CALIFORNIA
HEALTHCARE JOBS:

Working for Tomorrow

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Anna M. Caballero, Secretary, State and Consumer Services Agency

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R. A. SMITH, MD

Licensing overview

In 2014, when it is fully implemented, the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is expected to bring a huge part of California's 8 2 million uninsured people into the state's healthcare delivery system

Who will take care of them?

Experts predict California's healthcare workforce will have to increase by 25 percent to meet the need That means more doctors, but more of other healthcare professionals, too The need for additional workers will represent a wealth of job opportunities for Californians Opportunities will exist for positions requiring advanced degrees (doctors, dentists, and optometrists), community college degrees (such as respiratory care practitioners), or just high school diplomas (such as pharmacy technicians or dental assistants)

Healthcare workers who represent cultural and ethnic groups will be especially needed because many of the newly insured are likely to be in traditionally underserved groups, including residents of rural communities

If you're interested in a career in a healthcare field, you need to know what it takes This booklet highlights the 32 types of healing arts professionals, from doctors and nurses to hearing aid dispensers, psychologists, and more licensed by the California Department of Consumer Affairs Web sites for each are included with the description Tables at the back of the booklet list education and licensing requirements for each

All healthcare professionals licensed by the California Department of Consumer Affairs must meet minimum standards for education, training, and experience In addition, they must pass appropriate professional exams and criminal background checks In all, more than 900,000 healthcare professionals are licensed by the Department—with more to come!

Licensed healthcare professionals

Acupuncturists

Acupuncturists treat health conditions by stimulating "acu-points" on the body. Acupuncturists do this by inserting very thin needles through the skin, or by using heat or finger pressure. Acupuncture Board of California, **www.acupuncture.ca.gov**, 916.445.3021.

Audiologists

Audiologists evaluate, diagnose, treat, and manage hearing loss and balance disorders in adults and children. An audiologist must hold a doctoral degree in audiology or a related field. Some audiologists also fit and sell hearing aids. Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board, **www.speechandhearing.ca.gov**, 916.263.2666.

Chiropractors

Chiropractors diagnose and treat patients with problems of the musculoskeletal system and treat the effects of those problems on the nervous system and on general health. Many chiropractic treatments deal specifically with the spine and the manipulation of the spine. Board of Chiropractic Examiners, **www.chiro.ca.gov**, 916.263.5355.

NOTE: The Board of Chiropractic Examiners is not an entity of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Clinical social workers

Licensed clinical social workers (LCSWs) are employed in health facilities, private practice, and child welfare agencies They use counseling and psychotherapeutic techniques to assist individuals, couples, families, and groups LCSWs often refer clients to specific resources to improve their quality of life Board of Behavioral Sciences, **www.bbs.ca.gov**, 916 574 7830

Contact/spectacle lens dispensers

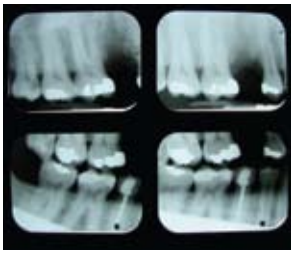
A contact lens dispenser is authorized to fit and adjust contact lenses A spectacle lens dispenser is authorized to fit and adjust eyeglasses Both must by registered by the Medical Board of California A technician who fits or adjusts contacts or glasses under the supervision of a physician or optometrist does not need to be registered Medical Board of California, **www.mbc.ca.gov**, 800 633 2322

Dental assistants

This classification includes unlicensed dental assistants, registered dental assistants, and orthodontic assistants All of them perform basic supportive dental procedures under the supervision of a licensed dentist Dental Board of California, **www.dbc.ca.gov**, 877 729 7789, 916 263 2300

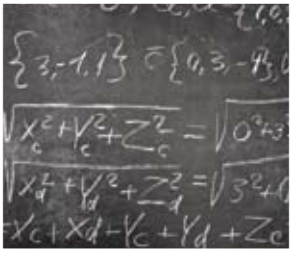
Dental hygienists

Dental hygienists clean teeth and provide preventive dental care, as well as teach patients how to practice good oral hygiene Dental Hygiene Committee of California, **www.dhcc.ca.gov**, 916 263 1978



Dentists

Dentists diagnose and treat diseases, injuries, and malformations of the teeth, jaw, and mouth Dentists can specialize in orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, or periodontics Dentists who hold an “elective facial cosmetic surgery” permit may perform certain facial cosmetic surgery procedures Dental Board of California, **www.dbc.ca.gov**, 877 729 7789, 916 263 2300



