

STAFF ACCOUNTANT**DEFINITION**

Under general direction of the District Director, performs District payroll processing, CalPERS reporting, and administers weekly accounts payable duties. Performs a wide variety of complex analytical and administrative tasks; ensures compliance with relevant laws, standards, and District rules and regulations; provides support to the District Director in areas of expertise; and performs related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general direction from the District Director.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This is a fully qualified journey-level classification responsible for independently performing professional duties for the District's budgeting, financial, and accounting functions as well as administration of payroll. Positions at this level exercise judgment and initiative in their assigned tasks, receive only occasional instruction or assistance as new or unusual situations arise and are fully aware of the operating procedures and policies of the work unit.

EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL JOB FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only)

Management reserves the right to add, modify, change, or rescind the work assignments of different positions and to make reasonable accommodations so qualified employees can perform the essential functions of the job.

- Administers District payroll, which includes input and submission of payroll data into database, and disbursing paychecks. May record payroll entries into District's accounting system.
- Handles the collection and disbursement of revenues, petty cash and cash related transactions, refunds, bank deposits, bank transfers, and receipts; reviews, verifies, and processes District expenditures, including invoices, credit card bills, and procurement documents; prepares, processes, prints, and forwards payments to vendors; researches and resolves vendor billing issues and payment discrepancies.
- Performs a variety of tasks for the District's accounting programs including accounts payable, accounts receivable, grant funding, compliance, and reporting, and general accounting; may originate and record journal entries; maintains general ledger; maintains a variety of financial schedules, records, and files; prepares supporting documentation and assists with independent annual audits.
- Alerts the District Director of any potential fiscal problem areas.
- Performs administration of employee benefit programs, including insurance, paid leave, retirement, open enrollments, Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) requests, and deferred compensation programs; communicates with benefit brokers regarding benefit products and insurance premiums;

Processes payments for insurance, retirement, and deferred compensation benefits.

- Greets and assists internal and external customers in a friendly, prompt, and accessible manner; creates positive experiences for library patrons by effectively and efficiently performing job tasks; presents a positive image of the library in attitude, communications, and appearance while performing duties in both public and staff areas.
- Interprets complex rules, regulations, contracts, policies, and procedures; applies such interpretation in the performance of assigned responsibilities.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Modern principles, practices, and methods of public and governmental accounting and financing, including budgeting, general accounting, auditing, financial reporting, and their application to District operations.
- Principles, practices, and procedures for processing payroll and purchasing functions.
- Applicable Federal, State, and local laws, regulatory codes, ordinances, and procedures relevant to assigned areas of responsibility.
- Complex mathematical and statistical techniques.
- Principles and practices of research, analysis, reporting methods, and data collection.
- Effective practices in evaluation and outcomes measurement.
- Principles and procedures of record keeping, document processing, and filing systems.
- District and mandated safety rules, regulations, and protocols.
- Techniques for providing a high level of customer service by effectively dealing with the public, vendors, contractors, and District staff.
- The structure and content of the English language, including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- Modern equipment and communication tools used for business functions and program, project, and task coordination, including computers and software programs relevant to work performed (ex: Quickbooks).

Ability to:

- Perform a variety of professional finance, accounting, and payroll duties such as reviewing, analyzing, recording, and documenting a diverse range of financial transactions and verifying the accuracy of financial data.
- Maintain confidentiality of sensitive personal information of current and former employees and other matters affecting District financial and human resources administration.
- Prepare clear, complete, and concise statements and reports.
- Understand and analyze accounting, budgeting, and financial statements and reports.
- Prepare, review, and examine budget documents and reports; audit, reconcile, and balance bank statements.
- Analyze, post, balance, and reconcile financial ledgers, reports, and accounts; ensure proper authorization and documentation for disbursements and other financial transactions.
- Commit to the principles of intellectual freedom and equal access.
- Make accurate arithmetic, financial, and statistical computations.
- Understand, interpret, and apply all pertinent laws, codes, regulations, policies and procedures, and standards relevant to work performed.
- Use tact, initiative, prudence, and independent judgment within general policy, procedural, and legal guidelines.
- Establish and maintain a variety of filing, record keeping, and tracking systems.

- Organize and prioritize a variety of projects and multiple tasks in an effective and timely manner; organize own work, set priorities, and meet critical time deadlines.
- Effectively use computer systems, software applications relevant to work performed, and modern business equipment to perform a variety of work tasks.
- Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing, using appropriate English grammar and syntax.
- Establish, maintain, and foster positive and effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Education and Experience:

Any combination of training and experience that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required qualifications would be:

Education:

- Equivalent to a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major coursework in business administration, public administration, accounting, finance, or a related field.

Experience:

- One (1) year of professional experience in finance administration, accounting, or a related field.

Licenses and Certifications:

- None.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Must possess mobility to work in a standard office setting and use standard office equipment, including a computer; vision to read printed materials and a computer screen; and hearing and speech to communicate in person and over the telephone. This is primarily a sedentary office classification although standing in work areas and walking between work areas may be required. Finger dexterity is needed to access, enter, and retrieve data using a computer keyboard or calculator and to operate standard office equipment. Positions in this classification occasionally bend, stoop, kneel, reach, push, and pull drawers open and closed to retrieve and file information. Employees must possess the ability to lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects up to 25 pounds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Employees work in an office environment with moderate noise levels, controlled temperature conditions, and no direct exposure to hazardous physical substances. Employees may encounter challenging interpersonal situations in the course of their work.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Occasional evening and weekend work may be required as job duties demand.