



State of Alabama Personnel Department
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Montgomery, AL 36130-4100
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www.personnel.alabama.gov
Continuous Announcement

DISABILITY SPECIALIST, TRAINEE – 50401

Salary: \$38,541.60 - \$67,658.40

Starting salary upon initial appointment to the merit system may be based on various factors.

Starting salaries will be adjusted above the minimum to Step 4 of the Pay Plan - \$41,479.20

Announcement Date: July 26, 2023

Revised Date: September 13, 2023

JOB INFORMATION

The Disability Specialist, Trainee is a permanent, full-time position with the Department of Education, Disability Determination Service. Positions are located in Birmingham and Mobile. Employees are responsible for determining an individual's eligibility for disability benefits under Title II and Title XVI of the Social Security Act.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENT(S)

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited* four-year college or university in any major. Applicants may apply for this position during their last semester/quarter of college; however, applicants will be required to submit documentation verifying completion of the Bachelor's degree to the hiring agency prior to beginning work.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT(S)

- Individuals selected for positions with the State Department of Education's Disability Determination Service (DDS) will go through a complete federal background investigation. A suitability determination by the Social Security Administration is necessary to determine whether an employee can be issued credentials in order to have access to Social Security disability data, records, and systems.

NOTE(S)

- If your application states you have a college degree, the Alabama Department of Education requires documentation verifying possession of the degree prior to employment.

EXAMINATION

- Open-Competitive to all applicants
- An evaluation of Training and Experience as shown on the application will comprise 100% of the final score for the open-competitive register.

HOW TO APPLY

- Complete an Application for Examination Form available at www.personnel.alabama.gov, the above address, or any Alabama Career Center Office.
- Apply on-line, by mail, by fax, or by email at apply@personnel.alabama.gov. Applications will be accepted until further notice. The State Personnel Department is not responsible for late receipt of applications due to mail service or faxing malfunctions.
- Individuals currently on the register DO NOT NEED to reapply to remain eligible for employment.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

*Please refer to the back of this announcement for complete information on State Personnel's policy for accepting post-secondary and advanced degrees.

Except for pretest information provided by State Personnel to all applicants, you should not directly or indirectly obtain information about examinations. If you do, the State Personnel Director may do several things. One, you may not be given an examination. Two, you may be disqualified after an examination. Three, your name may be removed from a register. Or four, your name may not be certified from the register. (Rules of the State Personnel Board, Chapter 670-x-9). According to the Code of Alabama, 36-26-47, a willful violation of exam security is a misdemeanor. Any person who is convicted of this type of misdemeanor will be ineligible for appointment to or employment in a position in State service for a period of five years and, if the person is an officer or employee of the State, will forfeit his or her office or position.

If you know of anyone who has violated this policy, you should contact the Examination Manager at the State Personnel Department.

Applicants hired by the State of Alabama on or after January 1, 2012 will be subject to the E-Verify process pursuant to Act No. 2011-535.

State of Alabama Personnel Department

Policy on Accepting College Coursework, Post-Secondary and Advanced Degrees

1. Specific college coursework required for a job classification, as well as bachelor's, graduate, post graduate, and doctoral degrees will be accepted from schools accredited by the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) or any of the six regional accreditation associations in the United States listed below:

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)
- Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
- Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
- New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges –Senior College and University Commission (WASC-SCUC)

College coursework is defined as credit hours leading to a bachelor's degree or higher.

2. Coursework or degrees from schools that have not been accredited by one of the above accreditation associations may be accepted if a ***regionally accredited school**** considers the coursework or degree to be an acceptable prerequisite for admission to an advanced degree program. For example, if a regionally accredited school accepts an applicant's bachelor's degree for admittance into a graduate degree program, State Personnel will accept the degree. In the case of required college coursework (but no degree requirement), State Personnel will accept the college coursework if a regionally accredited school accepts the coursework towards a post-secondary degree (e.g., a bachelor's degree). ***This must be documented by a letter of acceptance from the regionally accredited school.*** State Personnel will review such requests on a case-by-case basis.

Note: This policy is subject to change. Certain state agencies may have additional requirements.

*The term "regionally accredited school" refers to an institution of higher education accredited by one of the six regional accreditation associations listed above.