Educational psychologists

Educational psychologists work in schools or in private practice and provide educational counseling services such as aptitude and achievement testing or psychological testing Educational psychologists cannot do psychological testing or counseling that is unrelated to academic learning processes in the education system and cannot prescribe drugs Board of Behavioral Sciences, **www.bbs.ca.gov**, 916 574 7830

Hearing aid dispensers

Hearing aid dispensers fit or sell hearing aids Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board, **www.speechandhearing.ca.gov**, 916 263 2666

Marriage and family therapists

Marriage and family therapists are employed in clinics, counseling centers, and private practice They use counseling or psychotherapeutic techniques to assist individuals, couples, families, and groups with a focus on marriage, family, and relationship issues Board of Behavioral Sciences, **www.bbs.ca.gov**, 916 574 7830

Midwives

A midwife licensed by the Medical Board of California is authorized to attend cases of normal childbirth and provide prenatal and postpartum care under the supervision of a licensed physician Certified nurse midwives, who are licensed by the Board of Registered Nursing, perform similar duties Medical Board of California, **www.mbc.ca.gov**, 800 633 2322, 916 263 2393; Board of Registered Nursing, **www.rn.ca.gov**, 916 322 3350

Naturopathic doctors

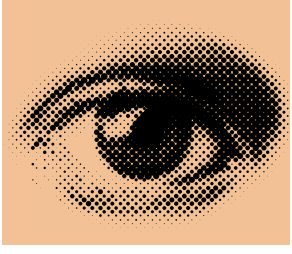
Naturopathic doctors are primary care providers who diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions They use herbs, supplements, vitamins, homeopathic, nutritional counseling, some prescription medicines, and other treatments to help the body heal itself Naturopathic Medicine Committee, **www.naturopathic.ca.gov**, 916 928 4785

Nurse practitioners

Nurse practitioners are registered nurses who have additional education and training in physical diagnosis, psychosocial assessment, and management of health or illness needs. They help manage acute and chronic conditions, furnish medications, and educate and counsel patients on healthcare matters. Board of Registered Nursing, **www.rn.ca.gov**, 916.322.3350.

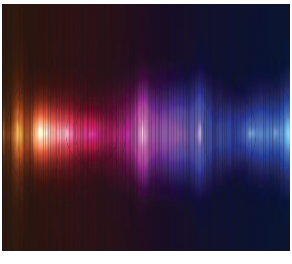
Occupational therapists

Occupational therapists use physical exercises and activities with children and adults to help them live better with illness, injury, or disability. Occupational therapy can also include recommendations for adaptive equipment and training on its use. Board of Occupational Therapy, **www.bot.ca.gov**, 916.263.2294.



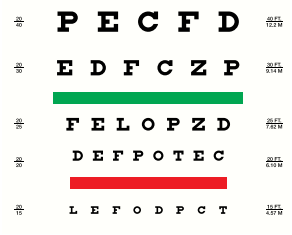
Ophthalmologists

Ophthalmologists are eye surgeons who perform surgeries for problems caused by diseases such as cataracts, glaucoma, and macular degeneration. They can also treat eye diseases and prescribe corrective lenses. Medical Board of California, **www.mbc.ca.gov**, 800.633.2322.



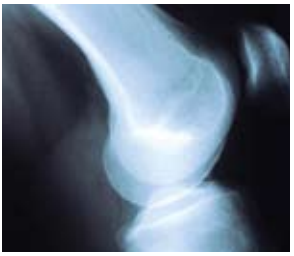
Opticians

Registered dispensing opticians fill prescriptions for eyeglasses and contact lenses. Opticians cannot prescribe corrective lenses. Medical Board of California, **www.mbc.ca.gov**, 800.633.2322, 916.263.2341.



Optometrists

Optometrists conduct examinations to determine the overall health of the eyes. Optometrists screen for diseases such as glaucoma, cataracts, macular degeneration, hypertensive retinopathy, and diabetic retinopathy. They also prescribe corrective lenses (glasses and contact lenses) when needed. Board of Optometry, **www.optometry.ca.gov**, 916.575.7170, 866.585.2666.



