

COMPETENCY MODEL FOR SENIOR LIBRARIAN (6153)

The following competencies have been identified as those that best separate superior from satisfactory job performance in the class of **SENIOR LIBRARIAN**. (Numbers refers to the order of the competencies in the Competency Bank.)

- 3. Judgment and Decision Making
- 7. Self-Management
- 16. Objectivity
- 20. Job Knowledge
- 28. Supervision
- 33. Interpersonal Skills
- 38. Tolerance
- 48. Shares Knowledge and Information

On the following pages are descriptions of each competency, including a definition, the level of the competency required for the class (*italicized*, **bolded**, and underlined), examples of behavioral indicators, and satisfactory and superior performance levels.

3. JUDGMENT AND DECISION MAKING – Accurately assesses situations, seeks new information if necessary, and applies all available information to reach sound conclusions/formulate effective response.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Training and guidelines needed to respond to immediate situations within very specific function are provided (or supervisor available to assist).

Level 2: **General information and guidance to assist in responding to a variety of situations across a range of circumstances are provided.**

Level 3: Little guidance available for responding to a wide range of complex situations with far-reaching and/or enduring consequences.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Effectively responds to atypical situations.
- Asks questions or otherwise obtains additional relevant information to make a decision.
- Formulates a decision and necessary actions based on available facts.
- Correctly infers appropriate response based on information provided and existing policies, personal experience, and/or consultation with others.
- Discusses conclusions/possible responses with others before taking action as necessary.
- Considers impact of decisions on all affected parties.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Correctly assesses routine and unusual situations and reaches appropriate conclusions for actions needed. Obtains additional information and/or consults with others as necessary.

Superior

Evaluates new situations accurately to establish an appropriate response or plan of action. Recognizes the impact on all affected parties, as well as the possible ramifications and/or repercussions of setting a precedent.

7. SELF MANAGEMENT – Organizes and plans for task accomplishment; manages time and works diligently to complete assigned work/fulfill responsibilities.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Order tasks for efficient performance; maintain awareness of time allotted and deadlines in order to ensure they are met.

Level 2: **Plan and perform work in a way that maximizes efficient performance; establish and adjust priorities to ensure timely completion of most critical assignments.**

Level 3: Allot time to responsibilities proportional to their prominence, priority, and impact.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Performs only work activities during work hours.
- Alters means of performing work when original approach proves to waste time.
- Keeps a “to do” list (with indication of priority and deadlines, if necessary).
- Requests assistance as necessary when it becomes clear that work will not be completed on time.
- Demonstrates a record of progress with respect to all assignments/responsibilities.
- Uses optimal means of communication for efficiency and effectiveness.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Conducts self while at work in a manner that ensures work will be completed as scheduled, or provides explanation or secures assistance or adjustment of schedule if it will not be.

Superior

Seeks efficiencies in doing work to maximize productivity. Plans work carefully and follows the plan or makes adjustments if it is disrupted. Maintains personal responsibility for all work accomplishment.

16. OBJECTIVITY – Demonstrates fairness and equity toward others; understands different perspectives; states sides of a conflict non-evaluatively; uses facts and logic.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: **Respond to the situation at hand and its specific circumstances as opposed to being influenced by previous encounters, stereotypes, or biases.**

Level 2: Appropriately aligns self/organizational interest with objectives to benefit the overall organization and/or citizenry.

Level 3: Appropriately aligns self/organizational interest with the “common good” (citizens, other public sector agencies, elected officials).

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Notes facts and circumstances specific to the situation.
- Formulates plans for action based on the totality of factual information.
- Gives full attention to each task/issue within areas of responsibility
- Clearly demonstrates the benefits of actions to the overall organization, citizens, and/or the “common good.”
- Does not take positions or promote actions/causes that reflect blatant self interest.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Focuses on and reacts to all facts and information available for each situation/issue. Disregards personal preferences or biases in appraisal of situation/issue and response to it

Superior

Strives to serve the “common good.” Responds in a manner contrary to self-interest when appropriate.

20. JOB KNOWLEDGE – Knows information required to perform a specific job. Includes both widely available courses of study (for example, chemistry, human resources management, graphic arts) and City-specific information (parking regulation and ticketing practices; purchasing procedures; provisions of the City Charter).

