

# THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

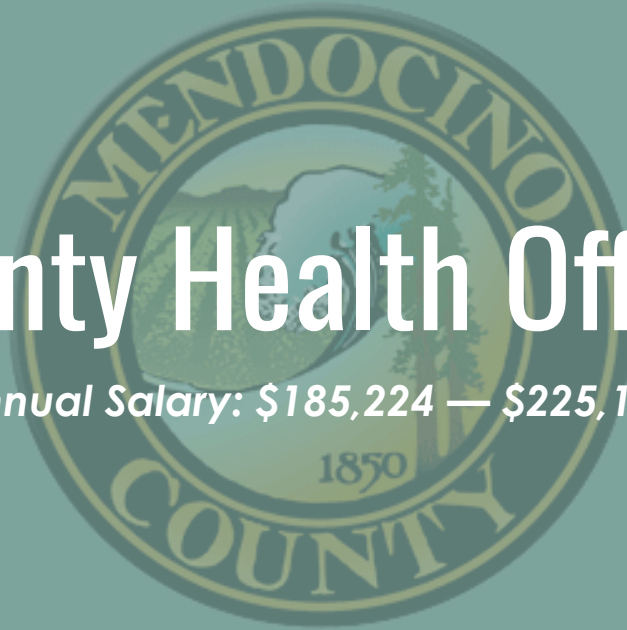
is now accepting applications for the position of:



# JOIN OUR TEAM!

## County Health Officer

*Annual Salary: \$185,224 — \$225,139*



*Application deadline: May 17, 2026*

## The County

Mendocino County is a general law County, governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors who serve as the legislative and executive body of County government and many special districts. The Board members are elected by their respective districts and together enact legislation governing the County and determine overall policies for County departments and various special districts. The Board appoints the Chief Executive Officer who is responsible for the day-to-day administration of County affairs.



The County is divided into seven functional areas that represent general categories of service to the County's community: General Government, Public Protection, Public Ways & Facilities, Health & Sanitation, Public Assistance, Education, and Recreation & Culture. These areas are composed of 19 separate departments. Four departments are directed by officials elected by residents to serve a four-year term, and include: Assessor-Clerk-Recorder, Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector, District Attorney, and Sheriff-Coroner. Five officials are appointed by the Chief Executive Officer, which include the Human Resources Director, Planning and Building Services Director, Health Services Director, Social Services Director, and Transportation Director. The remaining officials are appointed either by the Board or other agencies as outlined in state law.

With an annual budget of \$416 million and approximately 1,100 full-time employees, Mendocino County is dedicated to providing essential services that enhance the well-being of its residents. The County has four strategic priority goals through 2027: an effective county government, a safe and healthy county, a thriving economy, and a prepared and resilient county.

The County of Mendocino covers nearly two and a half million acres of land (more than 3,800 square miles). It is a picturesque and bucolic rural county along California's north coast. Just two hours drive from the Golden Gate, the county boasts beautiful fertile inland valleys, Pacific coastline, and rugged mountain peaks. The county's 91,000 residents enjoy small town life, local cultural events, theatre companies, and abundant outdoor recreational activities. Quaint historic villages are found along the scenic coastline, home to many inns, art galleries, boutiques and restaurants. The northern part of the county draws outdoor enthusiasts eager for adventure in hiking, canoeing, fishing and more. The inland area is best known as wine country, producing some of the finest California wines from a unique terroir. Mendocino County's economy is grounded in agriculture and timber, as well as tourism and a growing retail and service center. Weather in the county is generally mild. Fog and sea breezes usually keep the coastal areas cool, while inland temperatures can reach the high 90's during the summer months. With 90+ miles of coastline, Mendocino County has a beach for everyone. We are home to the southernmost reaches of the Pacific temperate rainforest ecoregion and to the Mendocino National Forest, with recreational opportunities accessible to all. The county seat is Ukiah with a population of approximately 16,700 residents.

For more information about Mendocino County: [www.discoverukiah.com](http://www.discoverukiah.com)

[www.visitmendocino.com](http://www.visitmendocino.com)

## The Department

The Department integrates Public Health and Behavioral Health with a mission to provide exceptional health services to the community. It regularly assesses whole community health needs through the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and Quality Assurance Plans, including the Accreditation process. These assessments help identify current health challenges and guide the development of strategies to address them.

The Department collaborates with local for-profit and non-profit organizations to enhance service efficiency, reduce duplication, and foster productive partnerships to strengthen the public health system. A newly established healthcare coalition, cross-collaboration between clinics and behavioral health providers helps improve access to care, keeps stakeholders informed on emerging issues, and facilitate ongoing discussions about upcoming healthcare initiatives and challenges.

With approximately 58 full-time staff and an approximate budget of \$17.4 million, the Department is dedicated to making Mendocino County a healthier, more vibrant place to live.