Osteopathic physicians

Osteopathic doctors are trained and licensed to prescribe medicine and perform surgery, similar to medical doctors An osteopathic doctor puts special emphasis on the role of the bones, muscles, and joints in the healthy functioning of the body Osteopathic Medical Board of California, **www.ombc.ca.gov**, 916 928 8390

Pharmacists

Pharmacists dispense prescribed drugs to individuals They also advise patients and healthcare professionals on the selection, dosages, interactions, and side effects of medications California State Board of Pharmacy, **www.pharmacy.ca.gov**, 916 574 7900

Pharmacy technicians

Pharmacy technicians provide administrative or technical support and customer service They work under the supervision of pharmacists California State Board of Pharmacy, **www.pharmacy.ca.gov**, 916 574 7900

Physical therapists

Physical therapists administer treatments to relieve pain, improve movement, maintain cardiopulmonary function, and limit disabilities Physical Therapy Board of California, **www.ptbc.ca.gov**, 916 561 8200

Physicians and surgeons

Physicians and surgeons are medical doctors who practice in a wide variety of specialties Medical Board of California, **www.mbc.ca.gov**, 800 633 2322

Physician assistants

Physician assistants provide comprehensive medical services as a team with their supervising physician Physician Assistant Committee, **www.pac.ca.gov**, 916 561 8780

Podiatric medical doctors

Doctors of podiatric medicine (DPMs) are trained to diagnose and treat conditions affecting the foot, ankle, and related structures of the leg by all available means California Board of Podiatric Medicine, **www.bpm.ca.gov**, 916 263 2647

Psychiatric technicians

Psychiatric technicians practice under a physician, psychologist, registered nurse, social worker, or other related professional They work at State hospitals, day treatment centers, and residential care facilities Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, **www.bvnpt.ca.gov**, 916 263 7800

Psychiatrists

Psychiatrists are physicians who specialize in prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental disorders and are authorized to prescribe medication They work in private practice, hospitals, and clinics Medical Board of California, **www.mbc.ca.gov**, 800 633 2322

Psychologists

Psychologists provide mental health care in hospitals, clinics, counseling centers, or private practice Their practice includes the diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders A psychologist has a doctoral degree in psychology, but is not a physician Board of Psychology, **www.psychboard.ca.gov**, 866 503 3221, 916 263 2699

Registered nurses

Registered nurses (RNs) provide care that ensures patient safety, comfort, personal hygiene, protection, and disease prevention RNs also administer medications prescribed by a physician, dentist, or other authorized healthcare provider Board of Registered Nursing, **www.rn.ca.gov**, 916 322 3350

Respiratory therapists

Respiratory therapists treat lung and breathing disorders They consult with physicians, analyze tissue and blood samples, and manage artificial breathing devices for patients who cannot breathe on their own They are specialists in airway management, mechanical ventilation, and acid-base balance They also conduct asthma education and smoking cessation programs Respiratory Care Board of California, **www.rcb.ca.gov**, 866 375 0386, 916 323 9983

Speech-language pathologists

Speech-language pathologists screen, assess, and treat adults and children who have speech, language, or swallowing disorders Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board, **www.speechandhearing.ca.gov**, 916 263 2666

Vocational nurses

Licensed vocational nurses provide patient care under the supervision of a physician and surgeon or registered nurse Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, **www.bvnpt.ca.gov**, 916 263 7800

Quick guide to healthcare licensing entities

Acupuncturists
Acupuncture Board of California
www acupuncture ca gov
916 445 3021

Audiologists
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board
www speechandhearing ca gov
916 263 2666

Chiropractors
Board of Chiropractic Examiners
www chiro ca gov
916 263 5355

Clinical social workers
Board of Behavioral Sciences
www bbs ca gov
916 574 7830

Contact/spectacle lens dispensers
Medical Board of California
www mbc ca gov
800 633 2322

Dental assistants
Dental Board of California
www dbc ca gov
877 729 7789

Dental hygienists
Dental Hygiene Committee of California
www dhcc ca gov
916 263 1978

Dentists
Dental Board of California
www dbc ca gov
877 729 7789

Educational psychologists
Board of Behavioral Sciences
www bbs ca gov
916 574 7830

Hearing aid dispensers
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board
www speechandhearing ca gov
916 263 2666

Marriage and family therapists
Board of Behavioral Sciences
www bbs ca gov
916 574 7830

Midwives
Medical Board of California
www mbc ca gov
800 633 2322
Board of Registered Nursing
www rn ca gov
916 322 3350

Naturopathic doctors
Naturopathic Medicine Committee
www naturopathic ca gov
916 928 4785

