

Profile

Andrew

First Name

A

Middle Initial

Garcia

Last Name

Plantology / Cope Health Solutions

Employer

Founder and Community Health Worker

Job Title

[Empty text input field]

Email Address

[Empty text input field]

Primary Phone

[Empty text input field]

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

[Empty text input field]

Street Address

[Empty text input field]

Suite or Apt

[Empty text input field]

City

[Empty text input field]

State

[Empty text input field]

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 5

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

N/A

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Associate's Degree

Bachelor's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I'm a local small business owner and lifelong Merced resident with a deep appreciation for this city and the people who make it what it is. I run a plant shop here in town, and through that work I've gotten to connect with a wide range of residents—families, students, seniors, and other small business owners. I also work in community outreach, where I help people navigate everyday challenges and connect them to helpful resources. I'm applying for these Boards and Commissions because I care about where I live and believe in being involved. Whether it's improving our parks, supporting local arts and events, or making sure things are fair and well-run behind the scenes, I want to play a part in keeping Merced moving in a positive direction. I bring a strong work ethic, a practical mindset, and real experience working with the public, and I'd be proud to serve the city in any of these roles.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

I currently work for COPE Health Solutions as a Community Health Worker, helping connect individuals and families across Merced County to healthcare, services, and support programs. I also own Plantology, a local plant shop in Merced that serves as both a small business and a community space, hosting pop-ups and events that bring people together. In both roles, I stay actively involved in local outreach, volunteering at farmers markets, neighborhood events, and other initiatives that support connection, wellness, and civic pride.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

From what I understand, each of these Boards and Commissions plays a key role in helping the City of Merced run smoothly and serve its residents better. The Arts and Culture Advisory helps support and promote creative opportunities in the community, whether that's public events, local artists, or cultural programs. The Personnel Board is focused on making sure hiring, discipline, and personnel policies are handled fairly and in line with city standards. And the Parks and Recreation Commission helps guide how our parks, programs, and public spaces are used, improved, and enjoyed by everyone. To me, being on any of these Boards means showing up, listening, giving honest input, and working with others to make smart, practical decisions that benefit the community. It's not about talking just to talk—it's about being reliable, respectful, and contributing to something bigger than yourself.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

While I haven't previously served on a Board or Commission, I bring strong experience from community work and an entrepreneurial spirit that's grounded in management, business, and economics. Running my own business has taught me the importance of leadership, problem-solving, and balancing practical needs with creative solutions. My role as a Community Health Worker has given me firsthand insight into the challenges and opportunities in Merced, and the importance of clear communication and collaboration. I'm confident that this background equips me with a fresh perspective and the skills needed to contribute effectively, ask thoughtful questions, and help guide decisions that benefit the community.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I believe I'm the right person for these roles because I bring real-world experience as a business owner combined with hands-on community work that keeps me connected to the people of Merced. I understand the day-to-day challenges our city faces and have the practical skills to help find effective solutions. I'm committed, dependable, and ready to bring fresh energy and a results-driven mindset to the table. Choosing me means adding a voice that's deeply rooted in this community and focused on making meaningful, lasting improvements. I'm eager to serve and make a positive difference for all Merced residents.

[AG Resume 2025.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

City Website

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Ethnicity

Hispanic

Gender

Male

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

AG

Andrew Garcia



Skills

- Excellent Oral and Written Communication
- Fluent in English & Spanish
- Proficient in Microsoft Office and Google Workspace
- Client Advocacy
- Care Coordination
- Cultural Competency
- Supervision

Experience

Marketing Manager / Plantology

2023 - Present

Develop and implement marketing strategies to enhance brand visibility and customer engagement. Build strong community relationships through events, workshops, and outreach initiatives. Collaborate with local businesses and organizations to drive foot traffic and foster a vibrant plant-loving community. Oversee branding, social media, and promotional campaigns to support business growth.

Operations Manager / All American Trucking & Transport

2011 - 2024

Led and optimized logistics operations, enhancing efficiency, reducing costs, and ensuring regulatory compliance. Managed high-volume shipments with seamless execution while leading a high-performing team to drive productivity and customer satisfaction. Implemented process improvements that streamlined workflows, increased scalability, and maximized profitability.

Office Coordinator / Menlo Suite Executive Offices

2009 - 2011

Provided professional front desk support, greeting clients and directing them to the appropriate departments. Managed administrative tasks, including scheduling appointments, handling deposits, and maintaining accurate records. Oversaw office operations by coordinating supply orders, preparing mail, and managing a multi-line phone system.

Education

University of California, Merced / 2020-2022

Management, Business, and Management

Merced College / 2018-2020

Business Management

Profile

Arturo

First Name

Martinez Jr

Last Name

Middle Initial

Office of State Senator Anna Caballero, California State Senate

Employer

District Representative

Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 6

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Bachelor's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

My name is Arturo Martinez Jr, and I'm proud to call Merced my home. For more than two years, I have served as a District Representative in Senator Anna Caballero's office, working directly with residents across Merced, Madera, and Fresno Counties. Through this role, I have had the opportunity to connect community members with vital state resources, advocate on local issues, and witness firsthand how local decisions shape our neighborhoods. I am applying for a position on one of Merced's Boards or Commissions because serving this community matters deeply to me. Public service is more than my profession; it is a personal commitment. I believe strongly in local government's ability to create meaningful change, and I am eager to bring my experience, dedication, and energy to help ensure that Merced grows thoughtfully, inclusively, and equitably. I see serving on a board as an extension of my ongoing efforts to support our residents, and I am ready to contribute actively.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

