



Senior Psychiatric Technician (Safety)

Exam Code: 5MH77

Administering Department: Department of State Hospitals

Exam Type: Servicewide, Open

Final Filing Date: Continuous

Class Code: 8252

CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

Senior Psychiatric Technician (Safety) – \$4102.00 - \$7,244.00 per month.

View the [Senior Psychiatric Technician \(Safety\) 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 (11:59 PM) 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 **12** 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 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 application has 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 STD 678 to:

SeniorPsychiatricTechnicianSafety@dsh.ca.gov

Electronic signatures are acceptable.

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

You may apply by mail to:
Department of State Hospitals – Sacramento
Selection Services Unit
1600 9th Street – Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

You may apply in person at:
Department of State Hospitals – Sacramento
1600 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm (excluding State holidays)

Indicate the Classification on your Examination Application (STD 678).
Special Testing Arrangements:

Bulletin Date: 3/22/2021

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.

Possession of a valid license to practice as a Psychiatric Technician issued by the California Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiner (BVNPTE).

AND

One year of experience performing the duties of a Psychiatric Technician (Safety) or Psychiatric Technician in a California State hospital or developmental center.

SPECIAL PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

An interest and a willingness to work at, State Hospitals; understanding of the behavior of forensic clients', patients', or inmates' ability to handle stressful situations; patience; tolerance; alertness; neat personal appearance; and hearing and vision required for successful job performance.

SPECIAL PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Possession and maintenance of sufficient strength, agility, and endurance to perform during physically, mentally, and emotionally stressful and emergency situations encountered on the job without endangering the health and well-being of the incumbent, fellow employees, forensic clients, patients, inmates, or the public.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

This is the first supervisory level in the series. As shift supervisors, incumbents supervise, train, and evaluate a group of Psychiatric Technicians (Safety) engaged in custody activities and basic behavioral and nursing care, and other assigned staff. Incumbents may also be assigned to especially difficult or complex duties where the only supervision exercised is over forensic clients, patients, or inmates, such as directing or monitoring forensic client, patient, or inmate activities in a therapy program.

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 custody procedures and public and property protection policies.
2. Knowledge of fundamentals of nursing care, general behavioral and psychiatric procedures, forensic client, patient, or inmate behavior and mental health principles and techniques involved in the care and treatment of individual or groups of developmentally or mentally disordered forensic clients, patients, or inmates.
3. Knowledge of current first-aid methods.
4. Knowledge of medical terminology.
5. Knowledge of pharmacology.
6. Knowledge of cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
7. Knowledge of management Assaultive Behavior techniques.
8. Knowledge of hospital procedures.
9. Knowledge of techniques of effective supervision.
10. Knowledge of a supervisor's role in equal employment opportunities

Ability to:

1. Ability to learn and apply sound judgment for situations including the protection of persons and property.
2. Ability to apply basic nursing knowledge, skills, and attitudes.
3. Ability to establish effective therapeutic relationships with developmentally or mentally disordered forensic clients, patients, or inmates.
4. Ability to recognize symptoms requiring medical or psychiatric attention.
5. Ability to think and act quickly in emergencies.
6. Ability to work with a treatment team to provide occupational, recreational, vocational, and educational therapy programs for forensic clients, patients, or inmates.
7. Ability to follow directions.
8. Ability to keep appropriate records.
9. Ability to develop clear and concise reports of incidents.
10. Ability to analyze situations accurately and take effective action.
11. Ability to supervise the work and development of a group of nursing staff.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A Servicewide, Open eligible list for the **Senior Psychiatric Technician (Safety)** 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 following the instructions above.

Step 2. [Click on this link to take the Senior Psychiatric Technician \(Safety\) examination.](#)

Once your application has 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

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: SeniorPsychiatricTechnicianSafety@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:

Bulletin Date: 3/22/2021

<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.