



# Job Opportunities with the California Public Utilities Commission

*Establish Innovative Policies | Protect the Environment | Protect Consumers | Make a Difference*



**California Public  
Utilities Commission**





# Where Do I Fit In?

The California Public Utilities Commission serves the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring safe, reliable utility service and infrastructure at reasonable rates, with a commitment to environmental enhancement and a healthy California economy. We regulate utility services, stimulate innovation, and promote competitive markets, where possible, in the communications, energy, transportation, and water industries. Human Resources strives to attract, hire, train, and retain the best and brightest through equitable and inclusive workplace practices.

## The Divisions of the California Public Utilities Commission



### Executive Office

The Executive Office has the overall responsibility for assuring that the Commission's decisions and policies are implemented, and works in conjunction with Commissioners, Directors, and staff to coordinate and facilitate the handling of procedural matters and the internal operations of the Commission. The Office of Governmental Affairs and the News and Public Information Office are branches in the Executive Division.



### Commissioners

Commissioners are staggered to assure experience on the board. The Commissioners are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the California State Senate. Commissioners make all policy decisions, usually meeting twice a month to discuss and vote on issues noticed on an agenda that is distributed to the public before the meeting and posted on the Commission's website.



### Administrative Services

Administrative Services integrates and facilitates CPUC employee and external stakeholder access to CPUC information and documents, maintains and improves the CPUC's technological information resources, and provides Human Capital Management, administrative, fiscal, and budget services to CPUC.

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## Public Advocates Office

The Public Advocates Office is an independent organization within the CPUC that advocates solely on behalf of utility ratepayers. Our Director is appointed by the Governor and has its own independent operating budget. Our statutory mission is to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. As the only State entity charged with this responsibility, we have a critical role in ensuring that consumers are represented at the CPUC on matters that affect how much consumers pay for utility services and the quality of those services.



## Office of the Safety Advocate Division

The Office of the Safety Advocate Division leads the Commission's response to the safety initiative entrusted to us. The immediate focus is to analyze safety issues associated with a utility's investments and operations.



## Administrative Law Judge Division

The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Division ensures that the Commission's decision-making process is based on an adequate administrative record developed through evidentiary hearings or briefs and comments. The Proposed Decisions written by the ALJs are based on the record for Commission approval. In addition, the ALJ Division oversees the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program. The Commission encourages the application of ADR techniques and promotes its use in formal proceedings, when appropriate.



## Legal Division

The Legal Division advises Commissioners and agency staff. Staff attorneys review filings by public utilities, appear in a wide variety of proceedings before the Commission, and represent the Commission and the State of California before state and federal courts and agencies. The many issues and cases the Commission's lawyers handle include energy procurement, electricity and natural gas distribution and transmission, enforcement and safety, telecommunications, transportation, and water. Among the classifications in the Legal Division are Legal Secretaries and Analysts.



## Water Division

The Water Division investigates rate increase requests from investor-owned water and sewer service utilities, tracks compliance with Commission orders, and assists the public in resolving technical problems with water and sewer companies. In order to improve regulatory oversight, the advisory audit functions from the Water, Communications, and Energy Divisions have been consolidated in the Water Division. Auditors assigned to the Water Division perform accounting, auditing, and financial analysis.

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# How Do I Get Started?

- **New to state employment?** Start at the [CalCareers 3 Steps to a State Job](#) page, where you will learn about the exam and application processes. Read about the generous [Employee Benefits](#) package the CPUC offers.
- **Know which exam you need to take?** Visit the [CalCareers CPUC Exam](#) page to find out when they are offered.
- **Looking for open positions?** Check out the [CPUC Open Positions](#) list. Check the details carefully, as some positions are in Sacramento, San Francisco or Los Angeles counties.
- **Stay current:** Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) to see career opportunities as they come available.
- **For more information:** contact the CPUC recruiting office at [cpucrecruiter@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:cpucrecruiter@cpuc.ca.gov) any time for questions you may have about specific jobs or the hiring process.



## Communications Division

The Communications Division assists the Commission in developing and implementing policies and procedures in the interest of consumers in all communications markets, and in addressing regulatory changes required by state and federal legislation. The division assists the Commission's oversight of a competitive market by ensuring that consumers are protected from fraud and abuse and receive affordable, universal access to necessary services. In addition, the division ensures that telecommunications networks can accommodate many competitors using different technologies, and that competition rules are clear, allowing flexibility without compromising due process.



## Energy Division

The Energy Division advises the Commission about major developments affecting energy utilities. It directs the Commission regarding the approval, denial, or modifications of all electric and natural gas utility requests not assigned for hearing, oversees compliance of orders, and provides technical assistance. It assists the Commission in developing and monitoring competitive services, economic regulation of monopoly services, and implementing regulatory objectives and programs for California's electricity and natural gas industries. It emphasizes protection for consumers and those with special needs, assurance of safe and reliable service, and consideration of climate change, renewable energy, and environmental issues.



## Utility Audits, Risk and Compliance Division

The Utility Audits, Risk and Compliance Division (UARCD) includes two branches: Utility Audits Branch and Risk and Compliance Branch. The Utility Audits Branch provides auditing, accounting, financial, and advisory services on regulated utilities. The Risk and Compliance Branch provides greater awareness of enterprise risks by identifying, measuring, reporting and monitoring risks that affect the Commission's objectives. We perform research, analysis, and assessments and communicate our results to the Commission and its staff, the utilities we regulate, and the public.



## Safety and Enforcement Division

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) promotes utility safety by performing gas and electric safety audits and conducting incident investigations. SED experts provide leadership and technical expertise related to major threats to utility safety, such as wildfires, natural gas pipeline risks, gas storage leaks and cyber physical risks. SED is also advancing safety by developing robust risk management measures, collaborating with state and federal agencies, and leading efforts to improve utility safety culture.



## Consumer Protection & Enforcement Division

CPED also provides analysis and reporting on the informal consumer contacts received to inform the public and stakeholders and to assist with policymaking. CPED also investigate alleged or apparent violations of relevant statutes and regulations by stationary utilities (telephone, cellular, electric gas, and water and passenger carriers. These investigations typically involve consumer fraud, false or misleading advertising, bait-and-switch tactics, unfair and unlawful business practices, and unsafe or uninsured operations. CPED also execute administrative, criminal and civil remedies to certain violations.



## News and Outreach

The CPUC's News and Outreach Office assists customers with utility complaints and provides information and assistance to the media, local governments and community organizations, the public, and other stakeholders about the CPUC's many pioneering and innovative programs, policies, and proceedings.



## Rail Safety Division

The CPUC is the state agency that oversees rail safety; this includes freight, inter-city and commuter railroads, rail transit and rail crossings.



**California Public  
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