Your Career in California State Parks

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CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
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(916) 653-6995, outside the U.S.
711, TTY relay service

www.parks.ca.gov/jobs

Discover the many states of California™}

Museum Curator,
State Museum Resource Center

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Why Work for California State Parks?

We like what we do, and our job satisfaction is high! We make a difference in our own lives and help ensure the presence of precious resources in our state parks for the enjoyment of generations to come. Whether you work in the fields of interpretation and education, recreation, law enforcement, cultural or natural resources, administration, operations or facility maintenance, you can be assured of a rewarding career path, a secure retirement with wonderful memories, and a lasting legacy.

What We Do

California State Parks preserves and protects more than 1.5 million acres of land and 280 miles of coastline in 278 state park units. Nearly eighty million visitors enjoy our state parks each year. Maintaining and restoring state parks takes a tremendous team effort. Come, join our team!

*Image: In-house Visitor Services Training, Asilomar State Beach*
If you enjoy—

- Working off the beaten path
- Administering grants
- Planning and design
- Landscaping
- Working with children
- Using your hands & tools
- Saving lives
- Engaging with people
- Protecting our natural & cultural resources—

Then we have a job for you!

From the guide leading a nature walk to the maintenance worker repairing a leaky faucet, visitor relations is the job of every employee. People from all over the world come to share the splendor of California’s redwood parks, beaches, historic parks and natural preserves. Enjoy meeting and sharing your passions with others through a job with California State Parks.

Do you want to restore and protect vital habitat for California’s native plants and animals? We fight invasive species, use fire to restore landscapes, control erosion, repair stream habitats and protect water quality. California State Parks offers rewarding careers in environmental science and natural resource management.

Interested in historic preservation, archaeology, or museums? California State Parks manages and preserves historic sites and buildings—as well as a vast collection of archaeological specimens, historic artifacts, and archival documents.
People who like to work with their hands will enjoy maintenance opportunities working outdoors in the fresh air. Help restore and maintain more than 15,000 campsites, 3,700 miles of trails, and 1,500 historic buildings—all conserved in state parks.

Our Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation program provides safe riding areas for off-road enthusiasts and protects our valuable natural and cultural resources. Come and get dirty with us as we keep everyone safe, including native plants and animals.

Whether you are a computer whiz or an outdoor enthusiast, you can find a niche in California State Parks. Your office could be in a railroad roundhouse, a stand of giant redwoods, a tidepool-edged beach, or an adobe mission.

And much more!
How to Get a Job with California State Parks

To be hired, you must go through the State Civil Service examination and hiring process. First, you take an exam and earn a place on the eligibility (hiring) list for the classification (job title) that interests you. You may apply for a vacant job only after you are placed on the eligibility list. By law, State agencies can only hire applicants from this list. The State Civil Service selection process is open to all people—regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, age or sexual orientation. California residency is not required, and U.S. citizenship is required only for peace officer (Ranger/Lifeguard/Communication Dispatcher) jobs. Contact one of our recruiters to discuss how they found their jobs and what their work is like. You can find a recruiter near you at: www.parks.ca.gov/recruiting

To view a Career Opportunity Bulletin listing current vacancies and exams: www.parks.ca.gov/jobs

For a partial list of State Parks job classifications: www.parks.ca.gov/careers

The State Park Uniform

Park visitors who spot Uniformed park personnel assume they are dealing with park rangers. Rangers are our most visible and identifiable staff members, but other staff—such as park aides, interpreters, maintenance workers, guides and lifeguards—also wear the distinctive California State Parks logo on their uniforms. Staff members, volunteers and docents often wear park logo clothing to show their proud association with our state parks.
Lifelong Learning  California State Parks employees learn daily—whether about botany, geology, history, archaeology, biology, administration, resource management, or all the wonders of California’s diverse environment. In addition, frequent in-house training and development courses help ensure upward mobility and success at California State Parks.

Benefits
State employees enjoy a wide range of short- and long-term benefits, including competitive compensation and paid leave. A complete list of benefits can be found on the Department of Personnel Administration website at: www.dpa.ca.gov/benefits/main.htm

Career Examples

INDOORS
- Accountant
- Architect
- Archivist
- Communications Operator
- Exhibit Designer
- Graphic Designer
- Information Officer
- IT Specialist
- Information Systems Analyst
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Librarian
- Maintenance Mechanic
- Museum Curator
- Office Assistant or Technician
- Personnel Specialist
- Program Analyst
- Programmer
- Research Analyst (Economics)
- Research Analyst (GIS)
- Restoration Worker
- Secretary
- Staff Counsel
- Staff Services Analyst
- Training Officer or Specialist

OUTDOORS
- Boat Operator
- Environmental Scientist
- Equipment Operator
- Forester
- Geologist
- Groundskeeper
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- Lifeguard
- Park Maintenance Worker
- Peace Officer/Lifeguard
- Peace Officer/Ranger
- Water & Sewage Plant Supervisor

INDOORS/OUTDOORS
- Archaeologist
- Carpenter
- Civil Engineer
- Electrician
- Engineering Geologist
- Guide
- Historian
- Landscape Architect
- Maintenance Assistant
- Park Interpreter
- Photographer
- Skilled Laborer