



COMPLIANCE REVIEW REPORT

CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

Compliance Review Unit
State Personnel Board
October 6, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
BACKGROUND	3
SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY	4
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	6
EXAMINATIONS	6
APPOINTMENTS	8
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY	10
PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS	11
MANDATED TRAINING	12
COMPENSATION AND PAY	14
LEAVE	18
POLICY AND PROCESSES	22
DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE	25
SPB REPLY	25

INTRODUCTION

Established by the California Constitution, the State Personnel Board (the SPB or Board) is charged with enforcing and administering the civil service statutes, prescribing probationary periods and classifications, adopting regulations, and reviewing disciplinary actions and merit-related appeals. The SPB oversees the merit-based recruitment and selection process for the hiring of over 200,000 state employees. These employees provide critical services to the people of California, including but not limited to, protecting life and property, managing emergency operations, providing education, promoting the public health, and preserving the environment. The SPB provides direction to departments through the Board's decisions, rules, policies, and consultation.

Pursuant to Government Code section 18661, the SPB's Compliance Review Unit (CRU) conducts compliance reviews of appointing authorities' personnel practices in five areas: examinations, appointments, equal employment opportunity (EEO), personal services contracts (PSC's), and mandated training, to ensure compliance with civil service laws and Board regulations. The purpose of these reviews is to ensure state agencies are in compliance with merit related laws, rules, and policies and to identify and share best practices identified during the reviews.

Pursuant to Government Code section 18502, subdivision (c), the SPB and the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) may "delegate, share, or transfer between them responsibilities for programs within their respective jurisdictions pursuant to an agreement." SPB and CalHR, by mutual agreement, expanded the scope of program areas to be audited to include more operational practices that have been delegated to departments and for which CalHR provides policy direction. Many of these delegated practices are cost drivers to the state and were not being monitored on a statewide basis.

As such, SPB also conducts compliance reviews of appointing authorities' personnel practices to ensure that state departments are appropriately managing the following non-merit-related personnel functions: compensation and pay, leave, and policy and processes. These reviews will help to avoid and prevent potential costly litigation related to improper personnel practices, and deter waste, fraud, and abuse.

The SPB conducts these reviews on a three-year cycle.

The CRU may also conduct special investigations in response to a specific request or when the SPB obtains information suggesting a potential merit-related violation.

It should be noted that this report only contains findings from this hiring authority's compliance review. Other issues found in SPB appeals and special investigations as well as audit and review findings by other agencies such as the CalHR and the California State Auditor are reported elsewhere.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The CRU conducted a routine compliance review of the California State Library (CSL) personnel practices in the areas of examinations, appointments, EEO, PSC's, mandated training, compensation and pay, leave, and policy and processes. The following table summarizes the compliance review findings.

Area	Severity	Finding
Examinations	Very Serious	Candidate Who Did Not Meet the Minimum Qualifications Was Admitted Into the Examination
Appointments	Serious	Probationary Evaluations Were Not Provided for All Appointments Reviewed ¹
Equal Employment Opportunity	In Compliance	Equal Employment Opportunity Program Complied with All Civil Service Laws and Board Rules
Personal Services Contracts	In Compliance	Personal Services Contract Complied with Procedural Requirements
Mandated Training	Very Serious	Ethics Training Was Not Provided for All Filers ²
Compensation and Pay	In Compliance	Salary Determinations Complied with Civil Service Laws, Board Rules, and CalHR Policies and Guidelines
Compensation and Pay	In Compliance	Hire Above Minimum Request Complied with Civil Service Laws, Board Rules, and/or CalHR Policies and Guidelines
Compensation and Pay	In Compliance	Bilingual Pay Authorization Complied with Civil Service Laws, Board Rules, and/or CalHR Policies and Guidelines

¹ Repeat finding. The CSL's August 5, 2020, compliance review report identified the CSL did not provide, in a timely manner, 9 probationary reports for 5 of the 20 appointments reviewed. The CSL's November 30, 2016, compliance review report identified the CSL did not provide 8 probationary reports for 4 of the 22 appointments reviewed.

² Repeat finding. The CSL's August 5, 2020, compliance review report identified ethics training was not provided to 9 of 38 existing filers.

Area	Severity	Finding
Leave	In Compliance	Positive Paid Employees' Tracked Hours Complied with Civil Service Laws, Board Rules, and/or CalHR Policies and Guidelines
Leave	In Compliance	Administrative Time Off Authorizations Complied with Civil Service Laws, Board Rules, and/or CalHR Policies and Guidelines
Leave	Very Serious	Incorrectly Posted Leave Usage and/or Leave Credit
Policy	In Compliance	Nepotism Policy Complied with Civil Service Laws, Board Rules, and/or CalHR Policies and Guidelines
Policy	In Compliance	Workers' Compensation Process Complied with Civil Service Laws, Board Rules, and/or CalHR Policies and Guidelines
Policy	Serious	Performance Appraisals Were Not Provided to All Employees ³

BACKGROUND

The mission of the CSL is to empower the people of the nation's most diverse and populous state by providing credible information services to all Californians, especially those in state government and the Legislature, libraries, academia, and persons with disabilities; leading and establishing partnerships with California libraries through funding, program development, and support; and preserving and providing access to California's unique history to enrich the lives of current and future generations.

The CSL serves the people of California in several ways and is made up of the Administrative Services Bureau, the California Research Bureau, State Library Services, the Information Technology Bureau and Library Development Services.

