

County of Santa Cruz

Invites you to apply for:

CHIEF OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Supplemental Questionnaire Required

Open and Promotional

Salary: \$172,702 - 231,483 Annually

Closing Date: Friday, May 29, 2026

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www.santacruzcountyjobs.com

THE POSITION:

Under general direction, plan, organize and direct a broad range of local public health jurisdiction programs and services for Santa Cruz County; direct the enforcement of applicable State health laws and regulations; assist in program planning; and perform other duties as required.

The County of Santa Cruz is seeking a forward-thinking, collaborative, and visionary leader to serve as Chief of Public Health. This single position class reports to the Health Services Director, serves as the local Public Health Director, and is responsible for directing, through professional subordinate staff, a broad range of local public health programs such as Public Health Emergency Preparedness, , Community Health and Prevention, Communicable Disease Control, Child Health and Disability Prevention, California Children's Services, Field Public Health Nursing, Community Health Education, Oral Health, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Services, and HIV/AIDS Programs and Services.

IDEAL DANDIDATE:

- Serves as an advisor and internal consultant to staff and the public-on-public health matters.
- Works with a high degree of independence and requires professional, scientific knowledge of public health principles and practices, as well as administrative and management skills.
- Pursue and manage grant funding, drive innovation in programming, and build strong partnerships with community organizations and public agencies.
- Represent the department at local and state-level meetings, conferences, and advisory boards.
- Any combination of education and experience which would provide the required knowledge and
- Oversee the design and development of new public health programs which include ordinances, policies and procedures, staffing, education and outreach.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

<https://www2.santacruzcountyc.gov/personnel/Specs/PJ9spec.html>

This is an exceptional opportunity for a seasoned public health professional who is passionate about equitable practices, systems change, and impactful public service. The ideal candidate will bring a strategic results-oriented mindset, strong interpersonal skills, and a deep commitment to collaborative leadership.



SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:

Any combination of education and experience which would provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying, unless otherwise specified. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Five years of broad and extensive administrative experience and a masters degree in public health or a closely related field.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Possession of a valid California Class C Driver's License or the employee must be able to provide suitable transportation which is approved by the appointing authority. Background Investigation: Fingerprinting is required.

THE COMMUNITY:

Stunning Santa Cruz County has approximately 270,000 residents and is situated in the northern area of Monterey Bay, 70 miles south of San Francisco and 35 miles southwest of the Silicon Valley. The County's natural beauty is apparent in its pristine beaches, lush redwood forests, and rich farmland. The County enjoys an ideal Mediterranean climate with low humidity and approximately 300 days of sunshine a year. The area's unique shops and restaurants, coupled with a multitude of cultural and recreational activities, including theatre, music, art as well as golfing, surfing, hiking, and biking, offer a wealth of leisure activities. There are numerous local higher education institutions including Cabrillo College and the University of California, Santa Cruz, with two additional State Universities less than an hour away. These elements make Santa Cruz County a great place to **live, work, and play!**

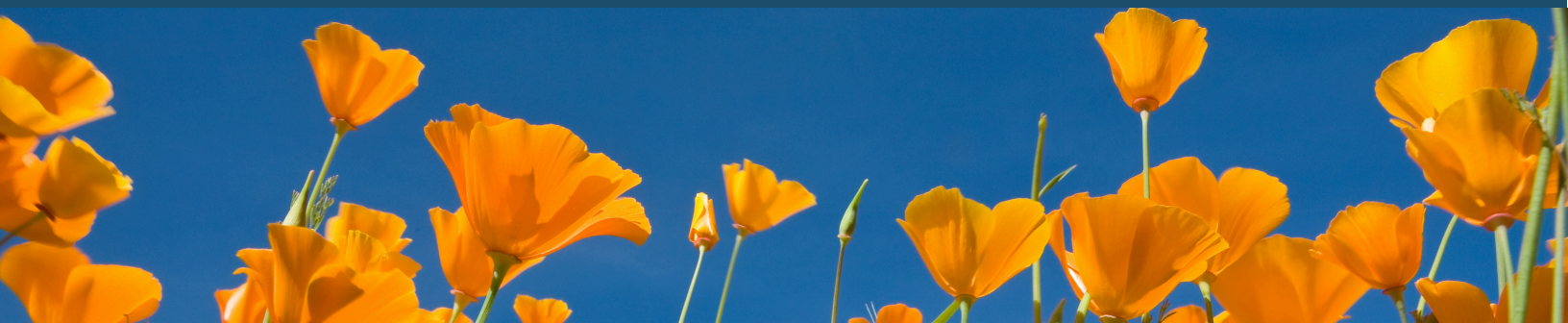
THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Apply online at www.santacruzcountyjobs.com or mail/bring an application and supplemental questionnaire to: Santa Cruz County Human Resources Department, 701 Ocean Street, Suite 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 Human Resources 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.





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.

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 your experience with administration, management and supervision of public health programs. Include the types of programs you have overseen and the populations you have worked with. Include how you have applied theoretical frameworks to your practice of administering these public health programs (examples may include: the 10 Essential Services of Public Health, Public Health 3.0, Socioeconomic framework, etc.)
2. Describe your experience working with various government agencies and/or local community organizations which required a high level of collaboration.



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

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| Application Deadline: | Friday, May 29, 2026 |
| Oral Board Examination (tentative date): | Week of June 15, 2026 |
| Interviews (tentative date) (in-person): | Week of July 6, 2026 |



HIGHLIGHTED BENEFIT OFFERINGS:

Medical, Dental, and Vision

Medical coverage is available through CALPERS with the County paying a majority portion of the cost for the employee and dependents. The cost of the dental plan is entirely County-paid for employees and dependents. The County pays for the cost of an employee vision plan and the employee may purchase dependent coverage.

Retirement and Social Security

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 AND LONG-TERM DISABILITY PLAN

County paid \$50,000 term life insurance policy. Employees may purchase additional life insurance. The County pays for a long term disability plan that pays 66 2/3% of the first \$13,500, up to \$9,000 per month maximum benefits.

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