

County of Humboldt, California

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, CALIFORNIA

ANNUAL SALARY: \$199,638



The County of Humboldt seeks a Public Health Officer (PHO), who is an experienced medical doctor, preferably with a Masters in Public Health (MPH), and ideally someone who has experience working within or for a County in California. This Medical Doctor should be licensed to practice in California, or can and will get licensed in California within three months of hire.

*LICENSURE: The California Medical Board will provide priority review and processing for out-of-state applicants serving underserved populations. Due to COVID, a PHO may be eligible to practice immediately, via registration with the Emergency Medical Service Authority (EMSA) if a medical emergency exists, while fast tracking the licensure. **If you are a medical doctor who is passionate about making a broader impact across a community, you are an effective communicator who values and cultivates positive relationships, and you are seeking a professionally challenging and rewarding career in a community with breathtaking beauty, small town charm, and dedicated County leaders and staff, then this is the job for you.***



THE COMMUNITY/THE COUNTY

HUMBOLDT COUNTY IS ONE of the most beautiful places in America. It is located in the heart of Northern California's majestic coastal redwood region and runs along the Pacific coastline. It is world-renowned for its stunning landscapes and is one of the most scenic rural counties in the United States. The Redwood Coast is a paradise for all outdoor activities including hiking, backpacking, fishing, golfing, river rafting, kayaking and more. Humboldt County has several rivers, lakes and hundreds of streams, as well as county, state and national parks, beaches and campgrounds. Humboldt State University and the College of the Redwoods provide excellent educational opportunities, as well as entertainment and culturally enriching activities. Eureka, the county seat, is located 275 miles north of San Francisco, and overlooks the historic Humboldt Bay.

The county has a total population of over 134,000 and is home to eight federally recognized Native American Tribes. With reasonably priced housing, moderate weather year-round, and a diverse local arts scene, Humboldt County offers the best of community living without the stress and burdens of the more urbanized areas of California, and a great place to raise a family. It is a place where you know your neighbors, can build a sense of community, and build partnerships to expand resources. The County Administration includes 20 departments/agencies, an annual operating budget of \$450.8 million, and employs approximately 2,400 employees.

A photograph of a family of four walking through a forest. A man and a woman are holding hands and walking towards the camera, with two young children walking alongside them. The scene is set in a lush, green forest with tall trees and dappled sunlight filtering through the leaves.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AS ONE OF THREE BRANCHES in the County's Dept of Health and Human Services (along with Behavioral Health and Social Services), Public Health has about 150 staff and is comprised of the following divisions: Environmental Health, Healthy Communities; Public Health Nursing; Public Health Support Services, including Epidemiology, Performance Improvement and Accreditation, Fiscal, and Vital Statistics; and Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, which includes Emergency Preparedness, Oral Health, Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, a **Public Health Lab** and clinic.

Public Health's clinic serves as an adult health clinic, offering screening, diagnosis and treatment of STDs as well as HIV testing, an immunization clinic for those required for childcare, school, college entry, and beyond, as well as immunizations for safe travel. During COVID-19, clinic services have been limited to child immunizations. Public Health does not operate a general pharmacy or primary care clinics.

We are also a nationally accredited Public Health jurisdiction, the first rural county in CA to become accredited by the national Public Health Accreditation Board, which we obtained in 2016. To review Humboldt County's 2018 Community Health Assessment: humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/71701/2018-Community-Health-Assessment-PDF

Humboldt County has the following public health systems of care:

HOSPITALS

PROVIDENCE ST. JOSEPH HEALTH, one of the nation's largest Catholic health systems, owns and operates two non-profit hospitals in Humboldt County — including over 170 beds, Level III trauma center

MAD RIVER COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, a for-profit hospital, the second largest hospital in the region with 78 beds

JEROLD PHELPS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, a Critical Access Hospital operated by the Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District with nine acute care beds, eight skilled nursing beds, and 24-hour emergency services.

SEMPERVIRENS, operated by Humboldt County Health and Human services, is the only inpatient psychiatric hospital within a 300-mile radius.

PRIMARY & SPECIALTY CARE

OPEN DOOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, the largest federally qualified health center (FQHC) in the region, operates 12 Community Health Centers across Humboldt and Del Norte counties, offering primary care, dental care, and behavioral health care.

ST. JOSEPH MEDICAL GROUP, is the primary provider of specialty services in Humboldt County.

UNITED INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES (UIHS) serves nine of the 11 tribes in Humboldt and Del Norte counties at seven clinic sites.

We also have **REDWOODS RURAL HEALTH CENTER (FQHC)**, Southern **TRINITY HEALTH SERVICES (FQHC)**, and a **PLANNED PARENTHOOD**.

The **NORTH COAST CLINICS NETWORK** serves as the consortium for 13 of the FQHCs across the county.

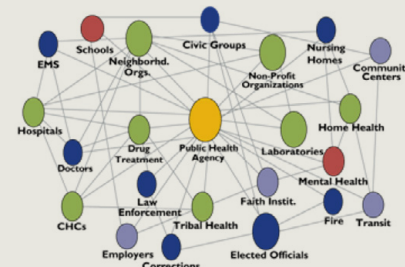


THE JOB

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS in California have a special role that connects the community around public health to tackle public health issues upstream and has a unique leadership role during community health emergencies. During times of emergency, these positions can be politically charged, therefore, the ideal candidate will have a high level of emotional intelligence, demonstrate diplomacy, and work with all groups within a community: elected officials, businesses, individual constituents, elderly, homeless, families, schools, public safety, emergency management, universities, tribal communities, etc. The ideal candidate should have a broad picture of the Social Determinants of Health (SDoH): mental health, education opportunities, economic stability (occupation/employment stability), food insecurity, housing, access to healthcare, etc.



