

County of Santa Cruz

INVITES YOU TO APPLY FOR:



SOCIAL WORKER II

Bilingual (English/Spanish) Candidates
Encouraged to Apply

Supplemental Questionnaire Required

Open and Promotional
Job # 24-SM4-01

Salary: \$5,931 – 7,500 / Month

Closing Date: Friday, February 23, 2024

County Equity Statement

*Equity in action in Santa Cruz County is a transformative process that embraces individuals of every status, providing unwavering support, dignity, and compassion.
Through this commitment, the County ensures intentional opportunities and access, fostering an environment where everyone can thrive and belong.*

THE JOB: Social Worker II is the journey level class for functions of moderate difficulty. Incumbents work with a minimum amount of supervision to carry a service caseload and to provide social services. They are required to use assessment, interviewing and counseling skills to perform moderate to complex casework services. The current positions are in the Family and Childrens, Adult Services and Housing for Health divisions of the Human Services Department. This includes full-time, extra help and limited term vacancies. **The list established from this recruitment will be used to fill current and future full-time, part-time, temporary and substitute vacancies during the life of the eligible list.**

The option for remote work may be available based on the type of work and operational needs, upon successful completion of probation.

THE REQUIREMENTS: Any combination of training and experience that would provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain these knowledge and abilities would be:

One year of experience performing social service casework services comparable to a Social Worker I in Santa Cruz County **OR** a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college with a major in social work, social welfare, human services, or one of the social or behavioral sciences.



Special Requirements: Possession of a valid California Class C Driver License or must be able to provide suitable transportation which is approved by the appointing authority may be required for certain positions. Ability to be bonded may be required of positions assigned to the Public Guardian function.

Knowledge: Working knowledge of social casework objectives, principles, methods, and caseload management and organization; social and economic factors which influence family life; principles of human behavior and development and psychological defense mechanisms; reactions to stress; community health, welfare, social, and legal support systems, and other resources available to clients; and interviewing and record keeping techniques, including the documentation of all actions and contacts in case files. Some knowledge of the specialized program area to which assigned; the laws, policies, and administrative procedures of County social service programs; the use and abuse of medications may be required for certain positions; techniques used to locate and determine client assets may be required for certain positions; and investment techniques and management of finances may be required for certain positions.

Ability to: Communicate and relate effectively with clients, who may be emotionally or mentally disabled, medically disabled, elderly, substance abusers, victims of domestic violence or fiduciary abuse; establish and maintain effective working relationships with others, including clients, family members and others who may be under distress or duress; locate, develop, and use community and agency resources for the benefit of clients and advocate for services on behalf of clients; facilitate maximum client participation in service plans; manage assigned caseload and establish caseload priorities to meet client needs and agency expectations; perform as a lead worker over a small group of social workers may be required for some positions; prioritize and respond to demands of caseload in a prompt and efficient manner; recognize and analyze problems, gather relevant information, establish facts, draw valid conclusions, respond to case details promptly, and communicate clearly and concisely both orally and in writing; maintain current and accurate records; learn complex laws and regulations and apply them appropriately in management of assigned caseload; work effectively under pressure and deadlines; deal with hostile, aggressive and abusive persons; administer the estates of mentally or medically disabled persons is required for certain positions; and represent conservatees and payees in matters related to their well-being, including hiring, setting goals and procedures for, and monitoring providers and caregivers is required for certain positions.

THE EXAMINATION: Your application and supplemental questionnaire will be reviewed to determine if you have met the education, experience, training and/or licensing requirements as stated on the job announcement. If you meet these criteria and are one of the best qualified, you may be required to compete in any combination of written, oral and/or performance examinations or a competitive evaluation of training and experience as described on your application and supplemental questionnaire. You must pass all components of the examination to be placed on the eligible list. The examination may be eliminated if there are ten or fewer qualified applicants. If the eligible list is established without the administration of the announced examination, the life of the eligible list will be six months and your overall score will be based upon an evaluation of your application and supplemental questionnaire. If during those six months it is necessary to administer another examination for this job class, you will be invited to take the examination to remain on the eligible list.

HOW TO APPLY: Apply online at www.santacruzcountyjobs.com or mail/bring an application and supplemental questionnaire to: Santa Cruz County Personnel Department, 701 Ocean Street, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. For information, call (831) 454-2600. Hearing Impaired TDD/TTY: 711. Applications will meet the final filing date if received: 1) in the Personnel Department by 5:00 p.m. on the final filing date, 2) submitted online before midnight of the final filing date.

Women, people of color and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply. If you have a disability that requires test accommodation, please call (831) 454-2600.

To comply with the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act, Santa Cruz County verifies that all new employees are either U.S. citizens or persons authorized to work in the U.S.

Some positions may require fingerprinting and/or background investigation.

SOCIAL WORKER II – SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE

The supplemental questions are designed specifically for this recruitment. Applications received without the required supplemental information will be screened out of the selection process. Employment experiences referred to in your response must also be included in the Employment History section of the application.

NOTE: Please answer the question(s) below as completely and thoroughly as possible, as your answer(s) may be used to assess your qualifications for movement to the next step in the recruitment process.

1. Describe in detail your educational and work experience that qualifies you for this position. Highlight any work experience related to housing and health and/or other social services.
2. Describe your experience working with clients through challenging situations. Be specific about the situation(s), your role, and the outcome of your work together.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

ANNUAL LEAVE - 22 days first year, increasing to 37 days after 15 years of service. Available for vacation and/or sick leave.

HOLIDAYS - 14 paid holidays per year.

BEREAVEMENT LEAVE - 3 days paid in California, 5 days paid out-of-state.

MEDICAL PLAN - The County contracts with CalPERS for a variety of medical plans. For most plans, County contributions pay a majority of the premiums for employees and eligible dependents.

DENTAL PLAN - County pays for employee and eligible dependent coverage.

VISION PLAN - County pays for employee coverage. Employee may purchase eligible dependent coverage.

RETIREMENT - Pension formula 2% at age 60 or 2% at age 62 as determined based on provisions of the CA Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013(PEPRA). Pension benefit determined by final average compensation of three years. County participates in Social Security.

LIFE INSURANCE - County paid \$20,000 term policy. Employee may purchase additional life insurance.

DISABILITY INSURANCE - Employees in the General Representation Unit participate in the State Disability Insurance (SDI) program. This program is funded 100% by employee payroll deductions.

DEPENDENT-CARE PLAN - Employees who make contributions for child or dependent care may elect to have their contributions made utilizing "pre-tax dollars."

H-CARE PLAN - Employees who pay a County medical premium may elect this pre-tax program.

HEALTH CARE FLEXIBLE SPENDING ALLOWANCE (HCFSA) - Employees may elect this pre-tax program to cover qualifying health care expenses.

DEFERRED COMPENSATION - A deferred compensation plan is available to employees.

Note: Provisions of this bulletin do not constitute an expressed or implied contract.

County of Santa Cruz

www.santacruzcountyjobs.com

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