



LABORATORY ASSISTANT

Class Code: 7884 - Exam Code: 6FA32

Opening Date:	09/23/2016
Closing Date:	10/14/2016
Type of Examination:	Departmental Promotional
Salary:	Range A: \$2,251 - \$2,814 Range B: \$2,417 - \$3,023
Employment Type:	Permanent Full-time Permanent Part-time Permanent Intermittent Limited Term Full-time Limited Term Part-time Limited Term Intermittent
Exam Type:	Spot/Sacramento

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The State of California is an equal opportunity employer to all, regardless of age, ancestry, color, disability (mental and physical), exercising the right to 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 workplace. 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.

WHO CAN APPLY

This is a Departmental promotional examination for the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Applicants must meet one of the following criteria to participate in this examination.

1. Applicants must have a permanent civil service appointment with the California Department of Food and Agriculture as of the final filing date, in order to participate in this examination; or
2. Must be a current or former employee of the Legislature for two or more years as defined in Government Code § 18990; or
3. Must be a current or former non-elected exempt employee of the Executive Branch for two or more consecutive years as defined in Government Code § 18992; or
4. Must be a person retired from the United States military, honorably discharged from active military duty with a service-connected disability or honorably discharged from active duty as defined in Government Code § 18991; or

WHO CAN APPLY CONTINUED

5. Under certain circumstances, other employees (i.e. former Department employees or current employees on TAU, T&D, and LT status) may be allowed to compete under provisions of Rules 234, 235, and 235.2. State Personnel Board Rules 234, 235, 235.2 and 237 contain provisions regarding civil service status and eligibility for promotional examinations. This is a promotional examination. Career credits do not apply.

NOTE: Veterans must provide a copy of their DD214 for entrance requirements.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit a Standard State Application (STD. form 678) to the California Department of Food and Agriculture no later than the **Final Filing Date, Friday, October 14, 2016.**

- Standard State Application (STD. form 678) is available through the internet at <https://jobs.ca.gov/Public/StateForms.aspx>
- All applications must include “to” and “from” dates (month/day/year) and time base. **Applications received without this information may be rejected.**
- Resumes **will not** be accepted in lieu of a completed State Application, (STD. form 678).
- Your signature on your application indicates that you have read, understood, and possess the basic qualifications required.

DO NOT SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES (CalHR).

WHERE TO APPLY

By mail/In person: California Department of Food and Agriculture
Examination Unit, Attn: **Cindy Torres**
1220 N Street, Room 242
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 403-6581

By e-mail: exams@cdfa.ca.gov

NOTE: Facsimiles (FAX) will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FINAL FILE DATE

Final Filing Date: **Friday, October 14, 2016.**

Dates printed on Mobile Bar Codes, such as the Quick Response (QR) Codes available at the USPS are not considered Postmark dates for the purpose of determining timely filing of applications.

All applications must be received by the Final Filing Date, Friday, October 14, 2016. Mailed applications must be **POSTMARKED** no later than the Final Filing Date. Applications personally delivered or received via interoffice mail must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the final filing date. Any applications received after the final filing date will not be accepted for any reason.

TEST DATE

It is anticipated the examination will be sometime in November or December 2016.

TESTING METHOD

The testing method used may be one or a combination of the following: **ORAL OR WRITTEN EXAMINATION, EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE OR SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION.**

SPECIAL TESTING ARRANGEMENTS

If you have a disability and need special assistance or special testing arrangements, mark the appropriate box in #2 of the application. You will be contacted to make specific arrangements. If you have not been contacted by the time you receive a notice to appear for a test, call the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Examination Unit, at (916) 403-6581.

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION

NOTE: Applicants are required to bring either a photo identification card or two forms of signed identification to each phase of the examination.

ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A Departmental "Promotional" list will be established for the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The eligible list will be abolished **12** months after it is established **unless** the needs of the service and conditions of the list warrant a change in this period.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTANCE TO THE EXAMINATION

All applications must meet the education and/or experience requirements as stated on this examination announcement. Your signature on your application indicates that you have read, understood, and possess the basic qualifications required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**Either I**

Six months of experience in laboratory work similar to performing assigned, varied, standardized, and nontechnical laboratory procedures in processing or preparing laboratory specimens, materials and supplies and in operation of specialized mechanical laboratory equipment.

Or II

Education: Equivalent to completion of the eighth grade.

Or III

Satisfactory completion of a formalized laboratory work experience and training program of at least three months' duration, such as those conducted under Manpower Development and Training Act, Work Incentive Program, or similar work experience programs conducted by State agencies.

