PERSONNEL COMMISSION

## 659 ORDER OF PRECEDENCE IN CERTIFICATION FOR FILLING **VACANCIES**

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## **Education Code Section (s)**

- 88080. (a) The commission shall prescribe and, amend, and interpret subject to this article, such rules as may be necessary to insure the efficiency of the service and the selection and retention of employees upon a basis of merit and fitness. The rules shall not apply to bargaining unit members if the subject matter is within the scope of representation, as defined in Section 3543.2 of the Government Code, and is included in a negotiated agreement between the governing board and that unit. The rules shall be binding upon the governing board, but shall not restrict the authority of the governing board provided pursuant to other sections of this code.
- (b) No rule or amendment which would affect classified employees who are represented by a certified or recognized exclusive bargaining representative shall be adopted by the commission until the exclusive bargaining representative and the community college employer of the classified employees who would be affected have been given reasonable notice of the proposal.
- **88081**. (a) The rules shall provide for the procedures to be followed by the governing board as they pertain to the classified service regarding applications, examinations, eligibility, appointments, promotions, demotions, transfers, dismissals, resignations, layoffs, reemployment, vacations, leaves of absence, compensation within classification, job analyses and specifications, performance evaluations, public advertisement of examinations, rejection of unfit applicants without competition, and any other matters necessary to carry out the provisions and purposes of this article.
- (b) With respect to those matters set forth in subdivision (a) which are a subject of negotiation under the provisions of Section 3543.2 of the Government Code, such rules as apply to each bargaining unit shall be in accordance with the negotiated agreement, if any, between the exclusive representative for that unit and the public school employer.
- **88091.** (a) All vacancies in the classified service shall be filled pursuant to this article and the rules of the commission, from applicants on eligibility lists which, wherever practicable, as determined by the commission, shall be made up from promotional examinations, or appointments may be made by means of transfer, demotion, reinstatement, and reemployment in accordance with the rules of the commission. All applicants for promotional examinations shall have the required amount of service in classes designated by the commission or meet the minimum qualifications of education, training, experience, and length of service, which shall be determined by the commission to be appropriate for the class for which they have applied. Any promotional applicant who has served the required amount of time in a designated class or who meets the minimum qualifications for admission to a promotional

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examination shall be admitted to the examination. Applicants shall be placed on the eligibility lists in the order of their relative merit as determined by competitive examinations. The final scores of candidates shall be rounded to the nearest whole percent for all eligibles. All eligibles with the same percentage score will be considered as having the same rank. Appointments shall be made from the eligibles having the first three ranks on the list who are ready and willing to accept the position.

- (b) (1) Upon the request of a majority of the members of the governing board of a community college district, the commission may exempt two executive secretarial positions from the requirements of this section. Exemptions authorized under this subdivision shall be limited to one executive secretary position reporting directly to members of the governing board, and one executive secretary position reporting directly to the chancellor.
- (2) Any person employed in an exempt executive secretarial position shall continue to be afforded all of the rights, benefits, and burdens of any other classified employee serving in the regular service of the district, except he or she shall not attain permanent status in an executive secretarial position. Positions of executive secretary shall be filled from an unranked list of eligible employees who have been found to be qualified for the positions as determined by the district chancellor or superintendent and determined by the personnel commission. Any person whose services in an executive secretarial position are discontinued for a cause other than a cause for disciplinary action specified in this code or in a rule of the commission shall have the right to return to a position in a classification he or she previously occupied or, if that classification no longer exists, in a similar classification, as determined by the commission. This subdivision shall apply only to the employees hired on or after January 1, 1988.
- (c) (1) Upon the request of a majority of the members of the governing board of a community college district, the personnel commission may exempt designated senior classified administrative positions from the requirements of this section. A "senior classified administrative employee" means a classified employee who acts as the chief business, fiscal, facilities, or information technology adviser or administrator for the district chancellor or superintendent or a college president, as determined by the governing board and certified by the personnel commission. (2) Any person employed in an administrative position exempted under this subdivision shall continue to be afforded all of the rights, benefits, and burdens of any other classified employee serving in the regular service of the district, except that he or she shall not attain permanent status in that administrative position. A vacancy in an administrative position that is exempted under this subdivision shall be filled from an unranked list of eligible persons who have been found to be qualified for the positions as determined by the district chancellor or superintendent and the personnel commission. Any person whose services in an administrative position exempted under this subdivision are discontinued for any reason other than for cause as specified in this code or in a rule of the personnel commission shall have the right to return to a position in a classification he or she previously occupied or, if that classification no longer exists, in a similar classification, as determined by the commission.
- (3) This subdivision shall apply only to employees hired on or after January 1, 2001.

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(d) Nothing contained in this section shall authorize the selection of eligible candidates in circumvention of the affirmative action programs of any community college district.

**88103.** When an open competitive examination and a promotional examination for a particular class are held at the same time, the commission may, prior to the examination, authorize certification for employment of candidates from the open competitive eligibility list before the promotional eligibility list has been exhausted if the candidate on the open list has a higher score before adjustment for preferential credits than the score of the highest available candidate on the promotional list after seniority credits have been added.

