



**GOLD COUNTRY FAIRGROUNDS
AND EVENT CENTER**

**WE ARE
HIRING**

**20TH DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Part of the State of California Employment Program

Opens: October 6, 2025, Closes: **Extended to December 12, 2025** at
4:00pm or until filled.

The 20th DAA is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**1273 HIGH STREET
AUBURN, CA 95063**

www.goldcountryfair.com

ABOUT US

The 20th District Agricultural Association is an agency of the State of California. The district is located within the County of Placer and the City of Auburn. It is governed by the limitations of its by-laws and the statutes of the State of California, including the approval of the Department of Food and Agriculture and General Services, as required by law. All powers are exercised by or under the authority and control of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of nine members who are appointed by the Governor to serve terms. The Board equally establishes the policies and procedures of the Association. The Board empowers the CEO to implement and oversee the organization. The Association actively promotes the area's interest, supporting its communities by improving the quality of the Fair and the facilities to create important venues for education, recreation and entertainment.

THE GOLD COUNTRY FAIRGROUNDS HISTORY

The first organized fair was held in Auburn in 1889 and continued annually until 1902. Horse races were a major fair attraction at that time. The only evidence of the existence of those early fairs is that the street leading to the recreation park near the present location of the fairgrounds is still called "Racetrack Street". As gambling fell into disfavor with "civilized" Californians in the early 1900's, fair activities disappeared between 1903 and 1935.

When the California Legislature made funding available for the development of district agricultural fairs in the mid-1930's, local activists went to work. In 1936, Vernon McCann lead a grass roots movement charged with the formation of the 20th District Agricultural Association. Because of his tireless efforts, Mr. McCann has been called the "Father of the Auburn District Fair". A fair in Auburn has been produced annually since that time, with the exception of the war years in the 1940's.

Traditionally one of the largest and most anticipated events in Placer County, the fair enjoys tremendous support from the community.

In the 1960's, when the State faced tough financial times, it was proposed that some of the less financially secure fairs be closed. The Auburn District Fair was one of the fairs targeted in that action. The community rallied around their fairgrounds, contacting legislators and petitioning the Governor's office to maintain the facility in Auburn. Based on this support, Governor Reagan and his staff removed the Auburn District Fair from the closure list. At a ceremony held at the fairgrounds in 1970, Governor Ronald Reagan proclaimed that the Auburn District Fair was "The Little Fair That Wouldn't Die." The Auburn District Fair became the Gold Country Fair in 1977.





CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

The Board of Directors of the Gold Country Fairgrounds and Event Center (20th DAA) are seeking an administrator to continue its strong traditions and to identify opportunities to expand its annual fair and year-round operations.

This is a confidential recruitment process and will be handled accordingly throughout the various stages.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The Chief Executive Officer is a Secretary Manager III state classification, which is an exempt, "at will" employee who sits at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. He/she is responsible for the overall administration and management of the 20th District Agricultural Association, Gold Country Fair. The CEO reports directly to the Board of Directors of the Association. The CEO manages the staff, organizes, implements, and administers the development and utilization of the fairgrounds, and implements the board's policy decisions. The fairgrounds provide the general public with various entertainment and agricultural, educational, and cultural activities.

The CEO oversees the following:

- Staff and their performance
- Finance and Accounting of the Association
- Events held on the site
- Maintenance of the Facilities and Grounds
- The Annual Fair
- Promotion of the Organization

COMPENSATION

A competitive monthly salary, starting at \$8,889 to \$10,884, is offered for the position.

