



Research Scientist 4 (Various Specialties)

Exam Code: 8PB05

Department: State of California

Exam Type: Servicewide, Open

Final Filing Date: Continuous

CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

Research Scientist 4 (Various Specialties) – \$8,980.00 - \$11,242.00 per month

[View the Research Scientist 4 \(Various Specialties\) classification specification](#)

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 **twelve (12) months**.

How to Apply:

The **Research Scientist 4** includes the following specialties: chemical, epidemiology/biostatistics, food and drug, microbiological, physical/engineering, social/behavioral, and veterinary sciences. On the minimum qualifications page, you **must** provide information for all related specialties you possess applicable experience/education in.

The link to connect to the Training and Experience Evaluation is located 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 16th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (866) 844-8671
Email: 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.

Research Scientist 4 (Various Specialties)

Education: The required degree must have been obtained from a recognized U.S. university or from a foreign university approved by the Bureau of Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education under the provision of California Education Code Chapter 3, Part 59, Division 10.

Either 1

Experience: One year of experience in the California state service performing scientific research duties comparable to those of a Research Scientist III in the [stated specialty](#) or a [closely related field](#). **and**

Education: Possession of a doctoral degree in the [stated specialty](#) or a [closely related field](#).

Or 2

Experience: Four years of progressively responsible research 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, and experience in the development, planning, and operation of a multidisciplinary, complex, and difficult research program involving coordination of several groups of disciplines, and 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 preventive medicine may be substituted for two years of the required experience.) At least one year of this experience must be at a level of responsibility equivalent to that of a Research Scientist III. **and**

Education: Possession of a doctoral degree in the [stated specialty](#) or in a [closely related field](#).

Or 3

Experience: Four years of progressively responsible professional research experience 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 one year of this experience must be at a level of responsibility equivalent to that of a Research Scientist III. **and**

Education: Possession of the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Research Scientist 4 (Various Specialties)

Under administrative direction, incumbents plan, organize, and direct major scientific research studies that are complex and have statewide sensitivity and policy impact; make original, independent decisions on complex scientific problems using scientific theories and principles on association and risk, and then develop and test hypotheses on causes; and conceive, plan, and conduct scientific research work of large scope on a statewide or national basis that has extreme difficulty and complexity in unexplored areas of public health. The results of their applied scientific research can be used in public health prevention and control programs. Incumbents use their scientific expertise to plan, direct, and execute major professional public health research studies. Provide evaluations and scientific recommendations as a scientific expert. Scientific recommendations are normally accepted as sound without close review unless matters of policy are involved. Incumbents seek and analyze all relevant, available, scientific, technical, medical, and other information from sources within and outside the organization, and integrate this information into the decision-making process. If relevant information is not available, incumbents identify this shortfall to management and develop proposed studies necessary to generate this information. Incumbents consult with department management and others in areas appropriate to their qualifications and participate in the development of public health policy; provide consultation to departmental management and others as requested; make presentations to State public health experts and the community on the scientific research conducted and also publish this research in scientific journals; act as a subject-matter expert in conducting public health scientific research that has the potential for adverse public health impact on community health; provide interpretations of scientific research findings for use by others; and perform other related work.

EXAMINATION SCOPE

This examination consists of the following components:

Training and Experience Evaluation – Weighted 100% of the final score.

The examination consists solely of a **Training and Experience Evaluation**. To obtain a position on the eligible list, you must provide education and the number of months of experience in the applicable parenthetical(s) specialty and receive a minimum score of 70% on the exam. 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. Current scientific research literature and trends applicable to the scientific research area
2. Principles and procedures of scientific research planning, design, methodology and analysis
3. Methods of preparation of scientific research reports
4. Scientific statistical methods and procedures
5. Data processing techniques
6. Bibliographic survey or previous related scientific research techniques
7. Determination and qualification of variables and mechanization of compilation of scientific data

Ability to:

1. Evaluate the adequacy of proposed scientific research designs and techniques
2. Think independently and creatively
3. Establish and maintain cooperative relations with professional staff and with officials of Federal, State, local, university and private research organizations
4. Communicate effectively
5. Prepare scientific articles for publication
6. Prepare scientific reports
7. Provide persuasive and skilled leadership to other staff in scientific research, principles and methods
8. Apply professional scientific knowledge and administrative ability to resolve a variety of situations
9. Analyze situations accurately and take effective action
10. Participate as a team member of public health research or scientific investigation projects
11. Make independent decisions in a very limited area of a scientific field
12. Provide information to higher-level scientists in support of decisions on scientific research
13. Interpret scientific findings and present to higher-level scientists
14. Apply established guidelines and scientific techniques
15. Serve as team leaders on small scientific projects
16. Make independent, difficult decisions in a specific scientific field
17. Plan, organize, and direct scientific research studies of a highly developed scientific scope and complexity
18. Serve as a team leader for complex public health research or scientific investigation projects
19. Serve as a consultant to other public health research scientists
20. Make health-based scientific decisions within the project scope
21. Apply expert scientific knowledge in their stated area of specialty
22. Work independently and develop scientific guidelines and technical procedures
23. Make recommendations to management on scientific health policy issues

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A separate servicewide, open eligible list for the **Research Scientist 4** classification will be established for the State of California (all State of California departments, statewide) for each of the following specialties: chemical, epidemiology/biostatistics, food and drug, microbiological, physical/engineering, social/behavioral, and veterinary sciences. The list(s) you are placed on are related to the experience provided in the minimum qualifications portion of the exam.

The names of successful competitors will be merged onto the eligible list in order of final score regardless of exam date. Eligibility expires **twelve (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. Additional information on veteran benefits is available at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Career Credits **will not** be added to the final score for this exam, because it does not meet the requirements to qualify for Career Credits.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

[Preview of the Research Scientist 4 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.

TAKING THE EXAMINATION

When completing the minimum qualifications page, you **must** fill in all applicable experience for **each** specialty (i.e., chemical, epidemiology/biostatistics, food and drug, microbiological, physical/engineering, social/behavioral, and veterinary sciences) that you wish to apply for. Once you have taken the exam and receive results, you will not be allowed to add any additional specialty or retake the exam for 12 months.

[Take the Research Scientist 4 examination](#)

TESTING DEPARTMENTS

State of California (all State of California departments)

CONTACT INFORMATION

California Department of Human Resources
CalCareer Service Center
1810 16th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (866) 844-8671
Email: 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.

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](#).

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 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.