These bureaus ensure that the CSL is the central reference and research library for state government and the Legislature and provides non-partisan research to the Legislature and the Governor. The CSL collects, preserves, generates and disseminates information ranging from California's priceless historical items to today's online texts, and it advises,

³ Repeat finding. The CSL's August 5, 2020, compliance review report identified the CSL did not provide performance appraisals to all 24 employees reviewed.

consults with, and provides technical assistance to California's public libraries, all while directing state and federal funds to support local public libraries and statewide library programs, and services.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The scope of the compliance review was limited to reviewing the CSL's examinations, appointments, EEO program, PSC's, mandated training, compensation and pay, leave, and policy and processes⁴. The primary objective of the review was to determine if the CSL's personnel practices, policies, and procedures complied with state civil service laws and Board regulations, Bargaining Unit Agreements, CalHR policies and guidelines, CalHR Delegation Agreements, and to recommend corrective action where deficiencies were identified.

A cross-section of the CSL's examinations was selected for review to ensure that samples of various examination types, classifications, and levels were reviewed. The CRU examined the documentation that the CSL provided, which included examination plans, examination bulletins, job analyses, and scoring results. The CSL did not conduct any permanent withhold actions during the compliance review period.

A cross-section of the CSL's appointments was selected for review to ensure that samples of various appointment types, classifications, and levels were reviewed. The CRU examined the documentation that the CSL provided, which included Notice of Personnel Action forms, Request for Personnel Actions, vacancy postings, certification lists, transfer movement worksheets, employment history records, correspondence, and probation reports. The CSL did not conduct any unlawful appointment investigations during the compliance review period. Additionally, the CSL did not make any additional appointments during the compliance review period.

The CSL's appointments were also selected for review to ensure the CSL applied salary regulations accurately and correctly processed employees' compensation and pay. The CRU examined the documentation that the CSL provided, which included employees' employment and pay history and any other relevant documentation such as certifications, degrees, and/or the appointee's application. Additionally, the CRU reviewed specific documentation for the following personnel functions related to compensation and pay e.g., hire above minimum (HAM) requests and bilingual pay. During the compliance

⁴ Timeframes of the compliance review varied depending on the area of review. Please refer to each section for specific compliance review timeframes.

review period, the CSL did not issue or authorize red circle rate requests, arduous pay, monthly pay differentials, alternate range movements or out-of-class assignments.

The review of the CSL's EEO program included examining written EEO policies and procedures; the EEO Officer's role, duties, and reporting relationship; the internal discrimination complaint process; the reasonable accommodation program; the discrimination complaint process; and the Disability Advisory Committee.

The CSL's PSC's were also reviewed.⁵ It was beyond the scope of the compliance review to make conclusions as to whether the CSL's justifications for the contracts were legally sufficient. The review was limited to whether the CSL's practices, policies, and procedures relative to PSC's complied with procedural requirements.

The CSL's mandated training program was reviewed to ensure all employees required to file statements of economic interest were provided ethics training, that all supervisors, managers, and those serving in Career Executive Assignments (CEA) were provided leadership and development training, and that all employees were provided sexual harassment prevention training within statutory timelines.

The CRU reviewed the CSL's monthly internal audit process to verify all leave input into any leave accounting system was keyed accurately and timely and ensure the department certified that all leave records have been reviewed and corrected if necessary. The CRU selected a small cross-section of the CSL's units in order to ensure they maintained accurate and timely leave accounting records. Additionally, the CRU reviewed a selection of the CSL employees who used Administrative Time Off (ATO) in order to ensure that ATO was appropriately administered. Further, the CRU reviewed a selection of the CSL's positive paid employees whose hours are tracked during the compliance review period in order to ensure that they adhered to procedural requirements. During the compliance review period, the CSL did not have any employees with non-qualifying pay period transactions.

Moreover, the CRU reviewed the CSL's policies and processes concerning nepotism, workers' compensation, and performance appraisals. The review was limited to whether the CSL's policies and processes adhered to procedural requirements.

⁵If an employee organization requests the SPB to review any personal services contract during the SPB compliance review period or prior to the completion of the final compliance review report, the SPB will not audit the contract. Instead, the SPB will review the contract pursuant to its statutory and regulatory process. In this instance, none of the reviewed PSC's were challenged.

The CSL declined an exit conference to explain and discuss the CRU’s initial findings and recommendations.. The CRU received and carefully reviewed the CSL’s written response on September 15, 2023, which is attached to this final compliance review report.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Examinations

Examinations to establish an eligible list must be competitive and of such character as fairly to test and determine the qualifications, fitness, and ability of competitors to perform the duties of the class of position for which he or she seeks appointment. (Gov. Code, § 18930.) Examinations may be assembled or unassembled, written or oral, or in the form of a demonstration of skills, or any combination of those tests. (*Ibid.*) The Board establishes minimum qualifications for determining the fitness and qualifications of employees for each class of position and for applicants for examinations. (Gov. Code, § 18931, subd. (a).) Within a reasonable time before the scheduled date for the examination, the designated appointing power shall announce or advertise the examination for the establishment of eligible lists. (Gov. Code, § 18933, subd. (a).) The advertisement shall contain such information as the date and place of the examination and the nature of the minimum qualifications. (*Ibid.*) Every applicant for examination shall file an application with the department or a designated appointing power as directed by the examination announcement. (Gov. Code, § 18934, subd. (a)(1).) The final earned rating of each person competing in any examination is to be determined by the weighted average of the earned ratings on all phases of the examination. (Gov. Code, § 18936.) Each competitor shall be notified in writing of the results of the examination when the employment list resulting from the examination is established. (Gov. Code, § 18938.5.)

