Caring today for a safe and healthy tomorrow

Psychiatry at the largest mental health hospital system in the nation
Welcome to the team.

As a psychiatrist working for the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH), you’ll be joining a group of passionate people providing treatment and care for some of California’s most vulnerable populations: those struggling with severe mental illness. You’ll also enjoy a competitive salary, a world-class benefits package, and excellent work-life balance. Keep reading to learn more about what a career at DSH will look like for you.

Quality of Practice.
Psychiatry-driven, patient-centric care.

As the largest forensic mental health hospital system in the nation, the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH) offers an outstanding quality of practice. We maintain a number of academic partnerships, and we promote a team-oriented, collegial working environment supported from the services and teachings of national experts such as Dr. Stephen M. Stahl, M.D., Ph.D., Director of DSH Psychopharmacology Services and Dr. Charles L. Scott, M.D., our lead DSH forensic consultant.

Our psychiatrists lead interdisciplinary treatment teams to provide care to some of the most complex patients to be found anywhere. DSH psychiatrists also enjoy a great work life-balance, with most working 4/10/40 work weeks. On-call duty is voluntary, and strong level-of-care staff ensures 24/7/365 patient care and monitoring. Our psychiatrists even have the flexibility to develop a private practice.

Practice-Related Benefits

- Psychiatrist-led treatment teams
- Patient-centric, treatment first environment
- 56 hours per fiscal year of Continuing Medical Education leave
- Free weekly onsite/virtual CME offered
- Up to $2500 per fiscal year allowance for CME
- Teaching opportunities and residency programs
- Access to DSH’s Psychopharmacology Resource Network (PRN)
- Unique treatment opportunities, including electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) and botulism clinic for sialorrhea (varies by facility)
- Private practice permitted

“At DSH you’ll find cases that are outside of the box. They can be difficult sometimes, and fascinating at other times. These are cases that are not seen elsewhere. And they need great psychiatry.”

Dr. Stephen M. Stahl, M.D., Ph.D.
Director of DSH Psychopharmacology Services
About our System
The California Department of State Hospitals (DSH) manages the California State Hospital system, which provides mental health services to patients admitted into DSH facilities. The department strives to provide effective treatment in a safe environment and in a fiscally responsible manner. All facilities are fully licensed by the California Department of Public Health, and must regularly meet or exceed regulatory standards to continue providing care.

Quality of Life.
One System.
Five Locations.
Endless Possibilities.
Compensation and Other Benefits
As a psychiatrist working in one of our facilities, you will play a key role in the success of our mission: working today for a safe and healthy tomorrow. In addition to a competitive salary and a number of job-specific benefits, you will enjoy access to a comprehensive set of benefits and services available to all employees of the State of California.

Benefits include:
• Flexible workweek options available in most situations
• Voluntary on-call duty
• Substantial Continuing Medical Education allowances
• Generous defined-benefit pension
• Savings Plus retirement savings plans (401k and 457b)
• Excellent medical, dental, and vision benefits
• Retiree healthcare
• Psychiatrist-led treatment teams
• Patient-centric, treatment first environment
• Many opportunities for career advancement
• Private practice permitted
• Relocation assistance available (varies by location)
• H-1B and J1 visa assistance available (varies by location)

How to Apply
Please email us a copy of your Curriculum Vitae to get started on your new career with the Department of State Hospitals!

The DSH Recruitment Unit is ready to answer any questions you have. Please don’t hesitate to give us a call or send us an email using the contact information below.

📞 916.654.2609
📧 careers@dsh.ca.gov
🌐 www.dsh.ca.gov/jobs

Salary
$266,976 - $320,832/year (Board Certified)
$260,172 - $311,784/year (Board Eligible)

Salary data drawn from CalHR [link here] as of 09/16/2021. Click here to learn more about Bargaining Unit 16, which covers physicians (including psychiatrists), dentists, and podiatrists.

Bonus pay of up to $20,000 also available*!
*One-time payments of $5000 each, disbursed upon completion of each of the following number of consecutive qualifying pay periods: six (6) pay periods; 24 pay periods; 60 pay periods; 84 pay periods.

“If you really want to advance and move up in leadership positions, DSH is the place to do it.”

Dr. Charles L. Scott, M.D.
DSH Forensic Consultant