- **88117.** (a) A person laid off because of lack of work or lack of funds shall be eligible for reemployment for a period of 39 months as follows:
- (1) The person's reemployment shall take preference over new applicants.
- (2) The person shall have the right to participate in promotional examinations within the district during the period of 39 months.
- (3) If the person is reemployed in a new position and fails to complete the probationary period in the new position, he or she shall be returned to the reemployment list for the remainder of the 39-month period. The remaining time period shall be calculated as the time remaining in the 39-month period as of the date of reemployment.
- (b) An employee who takes a voluntary demotion or a voluntary reduction in assigned time in lieu of layoff or to remain in his or her present position rather than be reclassified or reassigned, shall be granted the same rights as persons laid off and shall retain eligibility to be considered for reemployment for an additional period of up to 24 months, provided that the same tests of fitness under which the employee qualified for appointment to the class still apply. The personnel commission shall make the determination of the specific period of eligibility for reemployment on a class-by-class basis.
- (c) An employee who takes a voluntary demotion or a voluntary reduction in assigned time in lieu of layoff shall be, at the option of the employee, returned to a position in his or her former class or to a position with increased assigned time as vacancies become available, and without limitation of time, but if there is a valid reemployment list the employee shall be ranked on that list in accordance with his or her proper seniority.
- **88127.** Classified employees shall be subject to layoff for lack of work or lack of funds. Whenever a classified employee is laid off, the order of layoff within the class shall be determined by length of service. The employee who has been employed the shortest time in the class, plus higher classes, shall be laid off first. Reemployment shall be in the reverse order of layoff.

For purposes of this section, for service commencing or continuing after July 1, 1971, "length of service" means all hours in paid status, whether during the school year, a holiday, recess, or any period that a school is in session or closed, but does not include any hours compensated solely on an overtime basis as provided for in Section 88027. Nothing in this section shall preclude the governing board of a community college district from entering into an agreement with the exclusive representative of the classified employees that defines "length of service" to mean the hire date.

If a governing board enters into an agreement with the exclusive representative of classified employees that defines "length of service" to mean the hire date, the

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governing board may define "length of service" to mean the hire date for a classification of employee not represented by any exclusive bargaining unit.

Nothing in this section shall preclude the granting of "length of service" credit for time spent on unpaid illness leave, or unpaid industrial accident leave. In addition, for military leave of absence, "length of service" credit shall be granted pursuant to Section 88116.

"Hours in paid status" shall not be interpreted to mean any service performed prior to entering into a probationary or permanent status in the classified service of the district except service in restricted positions as provided in this chapter.

- A. Certification for filling vacancies from employment lists shall be made in the following order:
  - 1. Priority shift transfer list for the class to which appointments are to be made.
  - 2. Reemployment list for the class to which appointments are to be made.
  - 3. Most appropriate reemployment list.

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- 4. Promotional area eligibility list for the class to which appointments are to be made.
- 5. Open area eligibility list for the class to which appointments are to be made.
- 6. Promotional eligibility list for the class to which appointments are to be made.
- 7. Open eligibility list for the class to which appointments are to be made.
- 8. Most appropriate promotional eligibility list.
- 9. Most appropriate open eligibility list.

The order of certification may be reversed between priorities 7. and 8. by action of the Personnel Commission on a case-by-case basis. This reversal is to remain in effect for the remainder of the life of the most appropriate eligibility list unless the list is terminated early by action of the Personnel Commission.

A list of names of employees requesting transfer, voluntary demotion, reinstatement, return to former class or change in basis, shift, time, status and/or class shall be certified at the same time names are certified from any list except for priority 1., 2., or 3. lists.

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B. For purposes of this rule, a reemployment list shall be defined as a list of names of employees who have:

- 1. been laid off-from a permanent position due to lack of work or lack of funds, or because their positions have been abolished or reclassified.
- 2. been demoted from a promotional position while serving a probationary period, have permanent status in a lower class, and have not been placed in accordance with the provisions of Rule 762, EMPLOYMENT AFTER DEMOTION OF PROBATIONER FROM PROMOTIONAL POSITION.
- 3. returned from military leave and have not been placed in accordance with the provisions of Rule 820, MILITARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE.
- 4. exhausted all paid or unpaid leaves of absence following an illness or an accident or industrial illness or industrial accident in accordance with the provisions of Rule 804, LEAVES RESULTING FROM INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT OR INDUSTRIAL ILLNESS, or Rule 808, ILLNESS LEAVE.
- 5. returned from Peace Corps, Red Cross, or Merchant Marine leave and have not been placed in accordance with the provisions of Rule 805, PEACE CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES, AMERICAN RED CROSS, OR UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE LEAVE OF ABSENCE.
- C. When dual certification has been authorized by the Personnel Commission, eligibility lists resulting from a competitive and promotional examination shall be merged according to the order of the examination scores into a single eligibility list, after the scores of each candidate on the promotional list have been adjusted for seniority and dual certification points and veterans' credits have been removed from the scores of open candidates. Certification shall be made from the top three ranks of eligibles on the merged list. When dual certification is not in effect, the order of certification shall occur as outlined in Paragraph A.
- D. The Personnel Director shall submit proposals to make use of a most appropriate eligibility list or a most appropriate reemployment list to the Personnel Commission for its approval. Accompanying each recommendation shall be a statement of the reasons for the proposal with the following information:
  - 1. The salary schedules or flat rates of the two classes.
  - 2. The extent to which entrance qualifications and fields of potential promotional candidates for the two classes are similar.
  - 3. The extent to which examination content for the two classes are similar.

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E. When a proposed use of a most appropriate list is submitted to the Personnel Commission in accordance with Paragraph D., above, and objections or requests for deferral of approval are made, the Personnel Commission will defer action until the next scheduled open meeting. Any bases for objections must be prepared and submitted to the Personnel Commission in writing at or before the meeting following the deferral of action.