The benefit package offered by the 20th District Agricultural Association includes contributions to:

- Health, Dental, and Vision Plan
- Employee plus family coverage
- Annual Leave
- Vacation and Sick Leave
- Life Insurance
- California Public Employee Retirement System (CalPERS)



DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

We desire professional experience and personal characteristics which include, but are not limited to:

- Knowledge and experience in purchasing, marketing, contracting, technology, facility maintenance, Public Relations, Risk Management, Crisis Management, Asset Management, Human Resources, ADA Compliance, admissions, Ticket Sales, and Technology, and holds responsibility for the operational efficiencies of the organization.
- Maintains an exceptional consistent accounting of all records and reporting and provides necessary information and financial data to enable the Board to make good decisions in the best interest of the organization.
- Participates in leadership and/or community stewardship programs.
- Ability to plan and organize restructuring of business and fairgrounds development, including fundraising, grants, and sponsorships.
- Demonstrates the ability to develop and foster a cross-functional work relationship between direct-report departments, other departments, and sub-contractors within the organization.
- Sustain relationships and enhance current additional revenue sources that have been developed, such as local businesses, tenants and full-time rentals.
- Expand and preserve a strategic plan along with the master plan of development for the Gold Country Fairgrounds.
- Experience working in agricultural and livestock industries.
- Ability to do presentations and promote our organization in its efforts to interested parties. To be passionate about the organization and its accomplishments.
- Candidate must be willing to work extended hours or weekends when necessary to perform optimal level of success for the organization.

MANAGERIAL SKILLS

- Provide good personnel management of all employees and volunteers.
- Successfully oversee all budget management.
- Ability to preserve assets and increase revenue potential.
- Lead by example in carrying out the direction of the Board of Directors.

EFFECTIVE LEADER

- Be the face of the Fair in representing the organization within public interests, media relations, and local, regional, or state matters, along with communications of governmental authorities.
- Open, forthright, and trustworthy in communication.
- Be innovative and motivational.
- Promote the highest customer satisfaction and safety for any venues provided on our site.



EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

The Board of Directors desires an executive who can meet the many qualities and diverse interests that our community demands in excellence. We are looking for a candidate with the right combination of leadership skills and experience who will sustain the success of the Gold Country Fairgrounds and Event Center while leading us to superior performance in future development projects.

Education:

Prefer an Associate or Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Accounting, Marketing, or Communications, but not required with relative experience.

Experience:

- Administrative experience with a successful proven record of accomplishment in the public or private business sectors.
- Experience in fair or event planning-related work is preferred.
- Demonstrated leadership with a similar size and complexity of a business, including working with a Board of Directors structure.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Any applicant who attempts to contact individual board members directly with the intent of influencing the decision of the Board or Committee will be disqualified as a candidate for the position at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

TO APPLY

This is a confidential recruitment process and will be handled accordingly throughout the various stages of the process. Interested candidates should apply by submitting a cover letter, comprehensive resume, State Application (STD 678), and five (5) professional references via email to Selection Committee Chair ceosearch@goldcountryfair.com.

Applications will be accepted until the closing date of December 12, 2025 at 4pm.

The Board reserves the right to determine the best combination of education, professional development, and experience required for this position.





APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All application materials can be sent via E-mailed OR by U.S. Mail to the contact information below:

Gold Country Fair
ATTN: CEO Selection Committee
1273 High Street
Auburn, CA 95603

Email: Selection Committee: gcfceosearch@gmail.com

- A screening committee will evaluate each applicant's application and submission.
- Applicants considered best qualified to fulfill the desires of the Board's search will be referred to the Board of Directors for further consideration.
- Personal interviews may be scheduled with a selected number of qualified candidates at a determined date. If necessary, additional interviews will be held for qualifying finalists.
- The Selection Committee reserves the right to contact the applicant's personal references for review of the applicant.
- The Board of Directors may choose to visit the home community of the final applicant(s).
- Upon the selection and final determination of the new CEO, a mutually agreeable date will be determined for the transition of the role of Chief Executive Officer for the Gold Country Fair. Each applicant shall complete the employment application, resume and references in order to be considered for this position. References will only be contacted once mutual interest has been established. In-depth background checks and verifications may be conducted on final candidates. This is a confidential recruitment process. The Gold Country Fair is an equal opportunity employer-equal opportunity to all regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, age, or sexual orientation.

Any questions regarding the application or the selection process may be directed to: CEO Search Email: gcfceosearch@gmail.com

(Please provide your name and contact information along with your questions.)