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Knowledge is concrete, factual, and/or procedural and may be defined by the organization. Situations in which it is applied are quite consistent.

Level 2: **Knowledge is substantive and may be defined by an external trade, field, or profession. Situations in which it is applied vary and, as such, require breadth and depth of understanding.**

Level 3: Knowledge is abstract, conceptual, and/or complex and may be supported by a well-defined academic discipline or authoritative sources (e.g., laws, ordinances, government guidelines/regulations/codes). Situations in which it is applied may vary greatly or be novel.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Performs work correctly/avoids technical (job content related) errors.
- Answers technical questions about work accurately.
- Asks few technical questions about the performance of routine work activities.
- Offers advice (“coaching”) to new employees regarding their work.
- Develops training programs for other employees.
- Sought out as a source of information by others.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Sufficient job knowledge to perform work correctly independently. Answers technical questions about work correctly.

Superior

Expertise in technical job information sufficient to serve as a resource to others. May develop training manuals/programs and/or give internal and/or external presentations related to work.

Job Knowledge Areas

1. Knowledge of the policies, procedures and goals of the LAPL in order to provide patrons with information about various subjects using new technologies and print resources.
2. Knowledge of the LAPL structure and services provided, including the functions of each agency and how each agency relates to each other.
3. Knowledge of special services provided by LAPL librarians of all levels in order to advise and guide staff.
4. Knowledge of reference procedures, common problems and how to solve them when looking for a reference, and general resources, such as databases and internet sources, sufficient to guide patrons and staff seeking references and resources.
5. Knowledge of catalog systems, including the Library of Congress Subject Heading Plan, Dewey Decimal Classification System, and Cutter numbers, in order to maintain the organization of library materials.
6. Knowledge of the materials acquisition procedures for patrons with special needs in order to ensure all patrons' needs are met effectively.
7. Knowledge of types of non-print materials in LAPL collections, such as audiovisual material, e-media, and online resources to effectively assist patrons and staff.
8. Knowledge of collection development policies, including acquisition, rejection, or withdrawal of materials, sufficient to make recommendations on these matters.
9. Knowledge of standards for selecting materials for all age groups to ensure all patrons' needs are met.
10. Knowledge of books with distinguished literary or reference value and current popular books to provide high quality educational materials to patrons.
11. Knowledge of LAPL policies and/or procedures for ordering books, periodicals, audiovisual and other materials, including both special and automated orders.
12. Knowledge of LAPL policies and/or procedures for accepting gifts of books, periodicals, audiovisual, and other materials and processing newly received materials of all types.
13. Knowledge of LAPL policies and/or procedures for the use and circulation of library materials, holds, and intralibrary loans to provide patron guidance and ensure library materials are maintained in circulation.

14. Knowledge of LAPL guidelines for references and reader's advisory services in order to guide patrons effectively.
15. Knowledge of LAPL policies and/or procedures regarding reports on agency activities required at regular intervals.
16. Knowledge of how to maintain facilities and ensure facility maintenance and repairs are addressed when necessary in order to ensure equipment and facilities are working properly for staff and patron use.
17. Knowledge of LAPL policies and/or procedures for related to the management of the annual materials budget to ensure expenditures are allotted properly for library needs.
18. Knowledge of policies and/or procedures for the use of LAPL facilities for non-LAPL programs, such as storytelling, film sets, art exhibits, and English as a Second Language or other classes.
19. Knowledge of volunteer opportunities throughout LAPL to aid in LAPL and community development.

28. SUPERVISION – Ability to assume direct responsibility for all aspects of the performance of a work group, which requires knowledge and/or ability in the areas of:

- Planning and goal setting
- Creating a safe and positive work environment
- Establishing standards and training employees
- Motivating employees and teambuilding
- Performance Management (assigning, monitoring, facilitating, reviewing and evaluating work, and providing feedback)
- Supporting and developing employees through delegation and participation
- Taking disciplinary action including progressive discipline
- Provisions of employees' MOU's and handling grievances
- Legal requirements including EEO, ADA, FLSA, FMLA, and Workers' Compensation provisions
- Civil Service Commission Rules and Policies related to the management of employees
- Administrative Code provisions related to the management of employees
- Budget processes sufficient to request and justify expenditures in a correct and timely manner

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: **Supervises small workgroup of employees performing the same or highly related work.**

Level 2: Supervises a larger workgroup of employees performing various types of work.