During the period under review, August 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, the CSL conducted 20 examinations. The CRU reviewed 8 of those examinations, which are listed below:

Classification	Exam Type	Exam Components	Final File Date	No. of Apps
Librarian	Servicewide Open	Training and Experience (T&E) ⁶	9/30/22	6

⁶ The Training and Experience examination is administered either online or in writing, and asks the applicant to answer multiple-choice questions about his or her level of training and/or experience performing certain tasks typically performed by those in this classification. Responses yield point values.

Classification	Exam Type	Exam Components	Final File Date	No. of Apps
Library Technical Assistant I	Servicewide Open	T&E	12/30/22	6
Library Technical Assistant II	Servicewide Open	T&E	10/31/22	5
Senior Librarian	Servicewide Open	T&E	9/30/22	6
Supervising Librarian I	Servicewide Open	T&E	12/30/22	4
Supervising Librarian I	Servicewide Open	T&E	4/30/23	2
Supervising Librarian II	Servicewide Open	T&E	12/30/22	3
Supervising Librarian II	Servicewide Open	T&E	4/30/23	2

SEVERITY: VERY SERIOUS	FINDING NO. 1 CANDIDATE WHO DID NOT MEET THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS WAS ADMITTED INTO THE EXAMINATION
-----------------------------------	--

Summary: The CSL admitted one candidate who did not meet minimum qualifications into the Library Technical Assistant II exam. Specifically, the candidate lacked the equivalent of an Associate of Arts degree in Library Science and did not have additional qualifying experience to substitute for the required education on a year-for-year basis.

Criteria: According to Human Resources Manual Section 3002, during the examination process and before appointment, information submitted in the application process from all candidates, except those who are on reemployment lists or who have reinstatement rights, must be evaluated for verification of meeting the minimum qualifications of the classification established by the Board.

Additionally, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation, any person who establishes that he or she satisfies the minimum qualifications for any state position, as defined in Government Code section 18522, is eligible, regardless of his or her age, to take any civil service examination given for that position. (Cal. Code Reg., tit. 2, § 171.2.)

Severity: Very Serious. Failure to verify minimum qualifications for candidates during the examination process may result in an unlawful appointment that wastes resources and incurs costs to the state.

Cause: The CSL states that the cause of the finding was human error.

Corrective Action: Within 90 days of the date of this report, the CSL must submit to the SPB a written corrective action response which addresses the corrections the department will implement to ensure that future candidates meet the minimum qualifications for admittance into examinations. Copies of relevant documentation demonstrating that the corrective action has been implemented must be included with the corrective action response.

Appointments

In all cases not excepted or exempted by Article VII of the California Constitution, the appointing power must fill positions by appointment, including cases of transfers, reinstatements, promotions, and demotions in strict accordance with the Civil Service Act and Board rules. (Gov. Code, § 19050.) The hiring process for eligible candidates chosen for job interviews shall be competitive and be designed and administered to hire candidates who will be successful. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 250, subd. (b).) Interviews shall be conducted using job-related criteria. (*Ibid.*) Persons selected for appointment shall satisfy the minimum qualifications of the classification to which he or she is appointed or have previously passed probation and achieved permanent status in that same classification. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 250, subd. (d).) While persons selected for appointment may meet some or most of the preferred or desirable qualifications, they are not required to meet all the preferred or desirable qualifications. (*Ibid.*) This section does not apply to intra-agency job reassignments. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 250, subd. (e).)

During the period under review, August 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, the CSL made 33 appointments. The CRU reviewed 13 of those appointments, which are listed below:

Classification	Appointment Type	Tenure	Time Base	No. of Appts.
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	2
Information Technology Specialist I	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	1
Librarian	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	2
Library Programs Consultant	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	2
Library Technical Assistant I	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	1
Research Data Specialist I	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	1

Classification	Appointment Type	Tenure	Time Base	No. of Appts.
Senior Librarian	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	2
Staff Services Manger I	Certification List	Limited Term	Full Time	1
Associate Personnel Analyst	Transfer	Permanent	Full Time	1

SEVERITY: SERIOUS	FINDING NO. 2 PROBATIONARY EVALUATIONS WERE NOT PROVIDED FOR ALL APPOINTMENTS REVIEWED
------------------------------	---

Summary: The CSL did not provide 3 probationary reports of performance for 1 of the 13 appointments reviewed by the CRU, as reflected in the table below. This is the third consecutive time this has been a finding for the CSL.

Classification	Appointment Type	No. of Appointments	Total No. of Missing Probation Reports
Associate Personnel Analyst	Transfer	1	3

Criteria: The service of a probationary period is required when an employee enters or is promoted in the state civil service by permanent appointment from an employment list; upon reinstatement after a break in continuity of service resulting from a permanent separation; or after any other type of appointment situation not specifically excepted from the probationary period. (Gov. Code, § 19171.) During the probationary period, the appointing power shall evaluate the work and efficiency of a probationer in the manner and at such periods as the department rules may require. (Gov. Code, § 19172.) A report of the probationer's performance shall be made to the employee at sufficiently frequent intervals to keep the employee adequately informed of progress on the job. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 599.795.) A written appraisal of performance shall be made to the Department within 10 days after the end of each one-third portion of the probationary period. (*Ibid.*) The Board's record retention rules require that appointing powers retain all probationary reports for five years from the date the record is created. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 26, subd. (a)(3).)

Severity: Serious. The probationary period is the final step in the selection process to ensure that the individual selected can successfully

perform the full scope of their job duties. Failing to use the probationary period to assist an employee in improving his or her performance or terminating the appointment upon determination that the appointment is not a good job/person match is unfair to the employee and serves to erode the quality of state government.

Cause: The CSL states that management didn't submit the reports timely in all instances.

