

**COMPETENCY MODEL FOR  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
CLASS CODE 9230**

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

- 3. Judgment and Decision Making
- 4. Analytical Ability
- 21. Technology Application
- 28. Supervision
- 35. Teamwork
- 48. Shares Knowledge and Information
- 53. Leadership
- 56. Awareness of the City Environment
- 60. Vision

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.

**4. ANALYTICAL ABILITY** – Identifies, obtains, and evaluates relevant information to establish relationships or patterns, cite causes, and reach logical conclusions.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Recognize similarities/differences in current situation to those previously encountered and is guided accordingly. Apply existing policies correctly. Ask pertinent questions or otherwise seek additional information to formulate appropriate response.
- Level 2: Consider multiple, varied factors when evaluating a situation or issue. Seek additional information to provide further insight. Reach conclusions that logically follow from the information obtained.
- Level 3: Consider a multitude of diverse factors, their interrelationships, the perspectives of others, alternative courses of action and their likely ramifications when evaluating information to reach a conclusion.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Obtains the necessary amount of relevant information.
- Recognizes the impact of each type of information on conclusions.
- Evaluates the quality/source of information when considering it.
- States the shortcomings of the information and, therefore, the analysis.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Recognizes available relevant information, seeks additional information to consider, and reaches a conclusion. Provides sound, convincing justification for conclusions, citing relevant data and facts.

Superior

Uses a great deal of existing and obtained information and data to develop and evaluate alternatives and arrive at a final conclusion. Provides compelling arguments in support of conclusions.

**21. TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION** – Correctly applies technology as required on the job; conceptualizes improvements in work through introducing and/or enhancing use of technology.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Expert in the use of technology required for own job. May identify additional applications for currently used technology to enhance own work and/or work of others.
- Level 2: Identify additional technology to be applied to improve own work and/or work of others and/or enhanced use of current technology to improve the operations of an entire function or department.
- Level 3: Identify new technology application to improve/enhance work of an entire function, department, or organization.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Demonstrates mastery of technical applications required for current work.
- Suggests additional applications of existing technology that improve productivity.
- Identifies new technology that can be applied to improve existing operations.
- Provides convincing justification for investment in new technology versus anticipated benefits.
- Presents compelling arguments to justify purchase of existing software (with or without modification) versus in-house development.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Knows and correctly applies current technology as required on the job. Extends use of current technology to improve efficiency of accomplishing additional tasks.

Superior

Recognizes opportunities to apply technology to improve work processes in a function, department, or the entire organization. Identifies and justifies specific technology for specific uses.

**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.

**35. TEAMWORK** – Interacts effectively with others to achieve mutual objectives; readily offers assistance to others to facilitate their goal accomplishment.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Work effectively as a member of a work unit or project team. Readily offer assistance to others when they have too much work or have too little.
- Level 2: Work effectively as a team member in which different people have different roles/responsibilities and perspectives. Identify points for collaboration with co-workers; readily offer and request assistance.
- Level 3: Work effectively as a part of an interdependent team (your work gets done only if the work of the whole team is done; evaluation of team performance is more relevant than individual performance).**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Discusses work-related matters with co-workers.
- Offers and requests assistance readily.
- Offers and is receptive to suggestions.
- Identifies problems with workflow that will prevent team from accomplishing its goals.
- Provides constructive criticism and feedback to team members to improve overall functioning of team.
- Assigns credit to team for accomplishments.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Cooperates with co-workers and fulfills responsibilities as a member of a project team. Maintains a focus on common objectives and offers and requests assistance readily.

Superior

Sees the team as a whole; acknowledges that performance of the team is what in reality is evaluated by others. If anyone fails, everyone on the team fails.