Nurse practitioners
Board of Registered Nursing
www rn ca gov
916 322 3350

Occupational therapists
Board of Occupational Therapy
www bot ca gov
916 263 2294

Ophthalmologists
Medical Board of California
www mbc ca gov
800 633 2322

Opticians
Medical Board of California
www mbc ca gov
800 633 2322

Optometrists
Board of Optometry
www optometry ca gov
916 575 7170 / 866 585 2666

Osteopathic physicians
Osteopathic Medical Board of California
www ombc ca gov
916 928 8390

Pharmacists
California State Board of Pharmacy
www pharmacy ca gov
916 574 7900

Pharmacy technicians
California State Board of Pharmacy
www pharmacy ca gov
916 574 7900

Physical therapists
Physical Therapy Board of California
www ptbc ca gov
916 561 8200

Physicians and surgeons
Medical Board of California
www mbc ca gov
800 633 2322

Physician assistants
Physician Assistant Committee
www pac ca gov
916 561 8780

Podiatric medical doctors
California Board of Podiatric Medicine
www bpm ca gov
916 263 2647

Psychiatric technicians
Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
www bvnpt ca gov
916 263 7800

Psychiatrists
Medical Board of California
www mbc ca gov
800 633 2322

Psychologists
Board of Psychology
www psychboard ca gov
866 503 3221 / 916 263 2699

Registered nurses
Board of Registered Nursing
www rn ca gov
916 322 3350

Respiratory therapists
Respiratory Care Board of California
www rcb ca gov
866 375 0386 / 916 323 9983

Speech language pathologists
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board
www speechandhearing ca gov
916 263 2666

Vocational nurses
Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
www bvnpt ca gov
916 263 7800

Health Jobs Start Here

Health Jobs Start Here is a Web site that can help your explore, identify, or prepare for a career in healthcare From local postings, to training programs, to advice on how to find financial aid, Health Jobs Start Here will introduce you to good healthcare jobs in California and help you figure out which ones could be the right fit for you The Web site is funded by a grant from the California Wellness Foundation

Financial aid is widely available, and some employers will pay some or all of the costs of the training you need to move up in the field and build a career (Don't forget to ask about loan forgiveness !)

With dozens of different jobs in healthcare to choose from, you can find a good match for your interests—whether you thrive in a fast-paced team environment (think of an operating room or ambulance) or prefer a 9-5 office job (try health administration or medical assisting) An online quiz helps identify your interests and starts with the basics: How do you feel about blood and needles?

On the Web site, you can also check out the "day in the life" stories to hear what health workers find rewarding and challenging about their jobs Look for jobs that sound interesting And then let us help you find training programs or job opportunities near you, because demand for health workers in California is booming And Health Jobs Start Here

www.HealthJobsStartHere.com

Other resources

California Career Zone is an online program to help you explore jobs and occupations and the career paths to those jobs Look under the categories of "healthcare practitioner" and "healthcare support occupations " The Web site is funded by the grant from the California Department of Education

www.cacareerzone.org

The California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development has information on its Web site about health education programs, including scholarship information, job placement details, and more An online search tool can help you find an appropriate educational institution near you

www.oshpd.ca.gov/HWDD/HCTP.html

The California Department of Public Health has information on the education, training, licensing, and certification requirements for becoming a healthcare professional in California The Web site covers nurse aide, home health aide, nuclear medicine technologist, X-ray technologist, hemodialysis technician, and more

www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/occupations/Pages/default.aspx

The Health Professions Education Foundation offers scholarships and loan repayments to students or current health professionals who agree to practice in medically underserved areas of California Obligations are typically one to four years and vary by program Eligible professions include nursing, mental health, medical, dental, and allied healthcare

www.oshpd.ca.gov/HPEF/index.html

Important

Approved schools

When considering an educational institution for your healthcare training, be aware that public and private schools may need to be approved by the agency that licenses the profession For example, schools providing registered nursing training in California must be approved by the Board of Registered Nursing Check with the appropriate licensing entity to be sure Training from an unapproved school will not count toward meeting license requirements