Corrective Action: The CSL asserts it has taken steps to ensure compliance in this area. Within 90 days of the date of this report, the CSL must submit to the SPB documentation which demonstrates the corrections the department has implemented to ensure conformity with Government Code section 19172.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Each state agency is responsible for an effective EEO program. (Gov. Code, § 19790.) The appointing power for each state agency has the major responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of its EEO program. (Gov. Code, § 19794.) To that end, the appointing power must issue a policy statement committed to EEO; issue procedures for filing, processing, and resolving discrimination complaints; and cooperate with the CalHR, in accordance with Civil Code section 1798.24, subdivisions (o) and (p), by providing access to all required files, documents and data necessary to carry out these mandates. (*Ibid.*) In addition, the appointing power must appoint, at the managerial level, an EEO Officer, who shall report directly to, and be under the supervision of, the director of the department to develop, implement, coordinate, and monitor the department's EEO program. (Gov. Code, § 19795, subd. (a).)

Pursuant to Government Code section 19795, subdivision (a), in a state agency with less than 500 employees, like the CSL, the EEO Officer may be the Personnel Officer.

Each state agency must establish a separate committee of employees who are individuals with a disability, or who have an interest in disability issues, to advise the head of the agency on issues of concern to employees with disabilities. (Gov. Code, § 19795, subd. (b)(1).) The department must invite all employees to serve on the committee and take appropriate steps to ensure that the final committee is comprised of members who have disabilities or who have an interest in disability issues. (Gov. Code, § 19795, subd. (b)(2).)

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 3 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM COMPLIED WITH ALL CIVIL SERVICE LAWS AND BOARD RULES
---------------	---

After reviewing the policies, procedures, and programs necessary for compliance with the EEO program’s role and responsibilities according to statutory and regulatory guidelines, the CRU determined that the CSL’s EEO program provided employees with information and guidance on the EEO process including instructions on how to file discrimination claims. Furthermore, the EEO program outlines the roles and responsibilities of the EEO Officer, as well as supervisors and managers. The EEO Officer, who is at a managerial level, reports directly to the State Librarian of the CSL. The CSL also provided evidence of its efforts to promote EEO in its hiring and employment practices and to increase its hiring of persons with a disability.

Personal Services Contracts

A PSC includes any contract, requisition, or purchase order under which labor or personal services is a significant, separately identifiable element, and the business or person performing the services is an independent contractor that does not have status as an employee of the state. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 547.59.) The California Constitution has an implied civil service mandate limiting the state’s authority to contract with private entities to perform services the state has historically or customarily performed. Government Code section 19130, subdivision (a), however, codifies exceptions to the civil service mandate where PSC’s achieve cost savings for the state. PSC’s that are of a type enumerated in subdivision (b) of Government Code section 19130 are also permissible. Subdivision (b) contracts include, but are not limited to, private contracts for a new state function, services that are not available within state service, services that are incidental to a contract for the purchase or lease of real or personal property, and services that are of an urgent, temporary, or occasional nature.

For cost-savings PSC’s, a state agency is required to notify SPB of its intent to execute such a contract. (Gov. Code, § 19131.) For subdivision (b) contracts, the SPB reviews the adequacy of the proposed or executed contract at the request of an employee organization representing state employees. (Gov. Code, § 19132.)

During the period under review, August 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, the CSL had one PSC that was in effect. The CRU reviewed the PSC, which is listed below:

Vendor	Services	Contract Amount	Justification Identified?	Union Notification?
Global Edge HBD, dba eRecords USA	Digitization Services	\$249,992	Yes	Yes

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 4 PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT COMPLIED WITH PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS
----------------------	---

It was beyond the scope of the review to make conclusions as to whether the CSL’s justification for the contract was legally sufficient. For the PSC reviewed, the CSL provided specific and detailed factual information in the written justification as to how the contract met at least one condition set forth in Government Code section 19130, subdivision (b). Additionally, the CSL complied with proper notification to all organizations that represent state employees who perform or could perform the type or work contracted as required by California Code of Regulations section 547.60.2. Accordingly, the CSL’s PSC complied with civil service laws and board rules.

Mandated Training

Each member, officer, or designated employee of a state agency who is required to file a statement of economic interest (referred to as “filers”) because of the position he or she holds with the agency is required to take an orientation course on the relevant ethics statutes and regulations that govern the official conduct of state officials. (Gov. Code, §§ 11146 & 11146.1.) State agencies are required to offer filers the orientation course on a semi-annual basis. (Gov. Code, § 11146.1.) New filers must be trained within six months of appointment and at least once during each consecutive period of two calendar years, commencing on the first odd-numbered year thereafter. (Gov. Code, § 11146.3.)

Upon the initial appointment of any employee designated in a supervisory position, the employee shall be provided a minimum of 80 hours of training, as prescribed by the CalHR. (Gov. Code, § 19995.4, subd. (b).) The training addresses such topics as the role of the supervisor, techniques of supervision, performance standards, and sexual harassment and abusive conduct prevention. (Gov. Code, §§ 12950.1, subds. (a) and (b), & 19995.4, subd. (b).) Additionally, the training must be successfully completed within the term of the employee’s probationary period or within six months of the initial appointment, unless it is demonstrated that to do so creates additional costs or that the training cannot be completed during this time period due to limited availability of supervisory training courses. (Gov. Code, § 19995.4, subd. (c).)

