

## **COMPETENCY MODEL FOR AIRPORT LABOR RELATIONS ADVOCATE (9210)**

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

### **3. JUDGEMENT AND DECISION MAKING**

**11. INITIATIVE**

**13. STRESS TOLERANCE**

**20. JOB KNOWLEDGE**

**29. FACT FINDING**

**33. INTERPERSONALSKILLS**

**42. RESOLVES CONFLICT**

**46. LISTENING**

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.

**11. INITIATIVE** – Generates activity that facilitates accomplishment of work.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Offer to help co-workers and/or recognize things to do that facilitate work group accomplishment.

**Level 2:** **Identify new tasks/projects to be undertaken and assist others with accomplishment of their work.**

Level 3: Determine additional work necessary to improve the function and productivity of the organization or its services to citizens or other customers.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Makes suggestions for improvement in work quality or quantity.
- Finds work to do when own work is slow rather than allow diminished personal productivity.
- Expands scope of work/responsibility in appropriate directions.
- Anticipates upcoming events in order to prepare for them.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Generates goal directed activity rather than waiting to be told what to do. Anticipates what is likely to occur in order to be able to prepare; recognizes that preparation for (and clean-up after) a job is part of doing the job.

Superior

Actively pursues additional tasks/responsibilities that will facilitate effectiveness. Makes extensive preparations for upcoming events or expected changes.

**13. STRESS TOLERANCE** – Maintains effective performance when under pressure, confronted with opposition or criticism, and/or when the situation is dangerous.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Assignment may include varied or heavy workload; new tasks may need to be learned; members of the public and, at times, co-workers may be rude.

**Level 2:** **Insufficient staff or resources may be available to accomplish work. Priorities/objectives may be unclear and/or direction uncertain. Role ambiguity regarding responsibilities may exist. May encounter disagreement or criticism when performing job activities.**

Level 3: Presentation and defense of position in a public forum, which at times entails facing opposition, may be required. Work environment may be fast-paced and one in which urgent decisions must be made. Making life-or-death decisions may be necessary.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Remains composed and focused on the task at hand in the presence of obvious stressors.
- Understands that rudeness or opposition is not typically personal attacks.
- Continues to make good decisions under urgent circumstances or when in danger.
- Soothes others who are more adversely affected by stress.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Continues to perform effectively under stressful circumstances.

Superior

Acknowledges stress, but appears to be unaffected by it. Concentrates extra effort on accomplishing the task at hand. Assists others with effective coping.

**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 California public and private sector collective bargaining rules, employment law and applicable legislation such as the City's Living Wage and Service Contract Worker Retention ordinances, and LAWA's Project Labor Agreement in order to ensure LAWA, its contractors and tenants are in compliance with applicable labor laws, regulations and agreements.
2. Knowledge of strategies for building and maintaining strategic relationships such as engaging and meeting with union officials on a regular basis in order to effectively resolve disputes when they arise.
3. Knowledge of LAWA employee policies, procedures, processes, or past practices such as the department's administrative manual, applicable employee MOUs, and department past practice in order to understand what triggers LAWA's obligations to meet and consult or meet and confer with bargaining agents.
4. Knowledge of public and private sector union negotiation procedures such as mediation, meet and discuss, or meet and confer in order to effectively resolve a dispute or close out a negotiation and successfully complete enforceable settlement agreements.
5. Knowledge of public policy advocacy and communication strategies such as how to outline key messaging to the appropriate audience in order to deliver persuasive and convincing arguments to influence the intended policy.

**29. FACT FINDING** – Obtains required information through questioning, review of existing materials, or securing new materials to answer a question or address a problem.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Look up information available in the workplace (including use of the internet) or by asking questions of co-workers or supervisor.

**Level 2:** **Interview individuals and/or obtain necessary information from files, the library, and/or the internet.**

Level 3: Conduct in-depth interviews/interrogations or depositions. Locate obscure reference material containing germane information by correctly identifying needed information, making logical inferences regarding where it might be available, and discerning from newly acquired information relevant additional materials.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Asks a series of insightful questions in a logical order.
- Correctly identifies persons most likely to have the needed information.
- Listens carefully to responses from others to discern all relevant information stated.
- Makes logical assumptions about where certain types of information might be found; or asks others who are likely to know.
- Persists in locating relevant information until a sufficient amount is available to permit answering question or addressing the problem fully.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Obtains necessary information through scrutiny of existing files and other resources, correctly identifying and obtaining other sources of information, and/or asking questions.

Superior

Exhibits great insight in identifying who would have certain information, or in what materials it might be located. Carefully crafts questions to extract needed information. Persists until sufficient information is gathered to formulate a logical conclusion.

### 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.



**42. RESOLVES CONFLICT** – Acknowledges and takes action to eliminate ineffective/disruptive interpersonal relationships.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

Level 1: Recognize that conflict is inappropriate in the workplace; ensure no personal involvement in conflict or promptly seek elimination if such involvement occurs. May try to avert conflict among co-workers or to eliminate it if it occurs.

Level 2: Monitor staff for possible signs of arising conflict and, when noted, immediately intervene to reconcile. Recognize when the differing perspectives of different organizational units become disruptive and address the issues with involved parties or management, as appropriate.

**Level 3:** **Recognize that the purposes/objectives of certain entities are inherently at odds and approach interactions with them with sensitivity and facilitates others' doing so as well. Recognize the debilitating nature of emergent conflict among organizational segments and, when noted, immediately intervene to reconcile.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Recognizes when a conflict is emerging or has emerged.
- Mentions the need to resolve conflict to other involved party(ies).
- Brings together parties in conflict and encourages them to resolve/ facilitates resolution.
- Articulates the common objectives of conflicting entities.
- Enlists the participation of conflict resolution specialists when warranted.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Diffuses conflict at work. Uses other means of addressing interpersonal friction, disagreement, or competing goals. Notes and seeks resolve of conflict among others.

Superior

Recognizes interpersonal, intra-organizational, and internal-external organizational interactions with conflict potential, and seeks to avoid. When signs of emerging conflict noted, immediately takes steps to eliminate.

**46. LISTENING** – Hears and acknowledges what others say.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Attentive to others speaking in interpersonal interactions.
- Level 2: Comprehend information from others one-on-one, in group settings, and from oral presentations.
- Level 3: Comprehend information provided/questions asked by others in public forums or other stressful circumstances.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Demonstrates correct understanding of issue as expressed by customer.
- Recalls details of information provided by a speaker.
- Expresses subtleties/nuances in information conveyed by others.
- “Answers the question asked.”
- Conveys correct information based on information obtained from a speaker.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Comprehends the message conveyed by the speaker. Rephrases information clearly and accurately; recalls information and details, and answers questions about the information correctly.

Superior

Recalls specific terminology used by a speaker when important. Accurately understands subtleties and nuances in spoken language. Answers questions completely, demonstrating clear and complete comprehension of the questioners' full inquiry.