

## **SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

### **SENIOR FINANCIAL ANALYST**

#### **DEFINITION**

Under the direction of an assigned administrator, perform a variety of professional, highly responsible financial, auditing, budgeting, and analytical duties in the fiscal operation of school districts and the Santa Cruz County Office of Education (COE); assist in the development, monitoring, controlling and administration of budgets, financial reporting and financial analysis; be responsible for fiscal duties relating to Special Education and Special Education Local Planning Area (SELPA) funding, budgeting and reporting; accounting for school districts and Joint Power Authority (JPA); fiscal duties relating to categorical funding and reporting for internal services; interact with County Auditors and school district business personnel; and perform various other high-level job-related functions.

#### **SUPERVISION EXERCISED**

May exercise leadership responsibilities over other Financial Analysts; may exercise technical and functional leadership of other staff.

#### **EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

Perform independent technical and analytical functions.

Provide technical advice to fiscal and business staff and administrators. Analyze and review the work performed by the Fiscal Accountants and Financial Analysts for consistent and accurate financial statement reporting.

Maintain an atmosphere of excellent customer service within the department. Assist in other areas of Finance when needed.

Perform a variety of detailed functions relating to budget development, control, and analysis; establish, analyze, audit, reconcile and maintain manual and automated financial records; and assure financial activity, transactions and reports related to assigned accounts comply with applicable standards, requirements, laws, codes, rules, regulations, policies and procedures.

Maintain informational contact with officials of federal, state and local governmental agencies, and initiate and complete a variety of local, state and federal reports.

Pursuant to direction, act as a resource for school district personnel and COE personnel for cash flow, legality of expenditures, budget procedures, accounting reports, audits and budget revisions; answer questions and respond to inquiries in a timely manner.

Prepare and complete all first and second Interims, adopted budgets, and unaudited actuals reports for State submission in the required software.

Calculate Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) revenues and verify various categorical grants, entitlements and revenue allocations from multiple sources.

**EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES, (CONTINUED)**

Provide statistical analysis and analytical reporting on the financial management of school districts and the COE.

Perform detailed reviews and analysis of various financial reports including in-depth reviews for AB1200 compliance, which includes Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) audit and reviews, as well as other tasks.

Review, audit, analyze, reconcile and adjust assigned accounts; calculate, post, audit, code and adjust journal entries; update accounts to reflect income, expenditures, transfers and other transactions; balance accounts, audit for errors and make appropriate corrections and adjustments.

Prepare and maintain a variety of financial and statistical reports, statements and records related to income, expenditures, accounts, funds, budgets and assigned accounting functions; review, audit and analyze financial statements, records and reports to assure accuracy, completeness and compliance with established guidelines, procedures and generally accepted accounting principles.

Compare and reconcile ledgers, statements, records, documents, transactions and reports to identify errors and discrepancies; review, process, audit and assure accuracy of a variety of transactions and related documents; approve transactions as appropriate; initiate and process account and budget transfers as needed.

Input a wide variety of financial and statistical data into an assigned computer system; establish and maintain automated records and files; initiate queries, manipulate data, develop spreadsheets and generate a variety of computerized reports and documents; assure accuracy of input and output data.

Collect, research, review, compile, prepare, calculate, analyze and revise financial and statistical data related to assigned accounts, budgets and activities; identify, research, investigate and resolve financial issues, errors and discrepancies; calculate and review Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) revenues as required.

Responds to complaints and inquiries for information from administrators, the public, and personnel concerning matters related to business and financial affairs of the County Office of Education.

Serve as a County Office liaison and resource for superintendents, local school district business managers, the county office of education, and other state, federal and local agencies concerning financial transactions and reports, LCFF, special education funding, the AB602 funding model, attendance reporting and assure school district financial transactions and reports comply with current laws and requirements.

Coordinate and gather period attendance reports, develop procedures and processes for attendance reporting, interpret and analyze attendance-related regulations in coordination with the County Office of Education business office management staff.

Develop and provide in-service trainings for a variety of areas including the financial system and the accounting and budget processes to district and County Office of Education employees.

**EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES, (CONTINUED)**

Conduct research, analyze data, and make recommendations for the formulation of new or revised fiscal-related policies and procedures.

Comply with Santa Cruz County Office of Education Board Policies and Administrative Regulations.

**JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

**Knowledge of:**

Grant research, funding concepts, administration and sources.

Principles and practices used in governmental accounting, auditing and budgeting.

Principles of financial analysis and research procedures.

Principles and techniques of auditing.

Business correspondence, memorandum, and report writing formats.

Oral and written communication skills.

Interpersonal skills.

**Skill and Ability to:**

Work under limited supervision within a broad framework of standard policies and procedures.

Learn, interpret, and apply pertinent federal, state, and local employment laws, codes, and regulations.

Decipher and implement regulations including administrative and departmental policies and procedures.

Negotiate conflict collaboratively and exercise good judgment, flexibility, creativity, and sensitivity in response to changing situations and needs.

Analyze situations carefully and adopt effective courses of action.

Assist with the development, implementation, and oversight of Fiscal Programs.

Advise program managers of legal compliances and financial reporting requirements, including provisions of AB602 for Special Education.

Interact with and maintain cooperative relationships with all levels of county office of education staff, school districts, agencies, and the public.

**Skill and Ability to (continued):**

Understand and use required software from various sources.

Communicate effectively, in coordination with the county office of education business office management staff, a variety of issues to local school districts and county office of education departments in the English language both orally and in writing.

Prepare documents for the external auditor; answer questions, prepare narrative for audit and maintain specialized files and records for audit review.

Analyze financial problems.

Provide annual budget information and long-range financial planning.

Balance cash, clear reconciling items in a timely manner, and resolve discrepancies.

Prepare reports and develop records and procedures.

Organize, plan, and complete year-end closing process.

Ability to work with county office of education information technology (IT) staff to resolve questions relating to the financial system.

Be courteous and maintain a neat and clean appearance, and demeanor at all times.

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

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

**Education:**

A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in business administration, accounting, or a closely related field.

**Experience:**

Minimum of four years of high-level experience in accounting, public financial management or a closely related field. Experience in a school district is preferred; experience in a county office of education is required.

**License or Certificate:**

Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid California driver's license and appropriate vehicle operation insurance preferred.

**Qualification Requirements:**

To perform a job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed in the job description are representative of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

*The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:*

While performing the duties of this job, with or without the use of aids, the employee is regularly required to sit, stand or walk for extended periods of time; dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a computer, telephone and other standard office equipment; see and read a computer screen and printed matter; hear and understand speech at normal levels on the telephone or in person; speak so that others may understand at normal levels and on the telephone; and grasp, push, pull and move, lift and/or carry up to 10 pounds.

Ability to work in a standard office environment with some ability to travel to different sites and locations.

Approval Date: June 18, 2024