Within 12 months of the initial appointment of an employee to a management or CEA position, the employee shall be provided leadership training and development, as prescribed by CalHR. (Gov. Code, § 19995.4, subs. (d) & (e).) For management employees the training must be a minimum of 40 hours and for CEAs the training must be a minimum of 20 hours. (*Ibid.*)

New employees must be provided sexual harassment prevention training within six months of appointment. Thereafter, each department must provide its supervisors two hours of sexual harassment prevention training and non-supervisors one hour of sexual harassment prevention training every two years. (Gov. Code, § 12950.1, subs. (a) and (b); Gov. Code, § 19995.4.)

The Board may conduct reviews of any appointing power’s personnel practices to ensure compliance with civil service laws and Board regulations. (Gov. Code, § 18661, subd. (a).) In particular, the Board may audit personnel practices related to such matters as selection and examination procedures, appointments, promotions, the management of probationary periods, and any other area related to the operation of the merit principle in state civil service. (*Ibid.*) Accordingly, the CRU reviews documents and records related to training that appointing powers are required by the afore-cited laws to provide its employees.

The CRU reviewed the CSL’s mandated training program that was in effect during the compliance review period, May 1, 2021, through April 30, 2023. The CSL’s supervisory training and sexual harassment prevention training were found to be in compliance, while the CSL’s ethics training was found to be out of compliance.

SEVERITY: VERY SERIOUS	FINDING NO. 5 ETHICS TRAINING WAS NOT PROVIDED FOR ALL FILERS
-----------------------------------	--

Summary: The CSL did not provide ethics training to 1 of 55 existing filers. In addition, the CSL did not provide ethics training to 1 of 25 new filers within 6 months of their appointment. This is the second consecutive time this has been a finding for the CSL.

Criteria: New filers must be provided ethics training within six months of appointment. Existing filers must be trained at least once during each consecutive period of two calendar years commencing on the first odd-numbered year thereafter. (Gov. Code, § 11146.3, subd. (b).)

Severity: Very Serious. The department does not ensure that its filers are made aware of prohibitions related to their official position and influence in a timely manner.

Cause: The CSL states that not all filers completed the training in a timely manner due to lack of effective tracking processes.

Corrective Action: The CSL asserts it has taken steps to ensure compliance in this area. Within 90 days of this report, the CSL must submit to the SPB documentation which demonstrates the corrections the department has implemented to demonstrate conformity with Government Code section 11146.3.

Compensation and Pay

Salary Determination

The pay plan for state civil service consists of salary ranges and steps established by CalHR. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 599.666.) Several salary rules dictate how departments calculate and determine an employee’s salary rate⁷ upon appointment depending on the appointment type, the employee’s state employment and pay history, and tenure.

Typically, agencies appoint employees to the minimum rate of the salary range for the class. Special provisions for appointments above the minimum exist to meet special recruitment needs and to accommodate employees who transfer into a class from another civil service class and are already receiving salaries above the minimum.

During the period under review, August 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, the CSL made 33 appointments. The CRU reviewed six of those appointments to determine if the CSL applied salary regulations accurately and correctly processed employees’ compensation, which are listed below:

Classification	Appointment Type	Tenure	Time Base	Salary (Monthly Rate)
Library Programs Consultant	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	\$7,538

⁷ “Rate” is any one of the salary rates in the resolution by CalHR which establishes the salary ranges and steps of the Pay Plan (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, section 599.666).

Classification	Appointment Type	Tenure	Time Base	Salary (Monthly Rate)
Library Technical Assistant I	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	\$3,477
Research Data Specialist I	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	\$6,095
Senior Librarian	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	\$5,800
Staff Services Manager I	Certification List	Permanent	Full Time	\$6,563
Associate Personnel Analyst	Transfer	Permanent	Full Time	\$5,518

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 6 SALARY DETERMINATIONS COMPLIED WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, BOARD RULES, AND CALHR POLICIES AND GUIDELINES
----------------------	---

The CRU found no deficiencies in the salary determinations that were reviewed. The CSL appropriately calculated and keyed the salaries for each appointment and correctly determined employees' anniversary dates ensuring that subsequent merit salary adjustments will satisfy civil service laws, Board rules and CalHR policies and guidelines.

Hiring Above Minimum Requests

The CalHR may authorize payment at any step above the minimum limit to classes or positions to meet recruiting problems, or to obtain a person who has extraordinary qualifications. (Gov. Code, § 19836.) For all employees new to state service, departments are delegated to approve HAMs for extraordinary qualifications. (Human Resources Manual Section 1707.) Appointing authorities may request HAMs for current state employees with extraordinary qualifications. (*Ibid.*) Delegated HAM authority does not apply to current state employees. (*Ibid.*)

Extraordinary qualifications may provide expertise in a particular area of a department's program. (*Ibid.*) This expertise should be well beyond the minimum qualifications of the class. (*Ibid.*) Unique talent, ability or skill as demonstrated by previous job experience may also constitute extraordinary qualifications. (*Ibid.*) The scope and depth of such experience should be more significant than its length. (*Ibid.*) The degree to which a candidate exceeds minimum qualifications should be a guiding factor, rather than a determining one. (*Ibid.*) The qualifications and hiring rates of state employees already in the same class should be carefully considered, since questions of salary equity may arise if new higher entry rates differ from previous ones. (*Ibid.*) Recruitment difficulty is a factor

to the extent that a specific extraordinary skill should be difficult to recruit, even though some applicants are qualified in the general skills of the class. (*Ibid.*)

If the provisions of this section conflict with the provisions of a memorandum of understanding reached pursuant to Government Code section 3517.5, the memorandum of understanding shall be controlling without further legislative action.⁸ (Gov. Code, § 19836, subd. (b).)