I currently serve as a District Representative for California State Senator Anna Caballero. In this position, I advocate for constituents, engage regularly with city and county governments, support legislative efforts on key issues such as economic development, public health, education, and infrastructure, and manage programs such as the Senator's Young Legislator Program, which mentors local students interested in civic leadership. My volunteer experience includes serving on the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Merced County Association of Governments, reviewing and providing input on regional transportation and planning projects. During my time at UC Merced, I served as a university senator, successfully advocating for funding dedicated to student mental health and wellness initiatives. Each of these experiences demonstrates my consistent dedication to community-focused engagement and proactive public service.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

Boards and Commissions serve as important advisory groups to the Merced City Council. They review proposals, discuss and analyze community policies, and provide informed recommendations based on thorough deliberation and public input. These bodies help the City Council better understand and respond to community needs, ultimately shaping decisions and projects that directly affect residents' lives. Members of these boards are responsible for maintaining transparency, engaging with residents openly, preparing carefully for meetings, and representing community perspectives thoughtfully. Their input guides city policy, supports effective governance, and ensures that the voices of all Merced residents are actively considered in decision-making processes.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

Yes. My current role regularly places me in direct collaboration with city and county officials, residents, community organizations, and local leaders. I frequently attend city meetings, community workshops, and regional planning discussions, giving me familiarity with many issues that Merced’s boards and commissions address, including economic development, housing, public safety, health, transportation, and education. Moreover, my direct experience in advocacy, policy analysis, and community outreach equips me with a solid understanding of how local and state policy decisions are shaped and implemented. My strongest skill, however, is my ability to listen actively to community members, understand complex problems, and collaborate effectively with stakeholders to develop practical, community-centered solutions.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I am prepared and genuinely committed to serving the City of Merced in this role. My desire to serve is deeply rooted in my respect and appreciation for this community and the potential we share for an even stronger future. I bring not just professional experience and knowledge, but genuine enthusiasm, humility, and a sincere willingness to learn and grow alongside other dedicated board members. If selected, I will approach my responsibilities with dedication, thoughtfulness, and openness, ensuring that every decision I make reflects the best interests of our residents. Thank you very much for considering my application. It would be an honor to serve Merced in this important capacity.

[Arturo_Martinez_Jr_Resume_-_2025.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

City Website

Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

City of Merced - Social Media

Demographics

Ethnicity

Other

Gender

Male

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

AM

Arturo Martinez Jr.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Passionate public affairs leader dedicated to strengthening local governance through strategic legislative advocacy, municipal engagement, and regional policy development. Skilled in navigating complex political landscapes, securing transformational funding, and shaping public policy to advance economic resilience and sustainable municipal governance. Proven ability to secure multimillion-dollar funding, influence economic development, and drive policy innovation through direct collaboration with state and federal agencies, elected officials, and key industry leaders. Demonstrated success in leading crisis management efforts, negotiating policy initiatives, and securing public investments to advance infrastructure, healthcare, and clean energy initiatives. Adept at shaping regional and statewide policy agendas, facilitating high-stakes negotiations, and building coalitions that deliver tangible legislative outcomes while advocating for local control, fiscal sustainability, and policy solutions that strengthen municipal governance.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Legislative Strategy and Public Affairs Leadership
- Government Relations & High-Level Stakeholder Engagement
- Strategic Policy Development & Crisis Management
- Economic Development & Infrastructure Advocacy
- Coalition Building & Cross-Government Collaboration
- Municipal Advocacy & Legislative Affairs
- Strategic Communications & Government Affairs Messaging
- Bilingual Communications (English and Spanish)

EXPERIENCE

District Representative | Office of State Senator Anna Caballero
California State Legislature, Senate District 14, Merced, CA

February 2023 – Present

- Community Representation and Advocacy: Represent the Senator at over 125 community events annually, directly engaging with an estimated 5,000 attendees to advance Senate priorities in healthcare, educational equity, and other legislative issues.
- Constituent Services Enhancement: Lead constituent services in the Merced District Office, overseeing case management improvements and achieving measurable efficiency gains in response times. Develop protocols for real-time tracking of community issues to ensure proactive engagement.
- Program Leadership for Youth Civic Engagement: Spearhead the Young Legislator Program, coordinating educational sessions and Capitol tours that engage over 50 youth, fostering leadership and civic involvement in alignment with Senate objectives.
- Partnerships with Key Stakeholders: Collaborate with healthcare providers, educational institutions, and community organizations like PROMOTORAS and Valley Children's Healthcare to address district needs. Apply health policy knowledge to advocate for equitable service solutions.
- Crisis Coordination in Emergencies: Coordinate district response efforts during community emergencies, such as the Planada floods, collaborating with local agencies to support constituents and demonstrating a hands-on approach in critical situations.

Executive Committee Member | Regional Policy & Economic Development Advisor

Citizens Advisory Committee, Merced County Association of Governments December 2023 – July 2024

- Provided high-level advisory input on regional economic development, transportation planning, and multi-jurisdictional infrastructure funding, influencing major policy decisions across multiple cities.
- Advised on transportation and infrastructure funding priorities, ensuring investments supported local decision-making, economic resilience, and sustainable regional growth.
- Facilitated collaboration among local, county, and state agencies, ensuring policies protect local control, expand municipal decision-making authority, and promote sustainable economic growth in alignment with broader municipal governance priorities.

Arturo Martinez Jr.

- Strategized funding applications for climate resilience and workforce mobility initiatives, securing government and private-sector investments that support sustainable development, public safety, and long-term economic stability for municipalities.

