

**MICHIGAN CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
JOB SPECIFICATION**

**ECONOMIC SPECIALIST**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

Employees in this job function as professional specialists, with responsibility for an economic program or specialty area, or as an administrative assistant to an administrator or executive. Positions are (1) designated as specialists by the Appointing Authority; (2) accepted and classified by Civil Service; (3) require advanced knowledge in the field of work; (4) responsible for highly complex assignments; (5) the scope of responsibility is significant; and (6) the job function has considerable impact within the department. Typically, positions in this job do not supervise.

There are three classifications in this job.

**Position Code Title - Economic Specialist-2**

Economic Specialist 13

The employee functions as a second-level specialist or as an administrative assistant to a deputy bureau director, office director, major office director, division director, or unclassified equivalent.

**Position Code Title - Economic Specialist-3**

Economic Specialist 14

The employee functions as a third-level specialist or as an administrative assistant to a bureau director or unclassified equivalent.

**Position Code Title - Economic Specialist-4**

Economic Specialist 15

The employee functions as a fourth-level specialist or as an administrative assistant to a deputy director, chief deputy director, or unclassified equivalent.

**NOTE:**

There are two professional specialist concepts:

**Specialty Area:** Functions administered by an agency to provide a product or service to the agency's constituency. Specialty areas must be of significant breadth, depth, complexity, and importance to the agency. Such positions are typically responsible for providing expert advice in the area of specialty to department management, outside entities, and/or the public; directing and conducting highly complex studies and analyses without technical direction; and developing and monitoring procedures, guidelines, and policies that are the foundation of the program or specialty area.

Appointing Authority designation as a specialist is required at all levels for positions assigned a specialty area. To determine if the specialist job exceeds the 13-level, the position must be evaluated by the Appointing Authority using the Professional Specialist Position Evaluation System factors to recommend the appropriate classification level.

**Administrative Assistant:** Professional positions that have as their predominant and essential function the responsibility to advise and assist a manager, administrator, or executive in all areas for which the official is responsible. Typically, the position does not have supervisory responsibility, but participates in a staff capacity in budget development, personnel matters, program planning, policy and procedure development, meetings on behalf of the supervisor, and other areas of the supervisor's responsibility.

Appointing Authority designation as the Administrative Assistant is required at all levels. Determination of classification levels for administrative assistant positions is based upon the duties assigned and the reporting relationship.

## **JOB DUTIES**

**NOTE:** The job duties listed are typical examples of the work performed by positions in this job classification. Not all duties assigned to every position are included, nor is it expected that all positions will be assigned every duty.

**Administrative Assistant:**

Advises and assists the official in all areas of responsibility.

Carries out special projects as assigned by the official.

Assists in program planning, policy, and procedure development.

Participates in budget development.

Represents the official at meetings.

**Specialist:**

Researches, compiles, analyzes, interprets, and prepares data on economic conditions in Michigan.

Conducts surveys for determining and analyzing occupational employment statistics, wage information, labor supply and demand, tax revenues, and insurance and utility rate structures.

Develops economic forecasts using econometric techniques.

Identifies economic indicators in respect to trends of the national and local economies.

Evaluates rate structures, cost of money, rates of return, and other economic parameters of the insurance and utility industries.

Assesses economic impact of tax laws and proposals, and makes projections of anticipated revenue collection.

Reviews and analyzes economic data to prepare reports detailing results of performed research.

Attends conferences and public meetings to explain programs and policies.

Maintains records and reports related to the work.

Delivers public speeches regarding the economics field to interested groups; explains the acts or laws to individuals or companies.

Formulates procedures, policies and guidelines for assigned economics programs.

Performs duties of unusual significance or importance to the Department.

Makes recommendations in areas of expertise.

Develops program goals and plans for implementation.

Develops alternative strategies for programs based on analysis and research in an assigned specialty area.

Acts as a liaison with other agencies, organizations, and employees to coordinate economic programs.

Plans and coordinates the training of staff in economic activities.

Serves as a technical advisor and liaison with industry, community groups, and/or governmental agencies.

Conducts special projects.

Prepares special studies and reports.

Prepares budgets.

Maintains records, and prepares reports and correspondence related to the work.

Performs related work as assigned.

## **JOB QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

**NOTE:** The degree of knowledge required is a function of job complexity, program or specialty scope, and impact which increases with the level of the position.

Administrative Assistant:

Knowledge of the principles and techniques of administrative management including organization, planning, staffing, training, budgeting, and reporting.

Knowledge of fiscal planning, budgeting, and management.

Specialist:

Knowledge of the operational and technical problems involved in the administration of a specialized program.

Knowledge of the assigned program specialty.

Administrative Assistant and Specialist:

Knowledge of the principles of economics, including the methods and techniques of econometrics and forecasting.

Knowledge of micro and macro economic theory.

Knowledge of economic research and survey sampling techniques.

Knowledge of graphic and narrative techniques for the presentation of data.

Knowledge of mathematics and statistical theory.

Knowledge of economic indicators relative to national and local economic trends.

Knowledge of methods of planning, developing and administering programs.

Knowledge of state and federal laws and legislative processes related to the work.  
 Knowledge of the need, preparation, and use of reports.  
 Knowledge of reporting methods and techniques.  
 Ability to conduct research studies.  
 Ability to gather and analyze economic data and present findings.  
 Ability to plan, direct and coordinate programs and administrative activities of a complex, interrelated, and interdependent nature, where unknowns and numerous contingency factors are involved.  
 Ability to formulate policies and procedures relevant to program areas based on information of a conceptual nature from varied and complex sources.  
 Ability to plan, coordinate, and expedite work projects.  
 Ability to interpret complex rules and regulations.  
 Ability to maintain favorable public relations.  
 Ability to communicate with others verbally and in writing.

**Working Conditions**

*None*

**Physical Requirements**

*None*

**Education**

Possession of a bachelor's degree with a major in economics.

**Experience**

Economic Specialist 13 - 15

Four years of professional experience performing economic analysis and modeling activities equivalent to an Economic Analyst, including two years equivalent to an Economic Analyst P11 or one year equivalent to an Economic Analyst 12.

**Special Requirements, Licenses, and Certifications**

*None*

**NOTE:** Equivalent combinations of education and experience that provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities will be evaluated on an individual basis.

**JOB CODE, POSITION TITLES AND CODES, AND COMPENSATION INFORMATION**

<b><u>Job Code</u></b>	<b><u>Job Code Description</u></b>	
ECONMCSPL	ECONOMIC SPECIALIST	
<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Position Code</u></b>	<b><u>Pay Schedule</u></b>
Economic Specialist-2	ECOSPL2	NERE-182
Economic Specialist-3	ECOSPL3	NERE-186
Economic Specialist-4	ECOSPL4	NERE-188

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