CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

RESEARCH SCIENTIST V (EPIDEMIOLOGY/BIOSTATISTICS)
Schematic Code / Classification Code / Classification Specialty / Exam Code
LR27 / 5629 / (EPIDEMIOLOGY/BIOSTATISTICS) / 2H1BB

Examination Type: Open Continuous

FINAL FILING DATES
Testing is considered continuous as dates can be set at any time. Applications will be reviewed to ensure the minimum requirements for participation in this exam are met. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. Once you have taken the examination, you may not retest for 12 months from the established list date.

Applications must be submitted by the filing dates indicated below. Applications postmarked, personally delivered, or received via interoffice mail after the final filing date, will be held for the next administration of the exam. The filing dates are:

February 10, 2017
May 10, 2017
August 10, 2017
November 10, 2017
February 12, 2018

SALARY
$7929-$9926 per month

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.

**WHO CAN APPLY**

Persons who meet the minimum qualifications (entrance requirements) as stated on this announcement may take this examination, which is competitive.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

Either One

Two years of experience in the California state service performing scientific research duties comparable to those of a Research Scientist IV or Research Scientist Supervisor I in the stated specialty or a closely related field. (Possession of a recognized professional Board certification in the stated specialty or possession of a master's degree in Public Health or preventative medicine may be substituted for one year of the required experience.)

AND

Possession of a doctoral degree in the stated specialty or in a closely related field or a degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Or Two

Broad and extensive experience (more than five years) in research or scientific investigation experience in the stated specialty or in a closely related field. This experience must have included major responsibility for the design, conduct, and analysis of a large or highly complex and difficult research project or scientific investigation, including preparation of major reports and scientific publications. (Possession of a recognized professional Board certification in the stated specialty or possession of a master's degree in Public Health or preventative medicine may be substituted for two years of the required experience.) At least two years of this experience must be at a level of responsibility equivalent to that of a Research Scientist IV or Research Scientist Supervisor I.

AND

Possession of a doctoral degree in the stated specialty or in a closely related field.

Or Three

Broad and extensive research experience (more than five years) in a field of medical specialization relevant to the stated specialty or in a closely related field. This experience must have included major responsibility for design, conduct, and analysis of complex research, or responsibility for the administration and coordination of large, complex multidisciplinary, or multi-institutional research programs. At least two years of this experience must be at a level of responsibility equivalent to that of a Research Scientist IV or Research Scientist Supervisor I.

AND

Possession of the degree of Doctor of Medicine.
GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS
In addition to the scope defined on this announcement, candidates must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment, 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.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

TYPICAL TASKS
Under administrative direction, incumbents conceive, plan, organize, and direct the most difficult, advanced, complex, and highly original scientific research studies; provide leadership and coordinate scientific research studies and scientific investigations involving local, State, and Federal public health agencies; and make original, independent decisions on complex scientific problems using scientific theories and principles on association and risk, and develop and test hypotheses on causes. The work complexity at this level has special significance for the establishment of State and national public health policy and legislation. Incumbents provide advice and guidance to management on matters of such difficulty and controversy that leading experts disagree as to the proper scientific approach; act as subject-matter and technical experts and serve as the highest level scientific expert for the department based on personal scientific reputation; consult with department management and others in areas appropriate to their qualifications and participate in the development of public health policy; provide scientific support and direction for the legal, legislative, and regulatory actions that occur in public health policy development; provide scientific presentations to State and national public health experts and the community on scientific research conducted and also publish this research in scientific journals; and perform other related work. Incumbents work independently and provide interpretation of research findings for use in public health policy development by upper management.

EPIDEMIOLOGY/BIOSTATISTICS:
Incumbents in this parenthetical are distinguished from other Research Scientists by being required to design, conduct, analyze, and draw conclusions from epidemiologic or biostatistical investigations. These investigations apply statistical and survey techniques and biologic theory for the purpose of describing and understanding the distribution and determinants of disease, health, and genetic conditions in the population and the response of the health care system. Subspecialties focus on infectious agents (general communicable diseases, zoonotic diseases, food borne diseases, vector borne diseases): nutrition and lifestyle factors; social or environmental factors; health promotion; chemical and physical agents in the environment; chronic diseases and injuries; detection, distribution, and treatment of genetic disorders; other genetic influences on disease; and the efficacy of public health, clinical medical, and other interventions in modifying these influences. Scientific research, disease surveillance, and epidemiologic-based investigations are conducted to identify the source of human illness or injury, to prevent or control its occurrence, and to measure the effectiveness of those controls. Scientific research, disease surveillance, and epidemiologic investigations could evaluate the entire ecology of illness occurrence at the molecular or genetic level using molecular epidemiology.
HOW TO APPLY
To apply for this examination, please complete and return the following:

STANDARD STATE APPLICATION (FORM 678)
COPY OF UNOFFICIAL/OFFICIAL COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS
SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

Applications and any additional documents must be submitted via the U.S. Postal Service or hand delivered to the Department of Public Health Human Resources Office (hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM). Submit (California State Application STD 678) and any additional documents to:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Examination Services Unit
1615 Capitol Ave., 4th floor, Suite 73-430
P.O. Box 997378 MS 1700 – 1702
Sacramento, CA 95899-7378

DO NOT SUBMIT APPLICATIONS
TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES (CalHR)
THROUGH EMAIL
THROUGH FAX
THROUGH INTER-AGENCY MAIL

CONTACT INFORMATION
All questions regarding the minimum qualifications, applying for the examination, being scheduled for the examination, reasonable accommodations, the examination components, scoring, etc., may be directed to the contact information below:

PHONE NUMBER:  916-322-4460

EXAMINATION INFORMATION
The examination will consist of a Supplemental Application that is weighted 100%.