Health Policy Fellow | Legislative & Policy Research

Health Policy Education Institute, Sacramento, CA

September 2024 – October 2024

- Conducted advanced policy analysis on Medicaid expansion, public health funding structures, and regulatory impacts on healthcare access.
- Engaged with legislators, healthcare executives, and policy experts to draft data-driven policy recommendations addressing rural healthcare disparities.
- Authored and presented a policy brief on Medicaid reform and health equity, contributing to legislative discussions at the state level.
- Developed long-term strategic recommendations for rural healthcare expansion, securing stakeholder buy-in for legislative proposals.

Regional Field Canvasser | Voter Advocacy & Grassroots Engagement

Power California, Merced, CA

October 2022 - November 2022

- Executed direct community outreach to over 1,000 households, increasing voter participation by 35% in targeted precincts.
- Designed and implemented bilingual civic engagement strategies, mobilizing historically underrepresented communities in key electoral precincts.
- Led voter registration drives and advocacy initiatives, securing increased civic engagement among diverse populations.
- Facilitated coalition-building with grassroots organizations, strengthening community-based legislative advocacy networks.

Program Technician | Federal Policy & Agricultural Advocacy

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Merced, CA

January 2022 – July 2022

- Guided 100+ agricultural stakeholders through federal policy frameworks and funding opportunities, increasing program accessibility for rural communities.
- Led process optimizations, reducing grant processing times by 25% and enhancing program efficiency.
- Served as a primary liaison between federal agencies and rural communities, advocating for agricultural policy improvements and sustainable development initiatives.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Government, emphasis in Public Policy

University of California, Merced, Merced, CA

August 2021

- Extensive coursework in public policy analysis, governance, and legislative processes
- Research focus on economic development policies and their regional impact.
- Developed policy briefs and legislative proposals as part of academic projects.

KEY SKILLS & TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY

- Senior-Level Legislative & Government Relations (5+ Years)
- Advanced Technical Proficiency: Microsoft Office Suite, Legislative Constituent Management Systems (LCMS)

Profile

Caroline

First Name

Meraz

Last Name

Middle Initial

Concierge Consulting

Employer

CEO

Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 3

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

No

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Associate's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I want to join a commission for the City of Merced because I believe in being an active participant in shaping the future of our community. As someone who has worked extensively in both public and nonprofit sectors—and who is deeply rooted in Merced—I have seen firsthand the challenges and opportunities our city faces. Joining a commission is a way for me to bring my experience, perspective, and commitment to service to the table in a meaningful and solutions-focused way. I'm passionate about creating inclusive, sustainable, and community-centered progress. Whether through youth development, public health, economic opportunity, or civic engagement, I want to contribute to policies and initiatives that reflect the needs and strengths of the people who call Merced home. I see this as a chance to listen, collaborate, and advocate for positive change.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

I am currently the CEO of Concierge Consulting, where I lead strategic operations, community outreach, and capacity-building initiatives for nonprofits and small businesses throughout the Central Valley. In terms of volunteer experience, I have been actively involved in the Merced community for over a decade. I currently serve on the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee for Merced City School District and have held roles on various advisory boards focused on health, family engagement, education, and community development. I am a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for foster youth, an active member of Kiwanis of Greater Merced, and have served as a coach and Assistant Commissioner for a local youth sports league since 2013. I have also worked closely with local law enforcement, school districts, and nonprofits to build inclusive partnerships that address critical community needs, especially in underserved populations. My goal is always to bring a collaborative, equity-focused approach to every role I take on—whether in a professional or volunteer capacity.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

My understanding is that members of a City of Merced Board or Commission serve as vital links between the community and local government. These bodies are designed to provide informed recommendations, insight, and oversight on specific issues that impact city policy, planning, and services. Commission members are responsible for attending meetings regularly, reviewing materials, participating in discussions, and voting on matters within the scope of their advisory role. Each board or commission typically focuses on a specific area—such as planning, arts, youth, or recreation—and members are expected to bring a combination of lived experience, community perspective, and critical thinking to help guide city leadership in making decisions that reflect public needs and priorities. Ultimately, the goal is to support transparency, accountability, and community involvement in local governance. I also understand that being a member requires a commitment to ethics, public service, and collaboration—and I’m fully prepared to meet those responsibilities with professionalism and dedication.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

Yes, as both a Merced resident and a local business owner, I bring a unique combination of lived experience and professional insight that aligns closely with the goals of city commissions. Through my work as CEO of Concierge Consulting, I’ve collaborated with government agencies, nonprofits, and community organizations on initiatives related to youth engagement, economic development, education, and public health. I have experience navigating local systems, leading community programs, and supporting underserved populations through capacity building and civic education. Additionally, I have served on multiple advisory boards and committees, including the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee for Merced City School District, which has given me direct experience in public accountability, fiscal oversight, and policy review. My volunteer work with CASA, Kiwanis, and youth athletics has also kept me closely connected to the diverse needs and strengths of our community. This combination of leadership, community service, and grassroots engagement allows me to contribute meaningfully to the responsibilities of a City of Merced Board or Commission.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I am deeply committed to the long-term growth, equity, and well-being of the City of Merced. As someone who has both lived and worked in Merced for many years, I understand the unique challenges our community faces—but I also see its incredible potential. I bring a collaborative, solutions-focused mindset and a strong history of public service, leadership, and community advocacy. If selected, I will approach this role with dedication, professionalism, and a sincere desire to represent the voices of Merced residents. I am ready to listen, learn, and contribute in a meaningful way to help ensure our city continues to grow in ways that serve all of its people. Thank you for considering my application and for the opportunity to serve.

