



Health Services

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Health Services

*Providing Mental Health, Environmental Health, Public Conservator,
Public Health, and Substance Use Disorders Treatment Services*

Health Services – Recruitment Request

Health Services includes Behavioral Health, Public Health, Emergency Medical Services, Environmental Health, and the Public Conservator's Office. Behavioral Health, Public Health, and the Public Conservator's Office do not receive General Fund support beyond the Maintenance of Effort required by the State to access state and federal funding. Emergency Medical Services and Environmental Health receive General Fund support to sustain operations. Overall, Health Services is primarily funded through realignment, grants, permit fees, and state and federal revenue sources. The Department has also implemented a six percent budget reduction in each of the past two fiscal years, demonstrating its commitment to fiscal responsibility and efficiency.

Health Services requests Board authorization to fill 18 budgeted positions and to backfill any currently filled positions that become vacant, without requiring additional Board approval for each hire, provided the positions are fully funded in fiscal years 2025–2026 and 2026–2027. This authorization will streamline hiring, reduce administrative delays, and enable the Department to respond more efficiently to workforce needs while maintaining continuity of essential health services.

The current requirement to seek individual Board approval introduces both operational and fiscal risks. Operationally, vacancies can reduce service capacity, limit access to care, increase wait times, disrupt programs, and affect compliance with State and federal mandates. Fiscally, delayed hiring limits the Department's ability to fully utilize available funding and maximize reimbursement tied to service delivery, particularly for Medi-Cal, grants, and state and federally funded programs. Health Services depends on sufficient staffing to meet patient demand, maintain regulatory compliance, and ensure access to care for vulnerable populations. Failure to meet these requirements may result in financial penalties, sanctions, or loss of funding.

Providing Health Services with the authority to fill the 18 budgeted positions and backfill vacancies will improve operational efficiency, protect critical revenue streams, and support workforce stability, particularly for vulnerable populations who rely on timely access to care and services. This streamlined approach reduces administrative burden, ensures compliance with funding and regulatory requirements, and enables the Department to deliver consistent, high-quality services while remaining responsive to the community's health needs.

Staffing Overview

- FY 24/25 Budgeted Positions: 167
- FY 25/26 Budgeted Positions: 141

Staffing Cost Reduction:

- \$1,496,212 decreased from FY 24/25 to FY 25/26

FY 25/26 1000 Series Projected Savings

- 17% with all Health Services Budgets Combined