



PORTLAND VA MEDICAL CENTER

Our mission is to honor America's veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being.



NOTICE OF VACANCY

POSITION TITLE: Medical Support Assistant

ANNOUNCEMENT #: MP-11-0078-JL

DIVISION: Inpatient and Emergency Service Division

LOCATION: Portland Oregon

SERIES & SALARY RANGE: GS-679-6 \$36,799 to \$47,837

OPEN DATE: 2/25/2011

CLOSE DATE: 3/18/2011

NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 7

POSITION INFORMATION: Permanent, Full Time, Multiple Shifts

WHO MAY APPLY:

- VA Career or career conditional employees
- VA permanent Title 38, Title 38 Hybrid employees and Veterans Canteen employees eligible under the Interchange Agreement
- Federal Career/Career Conditional Employees and Reinstatement eligibles
- Individuals eligible under special hiring authorities (See conditions of employment).
- ICTAP/CTAP eligible Federal Employees. (See conditions of employment).
- Noncompetitive appointment of certain military spouses (See conditions of employment).
- VEOA eligible applicants (Veterans Employment Opportunities Act) (See conditions of employment).
- Schedule A applicants (See conditions of employment).
- VRA eligible applicants (See conditions of employment).

BARGAINING UNIT POSITION: YES

MAJOR DUTIES: The Medical Support Assistant will have duties and responsibilities on acute inpatient medical/surgical wards and the Emergency Department at Portland VA Medical Center. The incumbent is responsible for maintaining accurate and complete information through various computer programs when processing hospital admissions and maintaining daily reports on the status of the various admissions processed. The Medical Support Assistant monitors patient flow and creates positive solutions to increase overall efficiency for customers and the medical center. As well, the incumbent will operate a multi-line phone system and schedule appointments as is appropriate, minding patient concerns and urgency. The Medical Support Assistant updates patient information as needed and assembles patient records per guidelines and ensures all records have complete patient information on each part of the record. Insures that advance directives are present and completed and activates action as required. Makes necessary arrangements for transfer of patients to other hospitals or nursing homes, verifies and assures that records of patients' treatments, including hospitalization summaries and operative report and blood transfusions forms are complete, accurate, and properly completed before forwarding to Medical Information Section (MIS). The incumbent keeps track of and maintain, as appropriate, medical records. Coordinates scheduling to avoid conflicts in different clinics or other medical treatment facility schedules. Ensures appointments are timely and in accordance with care provider's request.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- **Eligibility:** U.S. Office of Personnel Management [Qualification Standards](#) Handbook for GS-303. Regulatory requirements such as "time-in-grade" and "time after competitive appointment" are applicable.
- **Basic Requirements:** Must be a U.S. citizen.
- **Specialized Experience:** At least one year of experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level. Specialized experience includes, but is not limited to; maintaining files for a high volume large scale organization. Answering calls from varied sources and dispensing accurate and timely information. Using a computer to create and maintain electronic notifications and records. Using a variety of computer programs to serve customer needs.
- **Substitution of Education for Experience:** Generally not applicable.

Please note: It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure timely receipt of the application, regardless of the method used for submission. The VA assumes no responsibility for the late delivery of applications (i.e. postal service delays). The Portland VA Medical Center will not accept in a US government envelope.



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- Basis for Rating: Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

On a separate sheet of paper, provide a written, detailed response to each of the KSAs. Failure to respond to the rating factors may result in your application receiving a less than desirable rating.

1. Ability to communicate orally with persons of varied backgrounds.
2. Ability to communicate in writing with persons of varied backgrounds.
3. Knowledge of policies and procedures governing medical support functions and medical records.
4. Experience applying regulations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA).
5. Ability to establish priorities, meet deadlines, and function under pressure.
6. Experience with the use of personal computers and with a wide range of software packages; including but not limited to computerized patient records systems.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- **Priority Consideration:** Individuals who have special priority selection rights under the Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) or the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP) must be well qualified for the position to receive consideration for special priority selection. CTAP and ICTAP eligibles will be considered well qualified if they can perform the duties of the position at the full performance level and the full range. Prior experience with patient admitting and usage of Windows based computer systems to create and maintain clinic records.

Federal Employees seeking CTAP/ICTAP eligibility must submit proof that they meet the requirements of 5 CFR 330.605 (a) for CTAP and 5 CFR 330.704 for ICTAP. This includes a copy of the agency notice, a copy of their most recent Performance Rating and a copy of their most recent SF-50 noting current position, grade level, and duty location. Please annotate your application to reflect that you are applying as a CTAP or ICTAP eligible.

- Noncompetitive Appointment of Certain Military Spouses

- Spouses of armed forces members who are involved in a Permanent Change of Station (PCS): You must include a copy of the service member's PCS Orders authorizing the spouse to accompany the service member and proof of marriage to the service member.
- Spouses of armed forces members who retired or were released from active duty with a 100% disability: You must include proof that service member was released or discharged from active duty due to a service-connected disability, documentation of 100% disability, and proof of marriage to the service member.
- Un-remarried widows or widowers of armed forces members killed while on active duty: You must include proof of service member's death while on active duty and proof of marriage to the service member.