SPECIAL PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Aptitude and liking for laboratory work; orderliness; tact; reliability; either normal color vision, or partial color blindness only. (Applicants with partial color blindness must demonstrate the ability to satisfactorily distinguish colors most frequently found in laboratory work.) Color vision adequate to successfully perform the job as measured by the Ishihara Pseudo-Chromatic Plate Test or for persons failing the Ishihara, the Farnsworth D-15 Arrangement Test.

ADDITIONAL DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Incumbents may be required to have a valid driver license.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

This is the entry and first working level. Incumbents perform assigned, varied, standardized, and nontechnical laboratory procedures in processing or preparing laboratory specimens, materials and supplies, and in operation of specialized mechanical laboratory equipment while receiving on-the-job training.

EXAMINATION INFORMATION

The examination will consist of a written test comprised of five sections: Reading Comprehension/Effective Communication, Following Directions, Basic Laboratory Calculations, Basic Laboratory Procedures, and Laboratory Equipment and Safety. In order to obtain a position on the eligible list, a minimum rating of 70% must be attained. Competitors who do not appear for the written examination will be disqualified.

WRITTEN TEST – WEIGHTED 100%

The California Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) 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 competitors will be notified.

SCOPE OF EXAM AND KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

In addition to evaluating the competitor's relative abilities as demonstrated by quality and breadth of experience, emphasis in the examining interview will be on measuring competitively, relative to job demands, each competitor's:

ABILITY TO:

1. Communicate effectively at a level required for successful job performance
2. Clean and care for laboratory equipment
3. Learn elementary laboratory methods and procedures
4. Follow directions
5. Work efficiently and effectively in a group

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

If conditions warrant, this examination may utilize an evaluation of each competitor's experience and education compared to a standard developed from the class specification. For this reason, it is especially important that each candidate take special care in accurately and completely filling out his or her application. List all experience relevant to the "Requirements for Admittance to the Examination" shown on this announcement, even if that experience goes beyond the seven-year limit printed on the application. Supplementary information will be accepted, but read the "Requirements for Admittance to the Examination" carefully to see what kind of information will be useful to the staff doing the evaluation.

VETERANS' PREFERENCE

Veterans' preference will not be granted in the examination as it does not meet the requirements to qualify for Veterans' Preference.

CAREER CREDITS

Career Credits **will not** be added to the final score of this examination, because it does not meet the requirements to qualify for Career Credits.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this announcement, please contact:

The California Department of Food and Agriculture, Examination Unit
1220 N Street, Room 242
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Cindy Torres at (916) 403-6581 or email cindy.torres@cdfa.ca.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

For an examination with a written feature, it is the candidate's responsibility to contact the California Department of Food and Agriculture Examinations Unit at (916) 403-6581 three (3) weeks after the final filing date if he/she has not received his/her notice.

If a candidate's notice of written test fails to reach him/her 3 days prior to their scheduled appointment, he/she must contact California Department of Food and Agriculture Examinations Unit at (916) 403-6581.

If you meet the requirements stated on this bulletin, you may take this examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirements does not assure a place on the eligible list. All candidates who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

Examination Locations: When a written test is part of the examination, it will be given in such places in California as the number of candidates and conditions warrant. However locations may be limited or extended as conditions warrant.

General Qualifications: Candidates must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment, and ability to work cooperatively with others; and a state of health consistent with the ability to perform the assigned duties of the class. If an offer of employment is made, 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 service-wide 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 from one (1) to four (4) years unless otherwise stated on this bulletin.

Veterans' Preference: Effective January 1, 2014, in accordance with Government Code 18973.1 and 18973.5, Veterans' Preference will be awarded as follows: 1.) Any veteran, widow or widower of a veteran, or spouse of a 100 percent disabled veteran, who achieves a passing score in an entrance examination, shall be ranked in the top rank of the resulting eligibility list. Any veteran who has been dishonorably discharged or released is not eligible for Veterans' Preference. 2.) An entrance examination is defined, under the law, as any open competitive examination. And 3.) Veterans' Preference is not granted once a person achieves permanent civil service status. Veteran status is verified by the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR). Directions to apply for Veterans' Preference are on the Veterans' Preference Application (Std. Form 1093), which is available at <http://jobs.ca.gov/Job/VeteransInformation>, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

TDD is Telecommunications Device for the Deaf and is reachable only from phones equipped with a TDD Device
TTY number: 1-800-735-2929 FROM VOICE PHONES: 1-800-735-2922