Licensing Requirements for California Healing Arts Professions

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Acupuncture Board			
Acupuncturist www.acupuncture.ca.gov/students/exam_require.shtml	Master's degree granted after completion of a minimum of 3,000 hours of training in a State-approved program or completion of a minimum of 3,798 hours of training through a Board-approved tutorial program.	Clinical work in training programs.	California Acupuncture Licensing Examination
Board of Behavioral Sciences			
Licensed Clinical Social Worker www.bbs.ca.gov/app-reg/lcs_requirement.shtml	Master's or Ph.D. in social work from an accredited school; 57 additional hours of specific coursework.	3,200 hours of supervised work experience within at least two years. All required supervised experience gained in California must be accrued while registered with the Board as an Associate Clinical Social Worker.	LCSW Standard Written Examination and LCSW Written Clinical Vignette Examination
Associate Clinical Social Worker (Registration)	Master's or Ph.D. in social work from an accredited school.	None	None
Licensed Educational Psychologist (LEP) www.bbs.ca.gov/app-reg/lep.shtml	Master's or higher in psychology or counseling (or equivalent) from an accredited school.	Two years of full-time experience as a school psychologist and one year of supervised experience in an accredited school psychology program or one year of supervised experienced as a school psychologist.	Licensed Educational Psychologist Examination

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor www.bbs.ca.gov/lpcc_program/index.shtml	Master's or Ph.D. in counseling or psychotherapy.	3,200 hours of supervised work experience within at least two years. All required supervised experience gained in California must be accrued while registered with the Board as a Professional Clinical Counselor Intern.	Examinations to be determined.
Professional Clinical Counselor Intern	Master's or Ph.D. in counseling or psychotherapy.	None	None
Marriage and Family Therapist www.bbs.ca.gov/app-reg/mft_requirement.shtml	Master's or Ph.D. in relevant field; 63 additional hours of specific coursework.	3,200 hours of supervised work experience within two years. All required supervised experience gained in California must be accrued while registered with the Board as a Marriage and Family Therapist Intern.	MFT Standard Written Examination and MFT Written Clinical Vignette Examination.
Marriage and Family Therapist Intern (Registration)	Master's or Ph.D. in relevant field; 63 additional hours of specific coursework.	None	None
Dental Board			
Doctor of Dental Science or Doctor of Dental Medicine (Dentist) www.dbc.ca.gov/applicants/dds/become_licensed.shtml	Graduation from an approved dental school.	Clinical work in training programs.	California Dental Licensure Examination or Western Regional Examining Board Examination

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Registered Dental Assistant www.dbc.ca.gov/applicants/rda/becomelicensed_rda.shtml	Graduation from an approved RDA educational program or 15 hours of paid work experience as a dental assistant to a licensed dentist or completion of the California Department of Education four-month educational program plus 11 months of work experience with a licensed dentist.		Registered Dental Assistant Examination (Practical and Written)
Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions www.dbc.ca.gov/applicants/rda/becomelicensed_rdaef.shtml	Current RDA License and completion of an approved educational program.		Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Examination (Written)
Dental Hygiene Committee			
Registered Dental Hygienist www.dhcc.ca.gov/applicants/becomelicensed.shtml	Graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program; certificates of completion for Board-approved courses in local anesthesia, nitrous oxide, and soft tissue curettage.		California Registered Dental Hygienist Examination (Clinical)* or Western Regional Examination Board (Clinical)* and National Board Dental Hygiene Exam (Written) and California Law and Ethics Examination (Written)* *Not required for Licensure by Credential applicants.
Registered Dental Hygienist in Extended Functions	Current California RDH license and completion of an approved extended functions training program (90 hours minimum).		Extended Functions Clinical and Practical Examination and California Law and Ethics Examination
Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice www.dhcc.ca.gov/applicants/becomelicensed_rdhap_appinst.shtml	Bachelor's degree or equivalent; 150 hours of an approved educational program.	Must have current RDH license; have engaged in clinical practice for a minimum of 2,000 hours during the previous 36 months.	Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice Law and Ethics Examination (Written)

