



PHIL MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA OLIVER
Lt. Governor

State of New Jersey
Office of the Public Defender
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JOSEPH E. KRAKORA
Public Defender

April 3, 2023

CONTINUOUS RECRUITMENT

Statewide Announcement

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER 2023-030

CLOSING DATE: April 3, 2024

THIS OPPORTUNITY IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL DUE TO HIRING RESTRICTIONS

POSITION: Investigator Apprentice Public Defender - Various

LOCATION: Various Anticipated Opportunities Statewide

SALARY: (\$53,050.20 - \$74,905.98)

DESCRIPTION: Under the close supervision of an Investigator 3, Public Defender, or other supervisory official, in a two-year training program, receives formal and on-the-job training to learn to prepare cases for the representation of clients and/or the processing of citizen complaints, does related work.

NOTE: Positions in the Office of the Public Defender, Division of Mental Health Advocacy are assigned caseloads involving individuals with mental illness or developmental disabilities. Due to the nature of this work, the duties of positions in this division may vary slightly from those listed below to include heavy caseloads, limited preparation time, and investigations of and communication with individuals with mental illness or developmental disabilities. These positions are subject to Selective Certification.

EDUCATION: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree.

NOTE: For appointments to positions in the Division of Mental Health Advocacy, Selective Certification appointments are permitted by the Appointing Authority.

Appointments of this nature will be based on the following additional requirements:

1. Education: Thirty credits (undergraduate or graduate) in the following areas;
 - a. Psychology courses (at least half of which are beyond survey level) in clinic practice or therapy, intelligence or projective testing, or abnormal psychology.
 - b. Sociology/social work courses (at least half of which are beyond survey level) in social work theory, skills and methods, or clinical practicum.
- OR
2. Experience. At least one year of experience in a setting which requires substantial interviewing experience of individuals with major psychiatric disorders such as, but not limited to, schizophrenia and bi-polar, as well as relevant Axis II diagnosis for developmentally disabled individuals and sex offenders, and/or therapeutic interaction with special populations such as institutionalized children of adults, to include those individuals with the diagnosis stated above.

NOTE: Specialized education and experience may be combined to satisfy the prerequisite. Fifteen credits of course work (beyond the survey level) in psychology and sociology, or social work may be substituted for six (6) months of specialized practice.

EXPERIENCE: Applicants who do not possess the required education may substitute additional experience as indicated on a year-for-year basis with thirty (30) semester credit hours being equal to one (1) year of experience.

LICENSE:

Appointees will be required to possess a driver's license valid in New Jersey only if the operation of a vehicle, rather than employee mobility, is necessary to perform essential duties of the position.

RESIDENCY LAW:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14-7 (L. 2011, Chapter 70), also known as the "New Jersey First Act" which became effective September 1, 2011, all persons newly hired by the Executive Branch on or after the date shall have one year from the date of employment to establish, and then maintain, principal residence in the State of New Jersey. New Jersey state employees hired prior to September 1, 2011, who transferred from within the Executive Branch or from another State of New Jersey appointing authority without a break in service greater than seven days but who reside outside the State of New Jersey are not required to change their principal residence to New Jersey in order to comply with the Act.

RESUME SUBMITTAL: Interested candidates possessing the requirements listed above, should forward a current resume and cover letter via email to OPD.Recruitment@opd.nj.gov. (Note: Include the announcement number and title in the subject line and please note in your cover letter all geographical location preferences) to:

William Wander, Director of Human Resources
Human Resources
Office of the Public Defender
P.O. Box 850
Trenton, NJ 08625-0850

*Special Note: This position may be eligible to work remotely for up to two days in a calendar week.

SAME APPLICANTS: If you are applying under the NJ "SAME" program, your supporting documents (Schedule A or B letter), must be submitted along with your resume by the closing date indicated above. For more information on the SAME Program visit their Website at: <https://nj.gov/csc/same/overview/index.shtml>, email: SAME@csc.nj.gov, or call CSC at (833) 691-0404.

JOB POSTING AUTHORIZED BY:


William Wander, Director of Human Resources