*The Department's Commitment Statement: To safeguard and promote the health and wellness of the people of Mendocino County.*



## The Position

The County of Mendocino is seeking an innovative and community-oriented County Health Officer (CHO) to serve as the county's chief public health strategist, developing and implementing health policy, overseeing public health preparedness efforts, and ensuring community health initiatives meet the needs of all residents. Working closely with local tribal health organizations, community clinics, and other critical partners, the CHO will foster a cohesive healthcare system that supports a diverse population. Their role will encompass medical oversight of programs for communicable disease control, environmental health, and maternal and child health. Under the direction of the Health Services Director, the County Health Officer ensures enforcement of California statutes, regulations, and local ordinances pertaining to the protection of public health; oversees public health programs as pre-scribed by the California Department of Public Health; advises the Board of Supervisors and Health Services Director concerning community health issues; assesses and reports on the County's health status; and, provides leadership in developing health policy for the County and the community. As a key member of the department's executive team, the CHO will advise the Board of Supervisors, and work closely with the Director of Nursing, the Disaster Services Nurse in charge of emergency preparedness, and two supporting Deputy Health Officers—who specialize in communicable disease and children's services, respectively. The CHO will supervise health education initiatives, collaborate with healthcare providers, and ensure the delivery of quality health services, including for juvenile hall. The CHO will also work closely with local agencies, other County departments, and participate on state and national health boards and committees.

This is a largely medical and scientific role, with minimal administrative responsibilities. The County Health Officer will address the needs of the community and ensure all services across the County are communicating effectively. They will also, forecast trends, and remain current on state and federal regulations. The CHO will drive initiatives to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, issue legal orders, coordinate disease control measures and immunizations, and provide clinical protocol consultation. They will also serve as the Tuberculosis Controller, Sexually Transmitted Disease Controller, and may act as the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator during public health emergencies.

The ideal candidate will be a highly skilled licensed physician in California with strong knowledge in clinical medicine, public health, and communicable disease control, including epidemiology and environmental health. They will be knowledgeable in comprehensive public health programs, as well as the applicable regulations governing public health. Familiarity with rural healthcare challenges is essential, as is a strong understanding of the social determinants of health.

The ideal candidate will also have experience with regulatory requirements for CLIA-certified laboratories and clinics and an understanding of confidentiality standards under the Privacy Act of 1974; Familiarity with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and expertise in disaster preparedness and response; Strategies for promoting health equity, cultural competence, and community engagement in health initiatives; Knowledge of infectious disease control measures, especially for diseases relevant to the local area (e.g., Valley Fever, Measles, West Nile virus); Familiarity with chronic disease prevention and management strategies, with an emphasis on conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and asthma; and Skills in data analysis and interpretation for public health metrics and health surveillance.

To review additional examples of duties and essential job functions, as well as necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities for this position, please view [here](#).

## Minimum Qualifications

- Candidates must possess a Doctor of Medicine degree or a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree issued by an accredited medical school in good standing; and, possession a valid California Physician license and current board certification in a recognized field of medicine. (A valid Physician's and Surgeon's license issued by the State of California either through the Board of Medical Quality Assurance or the Board of Osteopathic Examiners to practice medicine in the State of California). A Master's degree in Public Health or completion of a preventive medicine residency is desirable.
- Candidates should have at least six (6) years of professional experience in a public health setting, including one (1) year of administrative and supervisory responsibility.
- Candidates are required to possess a valid Driver's License.
- Candidates shall not have an ownership interest in any corporation, partnership, or other entity engaged in any private practice of medicine, nor engage in any private practice of medical service.

Any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience that displays the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the functions of this position may be considered.

## Salary & Benefits

Annual salary range for this position is \$185,224 - \$225,139 DOE .

Mendocino County also offers an outstanding benefits package that includes:

- Retirement benefits provided under the 1937 Act and enrollment in Social Security. For more information, contact the Retirement Administrator at 707-463-4328.
- Participation in a 457 deferred compensation plan with up to 4% of salary contribution matched by the County.
- Longevity increase of 2.5% increase to the base rate of pay after seven (7) years of continuous County employment. Then upon completion of ten (10) years, fifteen (15) years, and twenty (20) years for a total 10% increase to the base rate of pay.
- \$1,500 annually for education, training, and wellness expenses distributed quarterly.
- County pays 75% of Medical, Dental and Vision Insurance coverage for employees and their dependents.
- \$50,000 group life insurance policy and \$50,000 A D & D.
- 11 paid holidays.
- 48 hours of paid management leave.
- Paid vacation beginning with two weeks, increasing periodically to five weeks after 15 years of service.
- Sick leave accrual at 15 days per year.

More information available at this link: [Unrepresented Employees Compensation and Benefits Resolution](#)

## The Process

Application deadline: May 17, 2026. Apply now to be considered for this leadership role.

To be considered for this career opportunity, please submit a completed County application and resume through the County's website [www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs) or by scanning the QR code below.

County of Mendocino

Human Resources Department

501 Low Gap Road, Room 1326

Ukiah, CA 95482

Phone: 707.234.6600

Website: [www.mendocinocounty.gov/hr](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/hr)

E-mail questions to: [HR-Recruitment@mendocinocounty.gov](mailto:HR-Recruitment@mendocinocounty.gov)