Appointing authorities may request and approve HAMs for former legislative employees who are appointed to a civil service class and received eligibility for appointment pursuant to Government Code section 18990. (Human Resources Manual Section 1707.) The salary received upon appointment to civil service shall be in accordance with the salary rules specified in the California Code of Regulations. (*Ibid.*) A salary determination is completed comparing the maximum salary rate of the former legislative class and the maximum salary rate of the civil service class to determine applicable salary and anniversary regulation. (*Ibid.*) Typically, the legislative employees are compensated at a higher rate of pay; therefore, they will be allowed to retain the rate they last received, not to exceed the maximum of the civil service class. (*Ibid.*)

Appointing authorities may request/approve HAMs for former exempt employees appointed to a civil service class. (Human Resources Manual Section 1707.) The salary received upon appointment to civil service shall be competitive with the employee's salary in the exempt appointment. (*Ibid.*) For example, an employee appointed to a civil service class which is preceded by an exempt appointment may be appointed at a salary rate comparable to the exempt appointment up to the maximum of the salary range for the civil service class. (*Ibid.*)

During the period under review, August 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, the CSL authorized one HAM request. The CRU reviewed the authorized HAM request to determine if the CSL correctly applied Government Code section 19836 and appropriately verified, approved and documented candidates' extraordinary qualifications, which is listed below:

⁸ Except that if the provisions of the memorandum of understanding requires the expenditure of funds, the provisions shall not become effective unless approved by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act.

Classification	Appointment Type	Status	Salary Range	Salary (Monthly Rate)
Information Officer I (Specialist)	Certification List	Former Legislative Employee	\$5,518 - \$6,907	\$6,907

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 7 HIRE ABOVE MINIMUM REQUEST COMPLIED WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, BOARD RULES, AND CALHR POLICIES AND GUIDELINES
----------------------	--

The CRU found that the HAM request the CSL made during the compliance review period, satisfied civil service laws, Board rules and CalHR policies and guidelines.

Bilingual Pay

A certified bilingual position is a position where the incumbent uses bilingual skills on a continuous basis and averages 10 percent or more of the total time worked. According to the Pay Differential 14, the 10 percent time standard is calculated based on the time spent conversing, interpreting, or transcribing in a second language and time spent on closely related activities performed directly in conjunction with the specific bilingual transactions.

Typically, the department must review the position duty statement to confirm the percentage of time performing bilingual skills and verify the monthly pay differential is granted to a certified bilingual employee in a designated bilingual position. The position, not the employee, receives the bilingual designation and the department must verify that the incumbent successfully participated in an Oral Fluency Examination prior to issuing the additional pay.

During the period under review, August 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, the CSL issued bilingual pay to one employee. The CRU reviewed the bilingual pay authorization to ensure compliance with applicable CalHR policies and guidelines, which is listed below:

Classification	Bargaining Unit	Time Base	No. of Appts.
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	R01	Full Time	1

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 8 BILINGUAL PAY AUTHORIZATION COMPLIED WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, BOARD RULES, AND CALHR POLICIES AND GUIDELINES
---------------	---

The CRU found that the bilingual pay authorized to the employee during the compliance review period, satisfied civil service laws, Board rules and CalHR policies and guidelines.

Leave

Positive Paid Employees

Actual Time Worked (ATW) is a method that can be used to keep track of a Temporary Authorization Utilization (TAU) employee's time to ensure that the Constitutional limit of 9 months in any 12 consecutive months is not exceeded. The ATW method of counting time is used to continue the employment status for an employee until the completion of an examination, for seasonal type work, while attending school, or for consulting services.

An employee is appointed TAU-ATW when he/she is not expected to work all the working days of a month. When counting 189 days, every day worked, including partial days⁹ worked and paid absences¹⁰, are counted. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 265.1, subd. (b).) The hours worked in one day are not limited by this rule. (*Ibid.*) The 12-consecutive month timeframe begins by counting the first pay period worked as the first month of the 12-consecutive month timeframe. (*Ibid.*) The employee shall serve no longer than 189 days in a 12 consecutive month period. (*Ibid.*) A new 189-days working limit in a 12-consecutive month timeframe may begin in the month immediately following the month that marks the end of the previous 12-consecutive month timeframe. (*Ibid.*)

It is an ATW appointment because the employee does not work each workday of the month, and it might become desirable or necessary for the employee to work beyond nine calendar months. The appointing power shall monitor and control the days worked to ensure the limitations set forth are not exceeded. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 265.1, subd. (f).)

For student assistants, graduate student assistants, youth aides, and seasonal classifications a maximum work-time limit of 1,500 hours within 12 consecutive months may be used rather than the 189-day calculation. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 265.1, subd. (d).)

⁹ For example, two hours or ten hours count as one day.

¹⁰ For example, vacation, sick leave, compensating time off, etc.

Additionally, according to Government Code section 21224, retired annuitant appointments shall not exceed a maximum of 960 hours in any fiscal year (July-June), regardless of the number of state employers, without reinstatement, loss or interruption of benefits.

At the time of the review, the CSL had eight positive paid employees whose hours were tracked. The CRU reviewed six of those positive paid appointments to ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policies and guidelines, which are listed below:

Classification	Tenure	Time Frame	Time Worked
Associate Personnel Analyst	Retired Annuitant	7/1/21 - 6/30/22	392 Hours
Associate Personnel Analyst	Retired Annuitant	7/1/21 - 6/30/22	1,595.5 Hours
Graduate Student Assistant	Temporary	8/8/22 - 5/31/23	741 Hours
Student Assistant	Temporary	6/1/22 - 5/31/23	1,294.5 Hours
Student Assistant	Temporary	6/14/22 - 5/31/23	1,178 Hours
Student Assistant	Temporary	12/5/22 - 5/31/23	282.5 Hours

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 9 POSITIVE PAID EMPLOYEES' TRACKED HOURS COMPLIED WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, BOARD RULES, AND/OR CALHR POLICIES AND GUIDELINES
----------------------	---

The CRU found no deficiencies in the positive paid employees reviewed during the compliance review period. The CSL provided sufficient justification and adhered to applicable laws, regulations and CalHR policy and guidelines for positive paid employees.