[Resume.MCSD.5-2-25.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards
AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
How did you hear about this vacancy? *

Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

City Staff and Mayor

Demographics

Ethnicity

Hispanic

Gender

Female

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

CM

Caroline Meraz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hiring Committee

Merced City School District
444 W 23rd Street
Merced, CA 95340

Dear Members of the Hiring Committee,

I am writing to express my interest in the **Executive Assistant/Confidential** position with the **Merced City School District**, as advertised on EDJOIN. With over **10 years of experience** working with the **Merced County Office of Education (MCOE)** and various local school districts, I have developed a comprehensive understanding of the district's needs and operations. This experience, coupled with my skills in executive support, bilingual communication, and administrative management, positions me well to contribute effectively to the Superintendent's Office.

As a **business consultant** with experience providing **confidential administrative assistance** to high-level executives, I am skilled in managing complex, sensitive tasks independently while maintaining the utmost discretion. I am adept at composing a wide range of **written materials** including reports, memos, and official correspondence—skills that directly align with the duties described in the job posting. Additionally, my **bilingual proficiency in Spanish and Portuguese** has allowed me to serve diverse communities, a key asset when working with students, parents, staff, and other stakeholders.

I have also had the privilege of working on the **MCS D Bond Measure** last fall and currently serve on the **Bond Oversight Committee**. These roles have provided me with a deeper understanding of the district's operations and financial priorities while strengthening my ability to collaborate with district leadership and provide oversight in a confidential and professional manner.

Key aspects of my experience and qualifications include:

- **Confidential Administrative Support:** Managing sensitive materials and communication for senior leadership, ensuring confidentiality in all interactions and documentation.
- **Calendar & Travel Coordination:** Organizing and maintaining the schedules of executives, including travel arrangements and event coordination, as well as assisting with the preparation and distribution of agendas and meeting minutes.
- **Policy & Compliance Management:** Assisting in the interpretation and enforcement of district policies and procedures, ensuring compliance with local, state, and federal

regulations. I have experience researching and applying **education codes** and government policies, which aligns with the requirements outlined in the job description.

- **Board & Committee Support:** Attending board meetings, preparing minutes, and supporting the **Superintendent and Board of Trustees** in all aspects of meeting preparation and communication.
- **Community & Stakeholder Engagement:** Serving as a liaison for parents, staff, and the public, answering inquiries, and ensuring positive and productive relationships with all stakeholders.
- **Technology Proficiency:** Highly skilled in a variety of software programs, including **word processing, spreadsheet management, and data systems**, enabling me to manage complex files, databases, and reports effectively.

I am excited about the opportunity to support the **Superintendent's Executive Cabinet** and contribute to the smooth and efficient operation of the **Merced City School District**. I am confident that my experience in **executive support, bilingual communication, policy compliance**, and my **long-term experience with MCOE** will allow me to make meaningful contributions to your team.

Thank you for considering my application. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how I can support the district's goals and contribute to the success of the Superintendent's Office. I can be reached at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Caroline Meraz

Profile

Dina
First Name

Middle
Initial

Gonzalez
Last Name

Dinas Daycare and Preschool
Employer

Teacher
Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Street Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 1

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

no

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Master's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

Provide help families and children in the community keeping areas clean and safety.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

I work in the community providing support families to have a safety and health environment

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

To assist and to provide support families and community members

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

Yes, many years ago i assist families and be a voice for the community.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

Keep in mind that we are here to provide support in the community and make a difference in the lives of their residents a better, safe.

[SCHOOL_AGE_Dinas_Resume_small_up_dated_July_30.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

A Friend

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Friend

Demographics

Ethnicity

Hispanic

Gender

Female

Date of Birth

Submission

Dina Gonzalez

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

CA

Assist Providers in scheduling parent conference to review child development progress summary.

Plan and implements activities and or in services training for providers parents and staff

Complete the family daycare home environmental rating scale with plan of action.

Inputs developmental profiles data into computerized system according to the department schedule

Follow the center agency polices and procedure for health and safety

Monitor clients for compliance with program regulations and requirements

Maintain excellent customer/ client relationship

Associate Teacher Child care Center – March 2005- 2006

Prepare weekly lesson plan that support areas of indemnifies desire results for individual/ groups.

Communication positively and actively develops reciprocal notes.

File developmental profile with observation and anecdotal notes.

Complete multiple reports within tight dead line restrictions, parents and director.

San Jose Unified School District- January 2004 to 2004

Extended Day Care Program Director

Maintain accurate client billing / payment system.

Create monthly schedule for client appointments

Prioritize and implement multiple projects

References available upon request Assist program coordinate in maintaining daily operations

Our Savior Lutheran Preschool – June 1996 to 2002

Preschool Teacher

Staff supervision, including scheduling

In charge of a class of children 3 to 5 years of age

Creative Art curriculum and high scope

Weekly lesson plan and daily activities

Special Skills & Abilities

Ability in establishing, preparing and maintaining reports and record related to assigned