Level 3: Supervises employees including provision of coaching and advice to subordinate supervisors.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Plans, assigns, and monitors work progress.
- Trains employees to do work.
- Evaluates work and gives positive and negative feedback.
- Displays knowledge of legal requirements including applicable Federal and State laws, Administrative Code provisions, Civil Service Commission Rules and Policies, and MOU provisions.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Proficiency in supervision sufficient to supervise a workgroup in terms of task orientation, interpersonal concerns, and personnel administration.

Superior

Proficiency in supervision sufficient to serve as a resource to others and/or represent department position in a public forum.

33. INTERPERSONAL SKILLS – Interacts effectively and courteously with others.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Interact with members of the workgroup, supervision, and/or the public in a cordial, service-oriented manner.

Level 2: **Interact across department lines and with appointed City officials, and/or members of the public, at times under adversarial circumstances, in a cordial, respectful manner.**

Level 3: Interact with appointed and elected City officials, department heads, representatives of external organizations, and/or the media in a cordial, effective manner.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Works well with others toward mutual objectives.
- Does not arouse hostility in others.
- “Disagrees without being disagreeable.”
- Elicits acceptance/cooperation from others.
- Affords all individuals respect, regardless of their role or status.
- Effectively addresses concerns of politicians or others who may have their “own agenda.”

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Behaves in a courteous, respectful, cooperative manner toward co-workers, other City employees, and members of the public.

Superior

Facilitates positive interpersonal relations within/among workgroups and toward members of the public. Adept at finding similarities and grounds for cooperation/mutual benefit.

38. TOLERANCE – Accepts all forms of diversity, including different, even contrary, points of view.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Accepting of co-workers, other employees, and members of the public regardless of their stated beliefs or assumptions that might be made based on their appearance or status.

Level 2: **Work well with others regardless of their stated beliefs or affiliations, appearance, or idiosyncrasies. Recognize the value of different points of view among members of a work group or team.**

Level 3: Embrace a diverse work group as a possible means of advancing objectives of the organization. Encourage airing of different, even contrary, points of view as a means of ensuring that all possible factors are considered and alternatives explored.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Works well with a diversity of others.
- Provides comparable service to all members of the public.
- Accepts differences in others even with respect to factors that would not be acceptable personally.
- Recognizes that judging others on a personal basis/displaying intolerance is inappropriate in the workplace.
- Encourages all others to openly state their views on work-related matters.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Works well with a diverse array of other people. Provides service or otherwise interacts with others in a manner that is consistent and fair.

Superior

Recognizes the potential for diversity to strengthen the organization. Welcomes and fully considers diverse points of view, and makes every effort to ensure others do the same.

48. SHARES KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION – Conveys all information relevant to each involved party in a thorough and timely manner.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Provide job-related information as it becomes available to others who are likely to need it or to whom it might be helpful.

Level 2: **Keep all involved parties informed of work/project progress and other new information. Tailors content, level of detail, and timing of information provided to the perspective of each recipient**

Level 3: Recognize different needs for different information and provide all affected parties with a description of the “big picture” as well as the breadth and detail of information relevant to their perspective.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Provides thorough explanations with all relevant details.
- Uses multiple means of communicating (e.g., e-mail, telephone, meetings).
- Provides status reports of work/project progress to all involved parties.
- Informs others of changes at the earliest feasible time.
- Uses multiple addressees and “copies” others so all parties see exactly the same information and know who already has been informed.
- Draws from job knowledge and work experience to provide thorough descriptions and explanations.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Readily communicates new, job-related information to all employees to whom it is relevant. Provides a level of detail and explanation appropriate to the recipient.

Superior

Ensures that all involved parties are provided the maximum amount of information feasible in as timely a manner as possible to facilitate work/project status. Shares job knowledge and experience to serve as a mentor or coach to others.