

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/ SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

County of Mendocino

Ukiah, CA





THE COUNTY

Mendocino County is located north of the San Francisco Bay Area and includes some of the world's most stunning coastline and redwood forests, as well as a flourishing wine industry. The exquisite physical beauty of the county provides a unique setting in which to work, live, and play. Hiking, fishing and whale watching are just a few of the outdoor activities found in the area.

Mendocino was one of the original California counties, created in 1850 at the time of statehood. The county encompasses 3,878 square miles and is home to approximately 89,130 residents. The county seat is in Ukiah, a regional hub for services and commerce. The area offers affordable housing, good schools, a variety of cultural events, fine restaurants and convenient shopping.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Mendocino County has approximately 1,100 employees and an FY 2017-18 annual operating budget of \$265,000,000. Services are located throughout the county to provide convenient access for community members. The five-member County Board of Supervisors focuses on creating and maintaining a responsive and responsible government that enhances the quality of life of the people of Mendocino County.

For more information, visit www.mendocinocounty.org.

THE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Mendocino County Agriculture Department is to serve the citizens of Mendocino County by promoting agriculture, fostering public confidence in the marketplace through inspection programs, protecting the environment and the public by regulating and mitigating pesticide use, and protecting against alien and exotic pests through eradication and preventing introduction of new pest species.

THE POSITION

The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures is appointed by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. Under administrative direction of the Board, this individual is responsible for the overall administration of the department, including budget development and administration, staff supervision, goal and priority setting, research and report preparation, program development and implementation, work assignments, work product review, and technical data presentation.

The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures provides leadership and oversight of the Department of Agriculture. The primary goals of the Department of Agriculture are to promote and protect Mendocino County's agriculture as well as protect the environment and public health and safety. This is accomplished through a number of core programs, which include Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection, Pest Eradication, Pest Management, and Pesticide Use Enforcement (PUE). Additional programs that help attain these goals are the Organic, Nursery and Seed, and Direct Marketing (Farmer's Market) programs. The goal of the Weights & Measures programs within the department is to promote fairness and equity in the marketplace for both consumers and businesses by inspecting for accuracy all of the commercial weighing and measuring devices in the county. Additionally, consumer protection is provided through the Quantity Control and Price Verification programs, which verify the "net weight" statement of packaged goods and check that computerized systems used to compute the charges for goods at check-out are accurate.

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In addition to assuring that directives from the State Department of Food and Agriculture and the Department of Pesticide Regulations are carried out, this individual serves as the local administrator for the Organic Act and Farmer's Markets, pest prevention, pesticide enforcement and investigations, inspection of nurseries, seed, fruits and vegetables, eggs, and noxious weed control. Through guidelines of the Division of Measurement Standards (DMS), the position is responsible for planning and directing the Weights & Measures programs to inspect and certify weighing and measuring devices, packaged commodities, weigh master, and petroleum product quality. It also assists in the prosecution of violators.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

Mendocino County is seeking a seasoned professional with an extensive background in agriculture and leadership experience. The ideal candidate will possess extensive knowledge of the principles, theories, trends, best practices, and techniques of farming, weights and measures, predatory animal control and crop statistics, food safety, foreign trade and markets, land use planning, water issues, and organic issues.

This person will have current knowledge of pertinent California and federal laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. In addition, he/she will demonstrate knowledge of principles and practices pertaining to public administration and exhibit an understanding of effective, affordable strategies and program management.

Education and Experience:

Any combination of training and experience which would provide the required knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the essential functions of the job is qualifying. A typical way to qualify is graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a Bachelor's degree in agriculture, biology, chemistry, math, physical sciences, engineering, or a related field; and four to six years of progressively responsible related experience.

Licenses and Certifications:

Candidates must possess all of the following:

- County Agricultural Commissioner License
- County Sealer of Weights and Measures License
- Federal Phytosanitary Certificate
- Pesticide Regulation License
- Pest Prevention and Plant Regulation License
- Weight Verification License
- Investigation and Environmental Monitoring License
- Integrated Pest Management License
- Commodity Regulation License
- Measurement Verification License
- Transaction and Product Verification License

In addition to the licensure stated above, a valid California Driver's License is required.

OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

The largest new program undertaken by the County in many years is the Cannabis Program. The State Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act, adopted in 2015, provides for a comprehensive regulatory framework, including license categories for cultivation, nursery, manufacturer, testing, dispensary, distribution, and transportation. When fully implemented, with limited exceptions for qualifying patients and primary caregivers, the above cannabis related activities will be defined as "commercial cannabis activity" and will require state licenses which will be issued beginning on or after January 1, 2018. Those operating with state licenses in Mendocino County must first obtain a permit from the County. Mendocino County's regulatory program for cultivation went into effect on May 4, 2017. The FY 2017-18 County Budget includes revenue based on the projection that the County will receive 600 permit applications and collect permit fees therefrom in the fiscal year.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

The annual salary range for this position is \$99,611 to \$121,118 and placement is commensurate with qualifications and experience. The County of Mendocino offers a generous compensation and benefits package which includes:

- 3% Wage increase effective September 9, 2018
- \$2,000 one-time supplemental payment to be paid September 28, 2018
- Retirement benefits provided under the 1937 Act and enrollment in Social Security. For more information, contact the Retirement Administrator at 707-463-4328.
- Participation in a 457 deferred compensation plan with up to 4% of salary contribution matched by the County.
- \$1,500 annual Management Fund for training and wellness
- For employees enrolled in County Health Plan, County pays 75% of Medical, Dental and Vision Insurance coverage for employees and their dependents. (Health Plan participants will experience a 3-month "holiday" from employee only portion of premiums for the months of October, November, and December 2018)
- \$50,000 group life insurance policy and \$5,000 A D & D.
- 11 paid holidays.
- 48 hours of paid management leave.
- Paid vacation beginning with two weeks increasing periodically to five weeks after 15 years of service.
- Sick leave accrued at 15 days per year.
- County-funded extended disability leave.
- Voluntary election of an automobile allowance of \$250 per month

HOW TO APPLY

This position will remain open until filled. Interested individual are encouraged to **apply on-line immediately** at www.alliancerc.com. Interviews will be scheduled as soon as a sufficient number of well-qualified candidates has been identified. For questions and inquiries, please contact:

Cindy Krebs

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or Sherrill Uyeda

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