Administrative Time Off

ATO is a form of paid administrative leave status initiated by appointing authorities for a variety of reasons. (Human Resources Manual Section 2121.) Most often, ATO is used when an employee cannot come to work because of a pending investigation, fitness for duty evaluation, or when work facilities are unavailable. (*Ibid.*) ATO can also be granted when employees need time off for reasons such as blood or organ donation, extreme weather preventing safe travel to work, states of emergency, voting, and when employees need time off to attend special events. (*Ibid.*)

During the period under review, February 1, 2022, through January 31, 2023, the CSL authorized 74 ATO transactions. The CRU reviewed 30 of these ATO transactions to

ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and CalHR policy and guidelines, which are listed below:

Classification	Time Frame	Amount of Time on ATO
Accounting Officer (Specialist)	12/1/22 - 12/7/22	40 Hours
Associate Accounting Analyst	7/19/22 - 7/20/22	10 Hours
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	2/1/22 - 2/2/22	18 Hours
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	6/13/22 - 6/15/22	24 Hours
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	7/14/22	8 Hours
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	8/2/22 - 8/5/22	32 Hours
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	9/8/22	4 Hours
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	11/9/22 - 11/14/22	23 Hours
Audio-Visual Assistant	2/9/22 - 2/10/22	10 Hours
CEA	5/28/22	8 Hours
Information Officer I (Specialist)	12/6/22	8 Hours
Librarian	9/16/22	8 Hours
Librarian	10/28/22	8 Hours
Library Programs Consultant	4/22/22	8 Hours
Library Programs Consultant	7/25/22	8 Hours
Library Technical Assistant I	5/17/22 - 5/18/22	16 Hours
Library Technical Assistant I	7/22/22	2 Hours
Library Technical Assistant I	8/2/22 - 8/4/22	24 Hours
Library Technical Assistant I	9/26/22	1.5 Hours
Library Technical Assistant II	6/16/22	.5 Hours
Library Technical Assistant II	9/16/22	1 Hour
Office Services Supervisor II	7/1/22	8 Hours
Research Data Specialist II	5/25/22 - 5/31/22	32 Hours
Staff Services Analyst	6/30/22	1.5 Hours
Staff Services Analyst	7/5/22	4 Hours
Staff Services Analyst	9/6/22 - 9/19/22	80 Hours
Staff Services Manager I	4/15/22	8 Hours
Staff Services Manager I	9/19/22	8 Hours
Staff Services Manager I	1/3/23 - 1/5/23	16 Hours
Supervising Librarian II	10/10/22	8 Hours

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 10 ADMINISTRATIVE TIME OFF AUTHORIZATIONS COMPLIED WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, BOARD RULES, AND/OR CALHR POLICIES AND GUIDELINES
----------------------	--

The CRU found no deficiencies in the ATO transactions reviewed during the compliance review period. The CSL provided the proper documentation justifying the use of ATO and adhered to applicable laws, regulations and CalHR policy and guidelines.

Leave Auditing and Timekeeping

Departments must keep complete and accurate time and attendance records for each employee and officer employed within the agency over which it has jurisdiction. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 599.665.)

Departments are directed to create a monthly internal audit process to verify all leave input into any leave accounting system is keyed accurately and timely. (Human Resources Manual Section 2101.) Departments shall create an audit process to review and correct leave input errors on a monthly basis. The review of leave accounting records shall be completed by the pay period following the pay period in which the leave was keyed into the leave accounting system. (*Ibid.*) If an employee's attendance record is determined to have errors or it is determined that the employee has insufficient balances for a leave type used, the attendance record must be amended. (*Ibid.*) Attendance records shall be corrected by the pay period following the pay period in which the error occurred. (*Ibid.*) Accurate and timely attendance reporting is required of all departments and is subject to audit. (*Ibid.*)

During the period under review, November 1, 2022, through January 31, 2023, the CSL reported 21 units comprised of 154 active employees in the November 2022 pay period, 155 active employees in the December 2022 pay period, and 158 active employees in the January 2023 pay period. The pay periods and timesheets reviewed by the CRU are summarized below:

Timesheet Leave Period	Unit Reviewed	No. of Employees	No. of Timesheets Reviewed	No. of Missing Timesheets
November 2022	103	9	9	0
November 2022	107	12	12	0
December 2022	405	7	7	0
December 2022	406	2	2	0
January 2023	300	9	9	0
January 2023	401	4	4	0
January 2023	404	3	3	0

SEVERITY: VERY SERIOUS	FINDING NO. 11 INCORRECTLY POSTED LEAVE USAGE AND/OR LEAVE CREDIT
-----------------------------------	--

Summary: The CSL did not correctly enter one of 46 timesheets into the

Leave Accounting System during the November 2022 pay period. As a result, the employee retained their prior leave balance despite having used leave credits.

Criteria: Departments shall create a monthly internal audit process to verify that all leave input into any leave accounting system is keyed accurately and timely. (Human Resources Manual Section 2101.) If an employee's attendance record is determined to have errors or it is determined that the employee has insufficient balances for a leave type used, the attendance record must be amended. (*Ibid.*) Attendance records shall be corrected by the pay period following the pay period in which the error occurred. (*Ibid.*)

Severity: Very serious. Errors in posting leave usage and/or leave credits puts the department at risk of incurring additional costs from the initiation of collection efforts from overpayments, and the risk of liability related to recovering inappropriately credited leave hours and funds.

