eligibility for certification) as an Associate Behavior Analyst by the National Behavior Analyst Certification Board, and demonstrated competence implementing behavioral programs.

SPECIAL PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Objective and sympathetic understanding of the developmentally disabled; tolerance; tact; and emotional stability.

DRUG TESTING REQUIREMENT

Applicants for positions in these classes are required to pass a drug-screening test. Testing of current employees who are applicants in an examination or who are transferring is permitted only if the person does not have a current appointment to a class for which drug testing is a requirement.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

In a State developmental center or any other State-operated facility of the Department of Developmental Services, under supervision and the clinical lead and direction of a Psychologist with competence in applied behavior analysis, the incumbent performs duties of an average degree of difficulty as follows: as a member of the interdisciplinary team, implements behavioral services with difficult clients; collects data, which includes data for behavioral assessments ("functional analyses") and reliability; assists in

providing on-site staff training in behavioral programs; and teaches clients new adaptive skills to replace challenging behavior.

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 basic principles of applied behavior analysis.
2. Knowledge of ethical considerations regarding behavior modification.
3. Knowledge of behavioral assessment and procedures to increase and decrease behavior
4. Knowledge of managing behavioral emergencies.
5. Knowledge of basic types and characteristics of developmental disabilities.
6. Knowledge of organizational structure of state hospitals and the respective roles and responsibilities of staff.

Ability to:

1. Ability to develop cooperative and harmonious relationships with direct care staff and others.
2. Ability to work effectively within an interdisciplinary team model.
3. Ability to analyze situations accurately and take effective action.
4. Ability to communicate effectively.
5. Ability to provide support services to clients in home and training sites.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A Servicewide, Open eligible list for the **BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST I** 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 and Transcripts following the instructions above.

Step 2. [Click on this link to take the Behavior Specialist I examination.](#)

Once your application and Transcripts have been received and it has been determined that you meet the Minimum Qualifications for entrance into the examination, 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, Department of Developmental Services

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: BehaviorSpecialistI@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 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.