



CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES



RECREATION THERAPIST, CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Exam Code: 1RC05

Department: California Correctional Health Care Services
and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Exam Type: Multi-Departmental, Open

Final Filing Date: Continuous

CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

Recreation Therapist, Correctional Facility (9286) – \$7,056 - \$8,305 per month.

View the [Recreation Therapist, Correctional Facility](#) classification specification.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Final Filing Date: Continuous

Cutoff Date: Online, 24/7

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 Examination” section.

Special Testing Arrangements:

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.

Recreation Therapist, Correctional Facility

Education: [Equivalent to graduation from a recognized college](#) with [major work](#) in recreation or recreation therapy. The major must have included supervised field work. (Registration as a senior will admit applicants to the examination, but they must produce evidence of graduation or its equivalent and completion of the required field work before they will be considered eligible for appointment.)

Special Personal Characteristics: Empathetic understanding of patients of a State correctional facility including physically, mentally, and developmentally disabled persons; willingness to work in a State correctional facility; alertness; keenness of observation; tact; patience; and emotional stability.

Special Physical Characteristics: Persons appointed to this position must be reasonably expected to have and maintain sufficient strength, agility, and endurance to perform during stressful (physical, mental, and emotional) situations encountered on the job without compromising their health and well-being or that of their fellow employees or that of inmates.

Applicants possessing the required license/certificate at the time of application must show the number, title, and expiration date on their Examination Application (Std. Form 678).

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Recreation Therapist, Correctional Facility

A Recreation Therapist, Correctional Facility, under general direction, in a State correctional facility, leads, instructs, and encourages patients in a program of individual and group activities of a physical, social, and cultural nature such as indoor and outdoor games and sports, dance, parties, dramatics, and special interest clubs; supervises entertainments and movies and assists in planning programs for special occasions; plans treatment goals for specific patients in conjunction with the therapeutic team; assists in coordinating recreation therapy with other therapeutic programs; coordinates the activities program of a group of patients, including simple crafts, games, social and musical activities, and instructs unit personnel in basic activity skills as assigned; observes patients' reactions and progress and records clinical notes to be included in medical files

and prepares reports; orders supplies and equipment and cares for equipment and facilities; maintains order and supervises the conduct of persons committed to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; prevents escapes and injury by these persons to themselves, others or to property; maintains security of working areas and work materials; inspects premises and searches inmates for contraband, such as weapons or illegal drugs; and other related duties.

Positions exist statewide.

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 examination component will be measuring competitively, relative to job demands, each applicant's:

Knowledge of:

1. Theory and practice of mental and physical rehabilitation of mentally, physically, and developmentally disabled persons;
2. Therapeutic principles and techniques of group and individual activities used in recreation therapy, and skill in their application;
3. Various types of recreation and entertainment activities and providing leadership of these activities;
4. Basic pathology of diseases and disabilities resulting in psychological, physical, or organic conditions of the patient.

Ability to:

1. Provide leadership of various types of recreation and entertainment activities;
2. Interpret recreation therapy activities to staff, health care providers, patients, and others;
3. Teach others basic activity skills;
4. Prepare reports and records to be included in medical files;
5. Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action;
6. Establish and maintain cooperative interrelationship with individuals and groups.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A multi-departmental, open eligible list for the Recreation Therapist, Correctional Facility classification will be established for:

California Correctional Health Care Services

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

The names of **successful** competitors will be merged onto the eligible list in order of final score regardless of examination 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.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

[Preview the Training and Experience Evaluation](#)

PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

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

In an effort to streamline the examination process, please create a [CalCareer Account](#) with CalHR. A CalCareer Account is a one stop shop for taking civil service examinations, applying for state jobs, and provides storage and organization for your documents and communications stemming from job opportunities, all in a paperless format. To sign up for a CalCareer Account, or log in to your existing account, [Click here](#).

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

Take the examination for the [Recreation Therapist, Correctional Facility](#) classification.

TESTING DEPARTMENTS

California Correctional Health Care Services
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any technical or administrative questions concerning this examination bulletin, including provision of reasonable accommodation for this testing process, please contact:

California Correctional Health Care Services
Attn: Examination Services
8280 Longleaf Drive
Elk Grove, CA 95758

Phone: (916) 691-5894

Email: CPHCSSelectionServices@cdcr.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.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) are committed to building and fostering a diverse workplace. We believe cultural diversity, backgrounds, experiences, perspectives, and unique identities should be honored, valued, and supported. We believe all staff should be empowered. CDCR/CCHCS are proud to foster inclusion and representation at all levels of both Departments.

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. Form 678) forms are available at CalHR, 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.

CCHCS 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.

This bulletin cancels and supersedes all previously issued bulletins.