Ability to manage time and work independently

Ability to foster and maintain excellent peer and customer/ client relations

Bilingual: English / Spanish

Education: Ashford University M.A in Early Childhood Education

Chapman University B.A in Early Childhood Education

M.A Completed Education: 33. Units need more 3 to finished Ashford University

San Jose City College and Long Beach City College

Certificate: Child Development Site Supervisor Permit, Program Director permit

Early Child Growth and Interaction

Finance and Insurance Management

Profile

Harpreet

First Name

Takhar

Last Name

Middle Initial

Self-Employed

Employer

Educational Consultant

Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 6

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

No

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Doctoral Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I am an educational leader with an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and extensive experience in grant management, budget oversight, and fiscal accountability across multiple funding streams. Throughout my career, I have been committed to ensuring that public funds are used effectively and transparently to serve community needs. I am applying for the Tax Transparency Commission because I believe taxpayers deserve clear oversight of how their tax dollars are being spent. My experience managing complex budgets and ensuring compliance with funding requirements has taught me the importance of fiscal transparency and accountability in building public trust. I want to contribute to ensuring that Merced's tax revenues are allocated in ways that truly benefit our community.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

Recently completed role as State & Federal Projects Director at Le Grand Union High School District. Extensive grant management and budget oversight experience with state and federal funding streams. Financial compliance monitoring and reporting for categorical programs. Experience coordinating multi-partner budget planning and resource allocation. Background in analyzing expenditures and ensuring alignment with funding specifications.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

The Tax Transparency Commission serves on behalf of taxpayers to monitor and ensure Measure C and Measure Y funds are spent the way voters intended when they approved these taxes. The Commission reviews revenue projections and recommends how money should be allocated, then reports back to residents about where their tax dollars are actually going. Meeting quarterly, commissioners help the City Council make informed spending decisions while protecting taxpayer interests and maintaining public trust in these voter-approved measures.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

Yes, my professional background includes extensive experience managing complex budgets, overseeing categorical funding compliance, and ensuring that expenditures align with specific grant requirements and voter intentions. Through managing programs like CCSP, GSPP, and other state initiatives, I've learned how to track revenue projections, monitor spending against approved purposes, and prepare detailed compliance reports. My experience includes working with auditors, maintaining documentation for fiscal accountability, and translating complex budget information for educational partners. This background has given me strong analytical skills in reviewing financial data and ensuring that funds are used as intended.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

My professional background has taught me the importance of listening to community voices and ensuring that public services reflect the needs of all residents. I am committed to bringing a collaborative, equity-focused perspective to the Commission's work. I also bring a commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility that comes from years of managing public funds. My approach emphasizes clear communication with community members and ensuring that budget decisions are made with full consideration of taxpayer trust. I understand that effective oversight requires both attention to detail and the ability to see the bigger picture of community impact.

[H. Takhar - Resume 2025.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

City Website

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Ethnicity

Asian or Pacific Islander

Gender

Female

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

HT

Harpreet Takhar, Ed.D.

Education:

Ed.D. in Educational Leadership

California State University Fresno, Fresno, CA

M.A. in Education & PPS Credential: Counselor Education

California State University Stanislaus, Turlock, CA

B.A. Liberal Studies: Concentration in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

California State University Stanislaus, Turlock, CA

Certifications & Training:

Administrative Services Credential CTC, Valid through June 2026	Pupil Personnel Services Credential CTC, Valid through June 2026
Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor National Council for Mental Wellbeing	PBIS – PTR Tier III Master Facilitator California Technical Assistance Center on PBIS
Fundamentals of Peacemaking Fresno Pacific University	Nurtured Heart Approach Certified Trainer Children’s Success Foundation
Foundations for Compassionate Systems Leadership Center for Systems Awareness	Cal-SAC Trainer California School Age Consortium
Improvement Science in Practice Tulare County Office of Education	Cognitive Coaching Seminar Merced County Office of Education
Adaptive Schools Seminar Merced County Office of Education	Professional Learning Communities Solution Tree, Mike Mattos

Experience:

State & Federal Projects Director, January 2024 – June 2025

Le Grand Union High School District, Le Grand, CA

- Lead, Oversee, Design, Implement, Monitor, & Evaluate all District and School Site level categorical programs to ensure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local policies, as well as specifications for funding sources
- Lead the development and implementation of school-based mental health services through the school district Wellness Center and supervise all relevant wellness counseling staffing

- Serve as the District Coordinator leading the implementation and fiscal management of the California Community Schools Partnership Program and collaboration districtwide
- Serve as a collaborative member on the Administrative Team supporting the district, comprehensive high school, alternative high school, and all other programs
- Co-lead and facilitate the district Student Support Team (COST Team approach) to ensure consistent and comprehensive academic, behavioral, and social-emotional/mental health supports are provided to students following the tiered MTSS framework
- Lead and organize all activities related to the LCAP, in collaboration with the educational consultant
- Lead ongoing districtwide Parent Engagement initiatives and oversee the Parent Liaison staff
- Lead and oversee implementation of existing and new grants including but not limited to the application process, planning, implementation, reporting, budget management, etc.
 - Examples of Grants: CCSPP, GSPP, CYBHI, CalHOPE, CTEIG, etc.
- Serve as the District Liaison to lead and coordinate all services supporting homeless and foster youth
- Collaborate with all educational partners and consultants to ensure relevant services are provided to the district on a consistent basis
- Collaborate with community agencies to increase partnerships and services to support students and families

Program Advisor, Leadership & Systems, July 2021 – December 2023

Merced County Office of Education, Merced, CA

- Facilitate Professional Development Opportunities across Merced County's School Districts and Programs
 - MTSS, PBIS, Social Emotional Learning, Mental Health, Suicide Prevention, TUPE etc.
- Support the Development & Facilitation of the SEL Community of Practice across Merced County's School Districts and Community Partners
- Provide Group Development Support for Internal MCOE program staff, student equity focus groups, and cross program teams
- Provide Technical Assistance related to Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) & Develop Community Partnerships with Community and Law Enforcement Agencies to increase Awareness and Education
- Contribute and Participate in the Development of Equity & Inclusion Initiatives within our Community

