

WORKING FOR THE GOVERNMENT

May 2024

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (City, County, State, Federal Government)

Public services such as social services, veterans services, health including public health, fire and safety, public works, planning and finance, courts and legal processes, parks and recreation are usually provided by counties and cities. www.calopps.org and www.governmentjobs.com are good websites for searching possibilities.

STATE GOVERNMENT:

It is advisable to regularly check the California State Personnel Board website CalCareers https://www.calcareers.ca.gov where you can file online and take online exams for various positions. It is also wise to check by department. Listed below are a few departments. Here are a few examples of entry career possibilities.

The State of **California Public Utilities Commission** hires those with college degrees and courses in economics, public policy, or a closely related field as **Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst 1**. Check the website at www.cpuc.ca.gov. Click on “Careers” at the bottom of the website. Follow the process. Create a Cal Career account with State of California Department of Human Resources from the link on the site. Sign up to take the exam and look for openings once you are notified that you have passed the exam.

The **State Franchise Tax Board** has continuous filing for **Compliance Representatives and Tax Program Technicians** The online exams can be accessed at the website www.ftb.ca.gov by selecting “Careers,” at the bottom of the home page and then “Exams.”

An open exam for those wishing to work with the **Employment Development Department** is **Employment Program Representative**.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:

The official job site for employment with the federal government is www.usajobs.gov. The Federal Government is interested in hiring recent graduates so select “Students and Recent Grads” under “Hiring Paths” to see the Pathways Program. Open positions for recent graduates may include titles such as **Social Services Assistant, Management and Program Analysis, Information Technology Specialist, Contract Specialist and Engineering Technician**. You will need to create a profile on the site if you wish to pursue any opportunities.

The **Department of Homeland Security** offers a wide variety of opportunities through the **Pathways Program** for recent college grads and graduate students, including entry-level positions and paid internships. Go to [Homeland Security Careers | Homeland Security \(dhs.gov\)](http://Homeland Security Careers | Homeland Security (dhs.gov)) and select “Careers” under “About Us” and then “Recent Graduates”

The **IRS** hires college graduates for positions in Research & Analysis, IT, Tax Law, and many other fields. Go to www.jobs.irs.gov and select “Click here to learn more”.

U.S. Postal Inspection Service is a quasi-government function that hires for positions in accounting and finance, corporate communications, human resources, information technology and inspection services. Go to Careers - About.usps.com/careers for information.

Foreign Service Officer is one career path working for the U.S. Dept. of State. [Local Employment in U.S. Embassies and Consulates - Careers \(state.gov\)](http://Local Employment in U.S. Embassies and Consulates - Careers (state.gov)). Go to careers.state.gov. Select “about” and then “opportunities”. Other possibilities are working for **USAID.gov**, **USDA.gov**, **Trade.gov** and **Travel.state.gov**.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

County positions cover a wide range of departments including animal services, assessor and clerk-recorder, child support services, fire protection, health services, employment and human services, library, probation, public works, sheriff, tax collection, elections, human resources, planning, information technology and veterans services.

When applying for county positions, the key thing to remember is the importance of meeting minimum qualifications. Those who do not meet the stated minimum qualifications will not be considered. Usually, applications will only be accepted for open positions. “Open” often means the start of the process whereby a list of eligible candidates is created. A department with an opening for that job title will then interview the top candidates on that list. Most counties also maintain a database called “Job Descriptions” that lists and describes all positions with the county. An online notice of interest can often be left for positions of interest. A notice will be sent when that position comes open. Here are some general job titles for a few points of entry:

Information Systems Technician 1

Account Clerk Experience Level “

Eligibility Worker 1

Child Support Specialist 1

Experience Level Clerk 1

Deputy Sheriff Recruit

Open Positions include those at high and medium level as well as entry. Some positions, such as medical specialties are listed as “continuous” so that applications are accepted and considered at all times. Here are a few local counties:

Alameda County [CareersAlamedaCounty \(acgov.org\)](http://CareersAlamedaCounty.acgov.org) 1221 Oak St , Oakland (510) 272-6471
Alameda County Court Jobs www.alameda.courts.ca.gov

Marin County 3501 Civic Center Dr. San Rafael <https://hr.marincounty.org>

Contra Costa County <https://contracosta.ca.gov> Human Resources | Contra Costa County, CA
1025 Escobar 2nd Fl., Martinez (925) 655-2100

City and County of San Francisco <https://www.sf.gov/topics/jobs>

CITY GOVERNMENT:

Typical cities have the following departments: finance, city clerk, human resources, recreation, planning and development, health, housing and human services, information technology, public works, police and fire. They hire employees to staff all those functions.

Search websites of local cities such as www.fremont.gov and www.cityofsanrafael.org
Most local cities such as Hayward, Oakland, Berkeley, Fremont, Concord, Pleasanton etc. list on www.governmentjobs.com

www.indeed.com – Write “working for the city” and “name of city”
Putting in San Francisco yielded multiple listings