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Medical Board			
Physician and Surgeon (U.S. or Canadian Medical School) www.mbc.ca.gov/applicant/additional_info.html	Doctor of medicine degree from a Liaison Committee on Medical Education accredited medical school.	One continuous year in a single program of postgraduate training accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.	United States Medical Licensing Examination steps 1, 2(CK), 2(CS), and 3.
Physician and Surgeon (International Medical School) www.mbc.ca.gov/applicant/additional_info.html	Doctor of medicine degree from a medical school that is recognized or approved by the Medical Board of California.	One continuous year in a single program of accredited postgraduate training accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and an additional year of accredited postgraduate training.	United States Medical Licensing Examination steps 1 and 2(CK), and 3. A valid Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates Certification.
Licensed Midwife www.mbc.ca.gov/allied/midwives.html	Completion of a three-year postsecondary education program in an approved midwifery school or successful completion of the challenge process by Maternidad La Luz in El Paso, TX, or the National Midwifery Institute, Inc. in Bristol, VT.	The minimum number of clinical experiences are: » 20 new antepartum visits » 75 return antepartum visits » 20 labor management experiences » 20 deliveries » 40 postpartum visits, within the first five days after birth » 20 newborn assessments » 40 postpartum/family planning/gynecology visits	North American Registry of Midwives comprehensive examination

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Registered Contact Lens Dispenser www.mbc.ca.gov/allied/rdo_program.html	High school or equivalent	None	National Contact Lens Examiners
Registered Spectacle Lens Dispenser www.mbc.ca.gov/allied/rdo_program.html	High school or equivalent	None	American Board of Opticianry
Naturopathic Medicine Committee			
Naturopathic Doctor www.naturopathic.ca.gov/licensees/applicants/applicants_faq	Doctorate of naturopathic medicine from an approved naturopathic medical school.	Clinical work required in training programs.	Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination, Parts 1 and 2
Board of Occupational Therapy			
Occupational Therapist	Graduation from an approved post-baccalaureate occupational therapy program.	Passing the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy exam and employment as an occupational therapist within the last five years or completion of 40 hours of professional development units within the past two years.	Occupational Therapist Registered Certification Examination

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Occupational Therapy Assistant (Certificate)	Associate or technical degree from an approved occupational therapy education program.	Passing the National Board for Certification in Occupation Therapy exam and employment as an occupational therapy assistant within the last five years or completion of 40 hours of professional development units within the past two years.	Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant Examination
Board of Optometry			
Optometrist www.optometry.ca.gov/formspubs/instr_optapp.pdf	Doctor of optometry degree from an accredited school.	Clinical work in training programs.	National Board of Examiners in Optometry examination and California Laws and Regulations Examination
Osteopathic Medical Board			
Osteopathic Physician and Surgeon www.ombc.ca.gov/forms_pubs/application_pkg.pdf	Doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from an accredited osteopathic medical school; 12 months postgraduate training.	Clinical work in training programs.	Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination, levels I-III (Other equivalent examinations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.)
Board of Pharmacy			
Pharmacist www.pharmacy.ca.gov/forms/rph_app_pkt2.pdf	Bachelor's degree or doctor of pharmacy degree in pharmacy from an accredited program.	1,500 intern experience hours or verified licensure as a pharmacist in another state for at least one year.	North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination and the California Practice Standards and Jurisprudence Examination for Pharmacists

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Registered Pharmacy Technician www.pharmacy.ca.gov/applicants/apply_for_a_license.shtml#faq_tech	Associate degree in pharmacy technology from an approved program or certification by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board or certification by a branch of the Federal armed services via DD214 or completion of training specified by the Board (last three options require a high school diploma/GED) or graduation from a school of pharmacy recognized by the Board.	None	None
Designated Representative for Wholesaler (Certification) or Veterinary Food-Animal Drug Retailer www.pharmacy.ca.gov/forms/desig_rep.pdf	High school graduate or GED	One year of paid work experience n the past three years, related to the distribution or dispensing of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices or meet all of the prerequisites to take the examination required for licensure as a pharmacist and complete a prescribed training program.	None
Physical Therapy Board			
Physical Therapist www.ptbc.ca.gov/applicants/pt_apps.shtml	Graduation from an accredited physical therapy program (bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree).	Clinical work required in training programs.	National Physical Therapy Examination AND the California Law Examination
Physical Therapy Assistant www.ptbc.ca.gov/applicants/pta_apps.shtml	Graduation from an accredited physical therapy assistant program (associate's degree).	Clinical work required in training programs.	National Physical Therapy Examination–Assistant AND the California Law Examination