Expanded Learning Program Advisor, July 2018 – July 2021

Merced County Office of Education, Merced, CA

- Support all 44 after school program sites with tier III level student interventions.
- Ongoing Development & Implementation of a Comprehensive System of PBIS Alignment with the regular school day across the entire ASSETS program & Valley Community Schools
- Crisis Intervention Support
 - Site Emergencies, Suicidal Ideation, Behavioral Issues, Death of Staff/Students, etc.
- Research, Plan, & Implement Curriculum (SEL, Behavior, & Academic) applicable to program needs.
- Lead the development of the Student Programs SEL Team & support facilitation of the MCOE SEL Team, including CalHOPE grant support.
- Develop, Implement, & Follow-Up on professional development for program staff.
 - Improvement Science Model: Plan, Do, Study, Act
- Communicate with school and district personnel in regards to student and program issues.
- Collaborate with other MCOE Dept. and local organizations to support the program and community needs.
- Provides resources, guidance, and support to Program Supervisors and Program Leaders concerning student needs, parent communication, program improvement, and school site personnel issues.

After School Program Supervisor, July 2016 – July 2018

Merced County Office of Education, Merced, CA

- Coordinates and oversees After School Program facilitation across 11-14 schools sites among various school districts in the county and monitors implementation of program through regular visitation at all assigned program sites.
- Provides resources, guidance, and support to Program Leaders concerning student discipline and behavior management, parent communication, program improvement, and school site personnel issues.
- Recruits, trains, supervises, and evaluates Program Leaders, Program Assistants, Substitute Assistants, and assigned staff.
- Interviews, oversees, and provides support to all volunteers, ROP students, interns, etc. during their site placements.
- Leads the After School Program PBIS Team in researching, developing, and implementing PBIS in a manner appropriate for the afterschool setting.

- Works in collaboration with the Program Manager and other departments in the development, implementation, and facilitation of new programs.
 - i.e. Migrant Education Summer Learning Program
- Assists in budget management for assigned sites and the coordination, purchase, and organization of inventory and dispersal of supplies and equipment to sites.
- Develops and implements ongoing professional development for staff.

Center Director, May 2016 – August 2016

Sylvan Learning (DBA Zoglin Inc.) Modesto, CA

- Manages Day-to-Day Operations
 - Budgets, Payroll/Labor, Expenditures, etc.
- Creates, Promotes & Maintains a Positive Climate & Culture
- Oversees Center Staff
 - Recruits, Hires, & Trains Tutoring and Administrative Staff
 - Oversees, Manages, & Evaluates Staff
 - Monitors Staff Training and Development
- Responsible for Maintaining and Implementing Current Sylvan instructional Programs/Educational Standards
- Oversees the Administration of Assessments and Reporting of Results
 - Skills & Progress Assessments/Test Prep Assessments (GED, SAT/ACT, etc.)
 - Analyzes Assessments results and Prepares Reports
- Develops Appropriate Individualized Learning Plans
- Conducts Monthly Conferences with Parents and/or Students
- Ongoing Communication and Meetings with Student’s Classroom Teachers
- Creates and Implements Quarterly Marketing Plan to Promote the Center
- Establishes and maintains collaborative relationships with teachers, educational specialists, other school administrators, and parent/teacher organizations; engage in marketing activities to increase awareness of Sylvan Learning in the community.

Student Support Specialist, October 2015 – June 2016

Ceres Unified School District: La Rosa Elementary School, Ceres, CA

- Individual & Group Counseling Services
- Curriculum Development & Implementation
- Classroom Guidance Lessons
- Crisis Interventions
- Collaboration with school personnel, service providers, etc.
- Participates in development of Professional Development for Staff

- Promotes Positive School Climate & Culture through School-Wide Campaigns

Area Supervisor, January 2014 – May 2016

Ace it! Tutoring Powered by Sylvan Learning (DBA Zoglin Inc.) Modesto, CA

- Recruit, hire, and train tutors for central SES division
- Assess students and create learning goals
- Regularly communicate with school districts
- Coordinate schedules and assign tutors to sites
- Manage and evaluate tutors while districts are in progress
- Evaluate and implement new procedures to promote efficiency
- HR & Payroll

Administrative Assistant, June 2012 - December 2013

Sylvan Learning & Ace it! Division (DBA Zoglin Inc.) Modesto, CA

- Prep student curriculum for lessons
- Coordinate SAT program with local schools
 - Research and develop program plan, procedures, and marketing materials
 - Coordinate schedule, practice test dates, etc.
 - Conduct informational meeting for students and parents regarding SAT, College Applications, FAFSA/scholarships, etc.
- Provide ongoing support for students transitioning into high school and/or college
- Regular communication with school districts, parents, teachers, etc.
- Manage and respond to inquiries
- Invoice and payment processing
- Proctor Assessments
- Inventory, data entry, and maintenance of confidential documents

Profile

Jeremy
First Name

L
Middle Initial

Jenkins
Last Name

4Life Church
Employer

Administrative Assistant
Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 5

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

N/A

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Some College, No Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I served in the past and I would love to serve my / Our community once again on this commission

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

4Life Church Friends of Sober Grad MLK committee Hispanic chamber member

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

To be in a advisory role to the city council that is about our parks and recreation and zoo and facilities

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

Yes I was a past commissioner

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I'm very outgoing and open to serving my community and I hope you would give me another opportunity.