**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 a mentor or coach to others.

### 53. LEADERSHIP – Influences others toward goal accomplishment.

#### Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Assume responsibility for operations or a situation when necessary. Direct the actions of others or otherwise ensure required actions are taken. Remain responsible until relieved or situation is resolved.
- Level 2: Motivate others to continual activity focused on goal accomplishment. Provide clear objectives and articulate individual activities necessary to achieve them; ensure resources necessary to do so are available. Monitor work progress and provide feedback; assess results.
- Level 3: Articulate a vision, convey it to others, and assign responsibilities (or assure they are assigned) for achieving it. Monitor progress, make adjustments as necessary, and evaluate results.**

#### Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Evaluates circumstances, determining what needs to be done, and ensuring individual responsibility for performing specific actions is assigned.
- Follows-up to ensure that specific actions have been taken and overall objective has been accomplished.
- Clearly communicates objectives and responsibility/individual actions necessary to achieve them.
- Monitors work in progress, provides feedback to those involved, and makes adjustments to work plans/processes to ensure goal attainment.
- Evaluates completed work for quality, thoroughness, and effectiveness to determine whether re-work or additional work is required to meet intended objectives and to provide learning for future assignments

#### Performance Levels:

##### Satisfactory

Assumes responsibility for work of others when required or necessary. Ensures actions taken to achieve objectives, and evaluates results to determine any follow-up needed.

##### Superior

Articulates vision/states clear objectives and assigns responsibility/motivates others toward achievement. Monitors progress; gives feedback; evaluates results; ensures follow-up.

**56. AWARENESS OF THE CITY ENVIRONMENT** – Identifies and keeps current on local economic, political, and social trends that affect the work of the City.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Knows (can identify) top local government officials and pressing or highly relevant issues.
- Level 2: Knows (can identify) City Council members, often due to Committee assignment, and/or members of City Commissions/ Boards, and some of their views and background. Maintains awareness of major trends in the internal City organization and the entire City of Los Angeles.
- Level 3: Knows members of the Mayor’s office and City Council members’ staff and department heads. Maintains considerable knowledge of social, economic, and political issues affecting area of responsibility.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Discerns from media news information of relevance.
- Maintains awareness of local elections and their outcome.
- Meets with appropriate parties to obtain relevant, timely information.
- Incorporates current social, economic, and/or political issues into work plan and priorities.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Through the news and/or discussion at work, knows local government officials and their views if pertinent to work. Identifies and notes information regarding major trends in the City.

Superior

Seeks information on current events relevant to areas of responsibility or the City as a whole. Knows elected officials influential in relevant areas and who to contact regarding the effects of current events. Incorporates discussion of current events into formulation of plans.

**60. VISION** – Conceptualizes and conveys an ideal future in a way that creates employee acceptance and motivates employees to achieve it.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Envision a more efficient operational unit in which productivity is increased and product quality/quality of service is improved, and, at the same time, persistent problems and other frustrations for employees are eliminated to create a more pleasant work environment. Convey vision to employees and take all possible steps to make the vision a reality.
- Level 2: Envision a more efficient, better coordinated function in which organizational barriers and other factors that detract from performance are eliminated and the opportunity for gratifying individual contribution is enhanced. Convey vision to employees in a way that motivates them to support and help achieve vision.
- Level 3: Envision a more efficient and effective organization that is well recognized as an exemplary “organizational citizen” and an employer of choice. Identify strategies to achieve vision, and convey vision and strategies to staff in a way that enlists their enthusiastic support and commitment to achieving the vision.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Identifies and articulates an ideal future state.
- Considers both organizational and staff perspectives when developing vision for the future.
- Conveys vision for future to staff in a way that provides concrete description of the ideal and makes it seem achievable.
- Presents strategies and secures resources to achieve vision or, alternatively, identifies specific steps to be taken.
- Establishes responsibility and accountability for required actions.
- Recognizes, and conveys to staff, that ultimately this is a process, (a feature of organizational functioning), not a project.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Envisions future, conveys vision, and, with staff, tries to achieve it.

Superior

Articulates ideal future state, generates enthusiasm/staff desire to achieve it.