



## **Accountant 1 (Specialist)**

**Exam Code: 0PB31**

**Department: State of California**

**Exam Type: Servicewide, Open**

**Final Filing Date: Continuous**

### **CLASSIFICATION DETAILS**

**Accountant 1 (Specialist)** - \$3,600.00 - \$4,506.00 per month

View the [classification specification](#) for the Accountant 1 (Specialist) classification.

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Final Filing Date: Continuous

#### **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**.

#### **How To Apply:**

The link to connect to the Training and Experience Evaluation is located farther down on this bulletin in the "Taking the Exam" section.

## **Special Testing Arrangements:**

If you require special testing arrangements due to a verified disability or medical condition, please contact:

California Department of Human Resources  
CalCareer Service Center  
1810 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (866) 844-8671

Email: [CalCareer@CalHR.CA.GOV](mailto:CalCareer@CalHR.CA.GOV)

California Relay Service: 7-1-1 (TTY and voice)

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

## **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.

### **Accountant 1 (Specialist)**

**Experience:** One year of bookkeeping or accounting experience performing duties comparable in level to those of an Accounting Technician in the California state service.

**and**

**Education:** Completion of at least 12 semester hours of a professional accounting curriculum.

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Accountant 1 (Specialist)**

Under direct supervision, to perform the more difficult semi- professional accounting work in the establishment and maintenance of accounts and records for specialized agency activities, departmental systems, and for central fiscal control activities; maintenance of a segment of an accounting function for a State department (e.g., accounts receivable, accounts payable, cash disbursements); and to do other related work.

## **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. Applicants will receive their score upon completion of the Training and Experience Evaluation process.

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. Principles and practices of financial record keeping to conduct audits and perform accounting functions.
2. Computer software programs (e.g., Outlook, Excel, Power Point, Word) to facilitate accounting operations.
3. Internal control procedures to protect and safeguard organizational assets and resources.
4. Debits and credits of accounts to ensure correct payments and receipts are recorded.
5. Principles and processes for providing customer services (e.g., evaluation of customer needs and satisfaction, service assessment, meeting quality standards for services).

### **Ability to:**

1. Apply accounting principles and procedures to work assignments.
2. Analyze data and draw logical conclusions to accurately process, provide, and implement accounting information.
3. Audit accounting information and verify its accuracy.
4. Use accounting database and spreadsheet software to input, organize, track, and retrieve data.
5. Conduct basic research using databases, files, reference manuals, and other sources to perform accounting functions.
6. Identify appropriate resources for answering inquiries.
7. Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.
8. Solve accounting problems related to work assignments.
9. Perform basic mathematical computations using addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and averages to solve problems.
10. Use organizational filing systems to track accounting information.

11. Write clear and concise documents to communicate with internal/external stakeholders using correct grammar and spelling.
12. Use tact and diplomacy to establish and maintain cooperative relationships when dealing with the needs, problems, and/or concerns of employees, the public, and/or outside organizations.
13. Work on multiple tasks concurrently to ensure timely completion of projects and other work activities.
14. Prioritize assigned work to complete assignments on a timely basis.

## ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A servicewide, open eligible list for the **Accountant 1 (Specialist)** classification will be established for:

State of California (all State of California departments, statewide)

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. 1093) is available [online](#). Additional information on veteran benefits is available at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Career Credits are not granted for examination(s) administered on an Open basis or Promotional basis.

## EXAMINATION INFORMATION

[Preview Training and Experience Evaluation](#)

## PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

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

**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.

**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.

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

## **TAKING THE EXAMINATION**

**We recommend using Chrome, Firefox, or Edge for optimal performance when accessing the examination.**

Take the [Training and Experience Evaluation](#) for the Accountant 1 (Specialist) classification.

## **TESTING DEPARTMENTS**

State of California (all State of California departments)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

California Department of Human Resources

CalCareer Service Center

1810 16<sup>th</sup> Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

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## **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**

Bulletin Date: 11/3/2023

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](#).

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 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 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.