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Facebook

Demographics

Ethnicity

Hispanic

Gender

Male

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

jj

Profile

Marisa
First Name

K.
Middle Initial

Lewis
Last Name

Self Employed
Employer

Realtor
Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 6

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Chair of Community Service with the Merced County Young Professionals Network

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Bachelor's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

As a mother, realtor, resident, and active volunteer of Merced, I have a deep interest in what is going on in my community, and would like to be apart of the planning and promote positive changes in our area.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

I am self employed as a realtor with Realty Executives of Northern California. I am an active volunteer. I am currently serving as the Chair of Community Service on the Merced County Young Professionals Network in which we have participated in over 20 community service events this past year, including: park clean ups, and charity fundraisers that have benefited first time home buyers with closing cost assistance, Merced County YPN Teacher of the Year Award, free haircuts and toy drive in collaboration with SHMOOTH Barbershop, gifts for the children of CASA Merced, Sponsoring children for summer camp at The Boys and Girls Club, and a diaper drive for Alpha Pregnancy Center, just to name a few. I have also volunteered with Merced United Soccer, McSwain Soccer, and JR Giants coaching youth sports teams. Last year, I received YPN'er of the year award from the state of California and our team was recognized nationally as small network of the year. We hope to accomplish more and more for Merced County.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

I would be responsible to serve in an advisory position to the City Council in all matters pertaining to recreation and parks, and make suggestions regarding these areas while keeping the annual budget in mind. I would assist in developing and planning recreation programs for the citizens of Merced.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

While my volunteer background has equipped me with a lot of experience, before becoming a realtor, I was also a teacher. I have had lots of experience working with people of various ages, and have a passion for working with the youth. I have 5 children of my own and we have participated in multiple parks and recreation activities first hand. Being on the YPN advisory board has also allowed me to practice more in this field.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I am deeply committed to enhancing the quality of life in our community, and believe that serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission would allow me to contribute in a meaningful way. As a realtor, community advocate, and homeschooling parent, I have a unique perspective on how parks and recreational spaces impact families, youth, and the overall well being of our residents. My experience as Community Service Chair for YPN Merced County has given me hands-on experience organizing initiatives that bring people together, and my leadership in local programs--such as coaching youth soccer--demonstrates my dedication to providing enriching activities for children and families. Additionally, my background in education and the arts allow me to bring creative ideas for programming that can engage a diverse range of residents. I would love the opportunity to collaborate with the commission to ensure that our parks remain well-maintained, accessible, and filled with opportunities for recreation and community connection. My goal is to be a voice for families, youth, and professionals who rely on these spaces and to help create initiatives that encourage outdoor activity, arts, and community engagement.

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

MCAR MLS

Demographics

Ethnicity

Other

Gender

Female

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

ML

Profile

Mylia
First Name

M
Middle Initial

Chambers
Last Name

Merced City School District
Employer

Teacher
Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 4

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Yes

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Master's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I am an PE Teacher at Merced City schools and have Masters Degree in Public Health from UC Berkeley. I'm an active participant in my community with experience working for non-profits in Madison, Wisconsin in affordable housing, as well as other community-based volunteer positions like neighborhood newspapers and boards.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

PE Teacher, Merced City School District, 5 years Teacher, Los Banos Unified School District, 2 years Elected-School Site Council Member, Donn. B. Chenoweth Elementary School, 2 years PE/Health Middle School Teacher, West Fresno Middle School, Washington Unified School District, 2 years Office Manager, Madison Development Corp., 2 years Children's Primary Presidency, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Madison 1st Ward, 2 years District Children's Primary President, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 1 year University Houses Preschool, Board President, 2 years Ad Manager, University of Wisconsin Housing Newspaper, 4 years

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

My understanding of the role of the Board and how each commission can impact our citizens in Merced. As a voting member, I would be able to recommend and propose agenda items.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

I have experience in affordable housing and understand Fair Housing rules, etc.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

Currently, I'm on the BPAC Commission.

[mylia_chambers_resume_.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards
AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards
How did you hear about this vacancy? *

- City Website
- Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

City Council Meeting

Demographics

Ethnicity

Asian or Pacific Islander

Gender

Female

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Mylia Chambers

MYLIA MOUA CHAMBERS

EXPERIENCE

August 2019 to Present

*Fifth Grade Teacher, Westside Elementary, Los Banos Unified
Los Banos, CA*

- Developing curriculum for fifth grade students
- Meeting Common Core standards
- Managing and assisting the needs of students' academic needs

August 2017- July 2019

*Physical Education Teacher, West Fresno Middle School
Fresno, CA*

- Planning and coordinating P.E curriculum to 6-8 graders
- Assessing and analyzing students learning
- supporting student, staff and parents in a learning environment

March 2016- July 2017

*Office Manager, Madison Development Corp, Non-profit
Madison, WI*

- Referred families to shelters, legal resources and educational programs.
- Collaborated with members of the city staff, other public agencies and private organizations to achieve MDC goals.
- Gathered and analyzed data for studies and reports and made recommendations based on findings.
- Responded to tenants' complaints and requests for information and services.