Cause: The CSL states that vacancies in the Human Resources Services Office caused a workload backlog in completing leave auditing.

Corrective Action: Within 90 days of the date of this report, the CSL must submit to the SPB a written corrective action response which addresses the corrections the department will implement to ensure conformity with Human Resources Manual Section 2101. Copies of relevant documentation demonstrating that the corrective action has been implemented must be included with the corrective action response.

Policy and Processes

Nepotism

It is the policy of the State of California to hire, transfer, and promote all employees on the basis of merit and fitness in accordance with civil service statutes, rules and regulations. Nepotism is expressly prohibited in the state workplace because it is antithetical to California's merit based civil service. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 87.) (*Ibid.*) All appointing powers shall adopt an anti-nepotism policy that includes the following components: (1) a statement that the appointing power is committed to merit-based hiring

and that nepotism is antithetical to a merit-based civil service system; (2) a definition of “nepotism” as an employee’s use of influence or power to hire, transfer, or promote an applicant or employee because of a personal relationship; (3) a definition of “personal relationship” as persons related by blood, adoption, current or former marriage, domestic partnership or cohabitation; (4) a statement that prohibits participation in the selection of an applicant for employment by anyone who has a personal relationship with the applicant, as defined in section 83.6; (5) a statement that prohibits the direct or first-line supervision of an employee with whom the supervisor has a personal relationship, as defined in section 83.6; (6) a process for addressing issues of direct supervision when personal relationships between employees exist. (*Ibid.*)

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 12 NEPOTISM POLICY COMPLIED WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, BOARD RULES, AND/OR CALHR POLICIES AND GUIDELINES
---------------	---

The CRU verified that the policy was disseminated to all staff and emphasized the CSL’s commitment to the state policy of hiring, transferring, and promoting employees on the basis of merit. Additionally, the CSL’s nepotism policy was comprised of specific and sufficient components intended to prevent favoritism, or bias, based on a personal relationship from unduly influencing employment decisions.

Workers’ Compensation

Employers shall provide to every new employee, either at the time of hire or by the end of the first pay period, written notice concerning the rights, benefits, and obligations under workers’ compensation law. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 9880, subd. (a).) This notice shall include the right to predesignate their personal physician or medical group; a form that the employee may use as an optional method for notifying the employer of the name of employee’s “personal physician,” as defined by Labor Code section 4600. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 9880, subd. (c)(7) & (8).) Additionally, within one working day of receiving notice or knowledge that the employee has suffered a work-related injury or illness, employers shall provide a claim form and notice of potential eligibility for benefits to the injured employee. (Labor Code, § 5401, subd. (a).)

Public employers may choose to extend workers' compensation coverage to volunteers that perform services for the organization. (Human Resources Manual Section 1415.) Workers’ compensation coverage is not mandatory for volunteers as it is for employees. (*Ibid.*) This is specific to the legally uninsured state departments participating in the Master Agreement. (*Ibid.*) Departments with an insurance policy for workers’

compensation coverage should contact their State Compensation Insurance Fund office to discuss the status of volunteers. (*Ibid.*)

In this case, the CSL did not employ volunteers during the compliance review period.

IN COMPLIANCE	FINDING NO. 13 WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROCESS COMPLIED WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, BOARD RULES, AND/OR CALHR POLICIES AND GUIDELINES
----------------------	---

The CRU verified that the CSL provides notice to their employees to inform them of their rights and responsibilities under California's Workers' Compensation Law. The CSL did not receive any workers' compensation claims during the review period.

Performance Appraisals

According to Government Code section 19992.2, subdivision (a), appointing powers must "prepare performance reports." Furthermore, California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 599.798, directs supervisors to conduct written performance appraisals and discuss overall work performance with permanent employees at least once in each twelve calendar months after the completion of the employee's probationary period.

The CRU selected 27 permanent CSL employees to ensure that the department was conducting performance appraisals on an annual basis in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, policies and guidelines.

SEVERITY: SERIOUS	FINDING NO. 14 PERFORMANCE APPRAISALS WERE NOT PROVIDED TO ALL EMPLOYEES
------------------------------	---

Summary: The CSL did not provide annual performance appraisals to all 27 employees reviewed after the completion of the employee's probationary period. This is the second consecutive time this has been a finding for the CSL.

Criteria: Appointing powers shall prepare performance reports and keep them on file as prescribed by department rule. (Gov. Code, § 19992.2, subd. (a).) Each supervisor, as designated by the appointing power, shall make an appraisal in writing and shall discuss with the employee overall work performance at least once in each twelve calendar months following the end of the employee's probationary period. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 599.798.)

Severity: Serious. The department does not ensure that all employees are apprised of work performance issues and/or goals in a systematic manner.

Cause: The CSL states that performance appraisals were not provided due to staff turnover.

Corrective Action: Within 90 days of the date of this report, the CSL must submit to the SPB a written corrective action response which addresses the corrections the department will implement to ensure conformity with Government Code section 19992.2 and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 599.798. Copies of relevant documentation demonstrating that the corrective action has been implemented must be included with the corrective action response.

DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE

The CSL's departmental response is attached as Attachment 1.

SPB REPLY

Based upon the CSL's written response, the CSL will comply with the corrective actions specified in these report findings. Within 90 days of the date of this report, a written corrective action response including documentation demonstrating implementation of the corrective actions specified must be submitted to the CRU.