The Public Health Officer (PHO) serves as the medical subject matter expert for public health and under administrative day to day oversight by the Director of Public Health. The PHO is the primary community physician and provides technical consultation to public officials. The PHO is an at-will position appointed by, responsive to, and reports directly to a five-member County Board of Supervisors.



In addition, the PHO must work and collaborate closely with the County Administrative Officer. On a day-to-day basis, the PHO works closely with the Director of Public Health and the Health and Human Services Director. At times, this position could require more than 40 hours a week and be required to work evenings and weekends due to public meetings or health emergencies. The PHO works closely with state and federal agencies, support staff, and other County departments. In addition, the PHO plays a strategic and critical role in collaborating with emergency management departments and professionals, foundations, committees, community-based organizations, businesses, educational institutions, and the community-at-large to set local priorities.



THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

- ▶ Serves as community physician on behalf of all County residents.
- ▶ Serves as the subject matter expert in public health emergency preparedness and multi-agency coordination, providing medical leadership during a public health threat or emergency, determining the level of response required and has the authority to declare a public health emergency.
- ▶ Serves as a primary spokesperson for medical issues on behalf of the Public Health Branch.
- ▶ Provides medical consultation to public and environmental health programs in compliance with California Health and Safety Codes and local ordinances.
- ▶ Maintains high visibility on community health issues and represents the Department and County in a medical capacity in interaction with the community, advisory committees, governmental agencies, and professional organizations.
- ▶ Establishes and maintains cooperative working relationships with groups, organizations, employees and officials and maintains a strong partner with local law enforcement agencies.
- ▶ Works with County, State, Federal and local government officials in the establishment of coordinated and effective programs and services.
- ▶ Works with the local medical community to provide information, consultation and leadership on medical issues related to public health.
- ▶ Communicates successfully with the media and takes an interest in public relation strategies.
- ▶ Attends local and statewide meetings and conferences, and represents the County on multiple local boards and commissions.
- ▶ Analyzes and makes recommendations regarding legislation and potential impact in public health policies, programs and processes.
- ▶ Provides guidance, consultation and policy direction in a medical capacity to physicians, laboratories, hospitals, health care providers, schools, correctional facilities and the public for diagnosis, mitigation and prevention of reportable communicable diseases.



IN ADDITION, THE PHO WILL:

- ▶ Be a proactive business partner, address issues, and act quickly.
- ▶ Demonstrate strong political savvy, diplomacy and intelligence.
- ▶ Be accessible and responsive to others, and readily commit to action.
- ▶ Identify problems, solve them, act decisively and show good judgement, and understand decision impacts.
- ▶ Direct, persuade, motivate, and easily build and maintain trust with others.
- ▶ Communicate effectively, value customer service excellence, and build an enjoyable work atmosphere.



For a list of health officer covid related duties, state and county codes, & program involvement beyond covid go to: [wbcpinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/HO-Duties-COMBINED-v2.pdf](https://www.wbcpinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/HO-Duties-COMBINED-v2.pdf)



EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

- ▶ A Medical Degree from a medical school in good standing and repute.
- ▶ Possession of a valid license to practice medicine in the State of California issued by the Board of Medical Assurance, or ability to obtain licensure within three months of hire. *
- ▶ Six (6) years of public health medical program management and administrative experience.
- ▶ Possession of a valid US driver's license upon date of applications. Must obtain California driver's license following hire date per California DMV regulations.

Desired:

- ▶ Master's Degree in Public Health (MPH)
- ▶ Certification in a California Medical Board recognized specialty
- ▶ Experience working as a Public Health Officer

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COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

\$199,638 annual salary, and a generous benefit program that includes the following elements:

RETIREMENT: The County participates in CalPERS retirement system. The County also participates in Social Security.

MEDICAL/DENTAL/VISION

INSURANCE: The County participates in the CalPERS health insurance program, providing several options for employees; the County pays nearly all of the employee premium and a portion of dependent coverage. The County also provides a dental and vision plan with premium for the employee and family paid in full by the County.

VACATION: 12 days per year (1 day after 1 month of employment); 3 weeks after 3 years; 4 weeks after 10 years.

HOLIDAYS: 14 paid days per year (includes 2 personal holidays).

SICK LEAVE: Employees earn 12 days per year (unlimited accumulation).

ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE: 10 paid days per fiscal year.

WELLNESS REIMBURSEMENT: \$1,000 per fiscal year for the purchase of wellness-related equipment and services. (Prorated for new employees.)

ADDITIONALLY: The County offers life insurance, longevity pay, vacation conversion, an education reimbursement program, deferred compensation and an employee assistance program.



HOW *TO* APPLY

This position will remain open until filled, however for first consideration apply by **OCTOBER 28**; candidates are encouraged to submit their application as soon as possible.

Apply at: wbcpinc.com/job-board/

SAVE THE DATES

Interviews will take place on **November 12 & 13, 2020**; candidates will need to be available for both days.

Please contact your recruiter,
Wendi Brown, with any questions:

wendi@wbcpinc.com

866.929.WBCP (9227) toll free
541.664.0376 direct