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Kinesiological Electromyographer (certificate) www.ptbc.ca.gov/forms_pubs/139963_kemg.pdf	Licensure by the Physical Therapy Board AND prescribed training in kinesiological electromyography.	Clinical work required in training programs.	Kinesiological Electromyographer Examination
Electroneuromyographer (certificate) www.ptbc.ca.gov/forms_pubs/139964_enmg.pdf	Licensure by the Physical Therapy AND prescribed training in electroneuromyography.	Clinical work required in training programs.	Electroneuromyographer Examination
Physician Assistant Committee			
Physician Assistant www.pac.ca.gov/applicants/applicant_faqs.shtml	Completion of an approved physician assistant training program (many PA programs require a two or four-year academic degree for admission.)	Clinical work required in training programs.	Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination
Board of Podiatric Medicine			
Doctor of Podiatric Medicine www.bpm.ca.gov/licensing/app_summary.pdf	Graduation from an approved school of podiatric medicine AND two years of postgraduate podiatric medical and surgical training.	Clinical work required in training programs.	National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners, Parts I-III
Board of Psychology			
Psychologist www.psychboard.ca.gov/applicants/license.shtml	Doctorate degree in psychology, educational psychology, or education with the field of specialization in counseling psychology or educational psychology from an accredited or approved educational institution.	Two years (3,000 hours) of supervised professional experience.	Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology AND the California Psychology Supplemental Examination

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Registered Psychologist www.psychboard.ca.gov/licensee/regpsych.shtml	Doctorate degree in psychology, educational psychology, or education with the field of specialization in counseling psychology or educational psychology from an accredited or approved educational institution.	One year (1,500 hours) of supervised professional experience.	None
Registered Psychological Assistant www.psychboard.ca.gov/licensee/psychassis-inst.shtml	Masters degree in psychology or education with the field of specialization in psychology or counseling psychology.	None	None
Board of Registered Nursing			
Registered Nurse www.rn.ca.gov/careers/steps.shtml	Associate's, bachelor's, or master's degree in nursing. There are also special provisions for LVNs wishing to become registered nurses.	Clinical work required in educational programs.	National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX)
Clinical Nurse Specialist Certificate www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/applicants/cns-app.pdf	California RN license AND completion of a master's degree program in a clinical field of nursing or a clinical field related to nursing OR certification by a national organization/association whose requirements are equivalent to those in California Business & Professions Code Section 2838.2.	Clinical work required in educational programs.	None
Nurse Anesthetist Certificate www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/applicants/na-app.pdf	California RN license AND completion of a nurse anesthesia academic program approved by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs AND current certification by the National Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists.	Clinical work required in educational programs.	None

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Nurse-Midwife Certificate www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/applicants/nmw-app.pdf	California RN license AND completion of an approved nurse-midwifery program OR of a non-approved program with remediation as necessary OR certification by a state or national organization/association whose standards are equivalent to those set forth in the California Code of Regulations Section 1462.	Clinical work required in educational programs.	None
Nurse Practitioner Certificate www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/applicants/np-app.pdf	California RN license AND completion of an approved nurse practitioner program OR completion of a non-approved program with remediation as necessary and verification of clinical competence OR certification by a national organization/association whose standards are equivalent to those set forth in the California Code of Regulations Section 1484.	Clinical work required in educational programs.	None
Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Certificate www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/applicants/pmh-app.pdf	California RN license AND a master's degree in psychiatric/mental health nursing AND two years of supervised clinical experience in providing psychiatric/mental health counseling services OR certification by a national organization/association as a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric/mental health nursing.	Two years of supervised clinical experience in providing psychiatric/mental health counseling services.	None

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Public Health Nurse Certificate www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/applicants/phn-app.pdf	California RN license AND completion of a bachelor's degree in nursing that included course work in public health nursing and a supervised practicum OR completion of a non-approved bachelor's degree program and remediation as necessary OR completion of a bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing and completion of a specialized pubic health nursing program that includes a supervised practicum.	Clinical work required in educational programs.	None
Respiratory Care Board			
Respiratory Care Practitioner www.rcb.ca.gov/applicants/requirements.shtml	Associate's degree from an accredited respiratory care program.	Clinical work required in training programs.	Certified Respiratory Therapist Examination
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board			
Speech-Language Pathologist www.slpab.ca.gov/applicants/licensing.shtml	Master's degree or equivalent in speech-language pathology or audiology from an approved program.	300 hours of supervised clinical practice AND either 36 weeks of full-time supervised experience OR 72 weeks of part-time supervised experience.	National Examination in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology
Audiologist www.slpab.ca.gov/applicants/licensing.shtml	Doctorate degree or equivalent in speech-language pathology or audiology from an approved program (see Web site for "grandfathering" qualifications.)	300 hours of supervised clinical practice AND either 36 weeks of ful-time supervised experience OR 72 weeks of part-time supervised experience.	National Examination in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology

