



MALIA M. COHEN
California State Controller

Notice of Probate Referee Examination

Notice is hereby given that the State Controller's Office will conduct a qualifying examination for possible appointment as Probate Referee on Friday, May 1; Saturday, May 2; Sunday, May 3; and Monday, May 4th, 2026 (applicant chooses ONE date)

The California State Controller is authorized by law to appoint at least one probate referee for each county. Currently, there are 123 appointed probate referees in California. Applicants must meet the minimum professional requirements discussed below, successfully pass an examination and be interviewed by a panel of judges and attorneys. The Controller will make her appointments after considering the recommendations from the interview panel.

Applicants for appointment must possess threshold academic and/or relevant professional experience in order to take the examination and be considered for appointment. Applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- * Bachelor's degree plus at least thirty (30) class hours in appraisal/valuation classes; or
- * 2,000 hours of experience within the last four years appraising real and/or personal property; or
- * Certified as an appraiser by the California Office of Real Estate Appraisers, the Appraisal Institute or the American Society of Appraisers; or
- * Attorney with a minimum of three (3) years as a member of the California State Bar; or
- * Certified Public Accountant with a minimum of three (3) years as a licensed CPA in California

Interested persons who meet the above requirements should e-mail CPS HR Consulting at probateinfo@cpsr.us or call (916) 263-3624, select option #4, and request an application for Probate Referee. The application and testing information are also available at <https://probatereferee.cpsr.us/> or www.sco.ca.gov.

Malia M. Cohen

3/15/2026

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Please return completed application, with exam fee, by mail to:

**CPS HR Consulting
Attn: Probate Referee Program
2450 Del Paso Road, Suite 160
Sacramento, CA 95834**

Applications must be received by April 17th, 2026.

Please note that five (5) letters of recommendation from the references you list on your application will be required to be considered for an appointment. All letters are to be received by the State Controller's Office no later than June 1st, 2026. Send letters to:

**State Controller's Office
Attn: Probate Referee Program
300 Capitol Mall, Suite 1850
Sacramento, CA 95814**