- **VEOA (Veterans Employment Opportunities Act)** Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 or more years of continuous active service.

- **Schedule A** special hiring authority covers applicants with mental and physical disabilities. In order to be considered under this special hiring authority applicants need to provide proof of disability and job readiness certification. The proof of disability and job readiness certification can be provided by the following: 1) a statement or letter on a physician's/medical professional's letterhead; 2) statement, record or letter from a Federal Government agency that issues or provides disability benefits; 3) statement, record or letter from a State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency counselor; or 4) certification from a private Vocational Rehabilitation or other Counselor that issues or provides disability benefits. More information regarding this special hiring authority can be found at www.opm.gov/disability/aboutus.asp

- **VRA (Veterans Recruitment Act):** VRA eligibility applies to the following categories: Disabled Veterans, Veterans who served on active duty in the Armed Forces during a war declared by Congress, or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized, Veterans who, while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces, participated in a military operation for which the Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM) was awarded and Veterans separated from active duty within the past 3 years.

- Although the duty station is shown in this announcement, it may be necessary to utilize the selected person's services at a different location within the Portland VA Medical Center commuting area if conditions require it in the future

- Applicants without prior federal service will be appointed at step one of the grade

- Eligible employees may be non-competitively reassigned to fill this position as an exception to merit promotion.

- Under Executive Order 11935, only United States citizens and nationals (residents of American Samoa and Swains Island) may compete for civil service jobs. Agencies are permitted to hire noncitizens only in very limited circumstances where there are no qualified citizens available for the position.

- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must register with the [Selective Service](#) System, unless you meet certain exemptions.

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- A security clearance and a favorable suitability determination are required. Misconduct in prior employment, criminal, dishonest or disgraceful conduct, habitual use of intoxicating beverages, abuse of narcotics, drugs or other controlled substances, or reasonable doubt of loyalty to the United States are examples of reasons an offer of employment may be denied.
- Public transit subsidy benefits are available. Carpooling assistance is provided. However, single occupancy parking is limited on main Portland campus.
- Applicants appointed to direct patient care positions must be proficient in spoken and written English as required by 38 USC 7402(d) and 7407(d).
- This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis
- The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.
- It is the policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs that all Federal wage and salary payments are paid to employees by Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT).

HOW TO APPLY:

Application forms may be obtained in Human Resources Management Service or on our [Portland VAMC](#) internet website.

Portland VAMC Permanent Internal employees:

1. [VAF 4078, Application for Promotion or Reassignment](#)
2. [VAF 4676a, Employee Supplemental Qualifications Statement](#) (due 3/25/2011)
3. [VAF 4667b, Supervisory Appraisal of Employee for Promotion](#) (due 3/25/2011)
4. Updated application; [OF 612, Optional Application for Federal Employment](#) (attach additional sheets of paper if needed for additional job experience (in same format as application)), or Resume.
5. [MPQ – Merit Promotion Questionnaire](#) is optional but recommended if you have qualifications pertaining to the position applied for but are not in your OPF.

All Other Applicants Must Submit:

1. [OF 612, Optional Application for Federal Employment](#) (attach additional sheets of paper if needed for additional job experience (in same format as application)), or Resume. (Please refer to [OF-510, Applying for a Federal Job](#) on the USA jobs website (<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>) for information on how to apply with a resume instead of OF-612.
2. [OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#) (January 2001 version or later).
3. Veterans Preference: (Required if Veterans Preference is being used for status)
 - a. DD-214, Military Discharge Paper (copy must display the required data which includes awards/medals/badges, dates and character of service) (For 5 Point Veteran's Preference).
 - b. [SF-15, Application for 10-point Veteran Preference](#) (December 2004 version or later) (if applicable)
 - c. VA letter or DOD documentation of service-connected disability rating dated 1991 or later if applicable.
4. SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action (if applying as a current or former federal employee).
5. Special Hiring Authority documentation (if applying under ICTAP/CTAP, Schedule A, etc.)
6. A copy of your college transcripts (Optional unless education is required). Please note, education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications (particularly positions with a positive education requirement.). Therefore, applicants must report only attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants can verify accreditation at the following website: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>. All education claimed by applicants will be verified by the appointing agency accordingly. Foreign Education; to receive credit for education completed outside the United States, you must show proof that the education has been submitted to a private organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials and such education has been deemed at least equivalent to that gained in conventional U.S. education programs.

All application packets must be received in Human Resources by Close of Business (COB) on 3/18/2011

- Applications may be emailed to: PortlandVAJobs@va.gov
- Received by Fax to: 503.273.5029 ATTN: MP-11-0078-JL

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- Mailed to: PO BOX 1034, Portland, OR 97207 ATTN: MP-11-0078-JL
- Brought in person to: Portland VA Medical Center at 3710 SW US Veterans Hospital Road, Portland, OR 97239, Human Resources Building 16, Room 300

Thank you for your interest in the Portland VA Medical Center, for more career opportunities please visit: [Portland VA Human Resources](#) or [USAJobs](#).

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