August 2009- October 2013

*Board President and Board Member, University Houses Preschool
Cooperative, University of Wisconsin- Madison, Affiliated Preschool*

- Coordinated interviews and hiring process for UHP personnel
- Assisting and preparing classroom for teachers
- Coordinate Board meetings and events
- Fundraised and drafted donation requests and proposals

EDUCATION

Brigham Young University-Idaho

December 2008

Bachelor's Degree of Science *Health Education Major*
Physical Education Minor

LANGUAGES

English- read, write and speak fluently

Hmong- native speaker, read and write intermediate

Thai- beginning speaking

TEACHING LICENSE

*Health & P.E. Educator Credential
Multiple Subject Education Credential (expected August 2020)*

References can be provided upon request

Profile

Susan

First Name

Gromala

Last Name

Middle Initial

S g studios

Employer

Owner artist

Job Title

[Empty text input field]

Email Address

[Empty text input field]

Primary Phone

[Empty text input field]

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

[Empty text input field]

Street Address

[Empty text input field]

Suite or Apt

[Empty text input field]

City

[Empty text input field]

State

[Empty text input field]

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 5

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

No

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Associate's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I'm an artist and small business owner in downtown Merced. I teach and volunteer locally, and my work often focuses on building community through art. I'm applying for this board because I believe creative spaces and public events play a powerful role in connecting people. Parks and Recreation is one of the few areas that touches all ages and backgrounds, and I'd like to support its continued growth with a fresh, community-driven perspective. My experience in murals, youth art programs, and public engagement gives me a strong sense of how art can be used to enrich shared spaces and encourage meaningful participation.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

I am a volunteer at Neighbors United, The People's Garden, and several nonprofits located in Merced where I engage youth at events and fundraisers. I provide caricature art for fundraisers and community events, and I partner with Ss2, a nonprofit distributing free Narcan and fentanyl testing strips. I also mentor and apprentice new artists, helping them build their skills and find work opportunities through their art.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

I understand that meetings are required and accountability with the logistics of parks and recreation. I know that being a part of the board or commission requires commitment and consistency with objective feedback regarding decisions made by the city for the benefit of the citizens who enjoy and benefit from the accessibility and expansion of events and activities of the department of parks and recreation.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

While I don't have formal experience in this area, I bring strong community engagement and creative problem-solving skills that I believe will be valuable.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

After two years of living in Merced and running a local business following my move from Orlando, Florida, I believe I bring a fresh perspective on the rapidly growing demographic of new transplants relocating here from larger cities. I genuinely love living in Merced and am committed to contributing to the community in meaningful ways. With my creative background, I'm confident I can offer valuable insight and help represent the growing role of the arts within Merced Parks and Recreation. I'm passionate about expanding opportunities for artistic expression and community engagement through our public spaces.

Susan Gromala

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

Newspaper

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Ethnicity

Asian or Pacific Islander

Gender

Female

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Sg

Profile

Xerxes

First Name

Zangeneh

Last Name

Middle Initial

Employer

Job Title

[Empty text box for Employer/Job Title]

Email Address

[Empty text box for Primary Phone]

Primary Phone

[Empty text box for Alternate Phone]

Alternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

[Empty text box for Street Address]

Street Address

[Empty text box for Suite or Apt]

Suite or Apt

[Empty text box for City]

City

[Empty text box for State]

State

[Empty text box for Postal Code]

Postal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)

Yes No

Which Council district do you live in? *

District 5

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Recreation and Parks Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

Master's Degree

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

Yes No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

As a student at the UC and an active community member, I want to not only hold the council accountable, but also do my civic duty and contribute to helping make decisions about our city.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

I am currently a graduate student at the university, an experienced organizer with years of experience, and have often attended city council meetings.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

Recreation and Parks: To ensure the city is responsibly administering and managing its parks and their respective operations. Planning: Reviewing specific developments and updating the public on changes to the General Plan. Additionally, studying zoning and planning, and making recommendations to the Council on such matters.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

I have personally studied city planning and urban design for many years.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

[TA_Resume.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Instagram Post by the City

Demographics

Ethnicity

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

Male

Date of Birth

Submission

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

XZ

Xerxes Zangeneh

EDUCATION

University of California,

Merced

Graduation:

May 2025

Master of Science in Bioengineering

Graduation:

May 2023

Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering | Minor in Management, Analytics, and Decision-Making

Accomplishments

Chancellor's Scholars List

Spring 2020

Dean's Scholars List

Fall 2019, Fall 2021

Innovate To Grow - Top Finisher

Spring 2023

WORK EXPERIENCE

Gopinath Lab (UCM)

January 2024 - Present

Bioengineering Graduate Student Researcher

- Imaging colony-level effects of surfactants on *S. marcescens*
- Imaging swarming *S. marcescens* on the cellular level to analyze the cooperative nature of swarming bacteria
- Isolating and producing bacterial stock of *S. marcescens*

Bioengineering Department

August 2024 - Present

Teaching Assistant

- Teaching and guiding students through introductory python
- Instructing students to implement vast range of data visualization techniques

Newport Labs

May 2022 – January 2023

Lab Technician/Lab Assistant

- Worked as a PCR Lab Technician, testing thousands of patients a night for COVID-19 and influenza
- Trained new employees on the entire process chain from beginning to end, and had extensive knowledge of the procedure

UC Merced NASA/MACES Partnership

October 2021 - May 2022

Biochemistry and Biosensors Fellow

Worked under Dr. Tao Ye

- Built Carbon-Nanotube-based electronic detectors for sensitive and critical gas concentrations in air
- Used gold nanoparticles and functionalized DNA to make visual indicators and detectors of COVID-19

KEY SKILLS

- *Mammalian cell culture*
- *Bacterial cell culture*
- *Brightfield and fluorescence microscopy*
- *Familiar with BSL1 and BSL2 Laboratory Practices*
- *Proficient in Matlab, Python, ImageJ/FIJI*