The Department of Public Health 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 law and rules and all competitors will be notified.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTANCE TO THE EXAMINATION
It is your responsibility to make sure you meet the education and/or experience requirements stated on this announcement on the date you submit your application. Your signature on your application indicates that you have read, understood, and possess the basic qualifications required.
NOTE: Applications must include “to” and “from” dates (month/day/year), time base, job titles and/or civil service class title(s), and range (if applicable) for all work experience. College course Information must include title, number of semester or quarter units, name of institution, completion dates, and degree. Applications received without this information will be rejected. Applicants must submit a copy of unofficial/official transcripts along with the application when using education to meet the entrance requirements for this examination.

**SCOPE OF EXAMINATION:** Ratings will be determined based on the depth and breadth of professional education and experience beyond what is minimally required. Emphasis will be placed on measuring:

**Knowledge of:**

1. Data management.
2. Current scientific literature applicable to the research area.
3. Preparation of scientific reports.
4. Basic research methodologies.
5. Study design.
6. Laboratory sampling techniques.
8. Statistical software applications.
9. Database design.
10. Surveillance methods.
11. Research proposal development and/or grant preparation.
12. Operational definitions of scientific measures.
14. Quality assurance and quality control methods and procedures.
15. Scientific principles.
17. The fundamental information resources in one’s specialty field.

**Skills to:**

1. Write effectively for various purposes.
2. Communicate orally to various audiences.
3. Evaluate and apply estimation techniques and avoid bias in research results.
4. Execute statistical analyses using software packages.
5. Maintain professional and scientific integrity.

**Ability to:**

1. Perform elementary statistical analysis.
2. Perform literature review.
3. Write scientific reports and manuscripts.
4. Manage a database.
5. Develop survey instruments to collect information.
6. Perform quality assurance to maintain the integrity of the data.
7. Interpret the validity of scientific information.
8. Interpret the findings of an analysis.
9. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing research findings for various audiences.
10. Apply existing laboratory and/or modeling methods.
11. Collaborate with others.
12. Work independently.
13. Apply near real-time field analysis methods.
14. Prepare tables and graphs.
15. Critically evaluate and synthesize a body of scientific information.
16. Develop innovative laboratory and/or modeling methods.
17. Design a database.
18. Identify equipment, supplies, and other resources needed to perform duties.
19. Empirically define and standardize scientific measures.
20. Extract and analyze data for use in complex scientific studies.
21. Listen well and be responsive to requests for assistance.
22. Apply own specialized technical knowledge to others’ projects as requested.
23. Provide quality assurance/quality control of existing, new, and modified procedures, equipment, and data.
24. Evaluate statistical software capabilities and limitations.
25. Generate accurate and complete laboratory reports.
26. Evaluate the adequacy of existing programs and feasibility of planned programs.
27. Coordinate and fulfill ad hoc and ongoing data requests.
28. Maintain accurate and complete records and logs.
30. Prepare budget recommendations for equipment, supplies, and other resources needed to perform duties.
31. Act as a project lead.
32. Provide scientific guidance to colleagues.
33. Contribute to a positive professional collaborative work environment.

NOTE: Please be aware that not all KSAs are required for each specialty.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION
In order to obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum rating of 70% must be attained. Names of successful competitors are merged into a departmental open list established for use by the California Department of Public Health in order of final scores regardless of testing date. Eligibility expires 24 months after it is established unless the needs of the service and conditions of the list warrant a change in this period. All candidates meeting the minimum qualifications will be placed on the eligible list.

VETERAN’S PREFERENCE
Will be awarded in this examination, pursuant to Government Code Section 18973.1, effective January 1, 2014, 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; 3) Veterans’ Preference is not granted once a person achieves permanent civil service status.
HOW TO APPLY FOR VETERANS’ PREFERENCE

The California State Jobs’ website (www.jobs.ca.gov) has information on how to apply for Veterans’ Preference on their website and on the Application for Veterans’ Preference form (CalHR 1093) (https://jobs.ca.gov/PDF/SPB1093.pdf). Additional information is also available at the Department of Veterans Affairs website (http://www.cdva.ca.gov).

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

The California Relay (Telephone) Service for the deaf or hearing impaired:
MCI from TDD: 1-800-735-2929   MCI from voice telephone: 1-800-735-2922
Sprint from TDD: 1-888-877-5378   Sprint from voice telephone: 1-888-877-5379
CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT (631)
Examination Title: Research Scientist V (Epidemiology/Biostatistics)

Name: _____________________________ (Print: first, middle initial, last)

Final Filing Dates:

February 10, 2017
May 10, 2017
August 10, 2017
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February 12, 2018

If you are successful in your examination your name will be placed on the active employment list and certified to fill vacancies according to the conditions you specify on this form. If you are unwilling to accept work or do not reply promptly to communications your name will be placed on the inactive list.

Locations in which you are willing to work:

Please check your choices - you will not be offered a job in locations not checked.

Contra Costa County (0700) ______

TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT DESIRED:

ON A PERMANENT BASIS, I AM WILLING TO WORK:

___ Full Time
___ Part Time (regular hours less than 40)
___ Intermittent (on call)
___ Limited Term

ON A TEMPORARY BASIS, I AM WILLING TO WORK:

___ Full Time
___ Part Time (regular hours less than 40)
___ Intermittent (on call)
___ Limited Term

It is your responsibility to notify the Department of Public Health, Examination Services Unit, of any changes in your address or availability for employment. All correspondence must include your name, examination title, and identification number.

Signature: _____________________________ Date: __________________________