License/Registration/Certificate	Minimum Education	Minimum Experience	Exam
Registered Speech-Language Pathology Assistant www.slpab.ca.gov/licensees/slpa_faq.pdf	Associate's degree in communication disorders from an approved program.	Clinical work required in training programs.	None
Speech-language Pathology or Audiology Aide	Completion of a training program established by his/her supervising speech-language pathologist or audiologist and preapproved approved by the board.	None	None
Hearing Aid Dispenser www.dca.ca.gov/hearingaid/applicants/genlic.shtml	High school diploma/GED	None	Hearing Aid Dispenser
Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians			
Vocational Nurse www.bvnpt.ca.gov/licensing/licensed_vocational_nurses.shtml	Graduation from a California or out-of-state Accredited Vocational Nursing Program OR equivalent education and experience. For more detailed requirements to become a Vocational Nurse, click on the link below: www.bvnpt.ca.gov/summary_vn.shtml	For detailed requirements: www.bvnpt.ca.gov/summary_vn.shtml	National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses
Psychiatric Technician www.bvnpt.ca.gov/licensing/psychiatric_technician.shtml	Graduation from a California Accredited Psychiatric Technician program OR equivalent education and experience. For more detailed requirements to become a Psychiatric Technician, click on the link below: www.bvnpt.ca.gov/summary_pt.shtml	For detailed requirements: www.bvnpt.ca.gov/summary_vn.shtml	California Psychiatric Technician Licensure Exam

Minimum Education Levels Required for California Healing Arts Professions

	High school diploma	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Ph.D. or medical degree	Additional work experience and/or training
Acupuncture						
Acupuncturist				x		
Behavioral Sciences						
Clinical Social Worker, Licensed				x		x
Clinical Social Worker, Associate				x		
Education Psychologist, Licensed				x		x
Marriage and Family Therapist				x		x
Marriage and Family Therapy Intern				x		
Professional Clinical Counselor, Licensed				x		x
Professional Clinical Counselor, Intern				x		
Dentistry/Dental Hygiene						
Dentist					x	
Dental Assistant, Registered	x					x
Dental Assistant in Extended Functions, Registered	x					x
Dental Hygienist, Registered		x				
Dental Hygienist in Extended Functions, Registered		x				x
Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice, Registered			x			x

	High school diploma	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Ph.D. or medical degree	Additional work experience and/or training
Medicine						
Physician/Surgeon					x	x
Midwife, Licensed	3-year post-secondary midwifery education program					
Contact Lens Dispenser, Registered	x					
Spectacle Lens Dispenser, Registered	x					
Naturopathic Medicine						
Naturopathic Doctor					x	
Occupational Therapy						
Occupational Therapist				x		
Occupational Therapy Assistant		x				
Optometry						
Optometrist					x	
Osteopathic Medicine						
Osteopathic Physician/Surgeon					x	
Pharmacy						
Pharmacist			x			x
Pharmacy Technician, Registered	x					
Designated Representative—Wholesale/Retail	x					x

	High school diploma	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Ph.D. or medical degree	Additional work experience and/or training
Physical Therapy						
Physical Therapist				x		
Physical Therapy Assistant		x				
Kinesiological Electromyographer				x		x
Electroneuromyographer				x		x
Physician Assistant						
Physician Assistant			x			
Podiatric Medicine						
Doctor of Podiatric Medicine					x	x
Psychology						
Psychologist					x	x
Psychologist, Registered					x	x
Psychological Assistant, Registered				x		
Registered Nursing						
Registered Nurse		x				
Clinical Nurse Specialist				x		
Nurse Anesthetist				x		

	High school diploma	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Ph.D. or medical degree	Additional work experience and/or training
Registered Nursing *continued*						
Nurse-Midwife				x		
Nurse Practitioner				x		
Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse				x		x
Public Health Nurse			x			
Respiratory Care						
Respiratory Care Practitioner		x				
Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensers						
Audiologist					x	x
Speech-Language Pathologist				x		x
Speech-Language Pathology Assistant, Registered		x				
Speech-Language Pathology/Audiology Aide	x					
Hearing Aid Dispenser	x					x
Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians						
Vocational Nurse	Multiple qualification methods - see board Web site www.bvnpt.ca.gov					
Psychatric Technician	Multiple qualification methods - see board Web site www.bvnpt.ca.gov					

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