

Preliminary Report: Emergency Permit Holders Earning Teaching Credentials in California

February 18, 2003

Summary

The purpose of this report is to determine the number of emergency permit holders who earned a teaching credential and to determine the length of time it took to earn the credential.

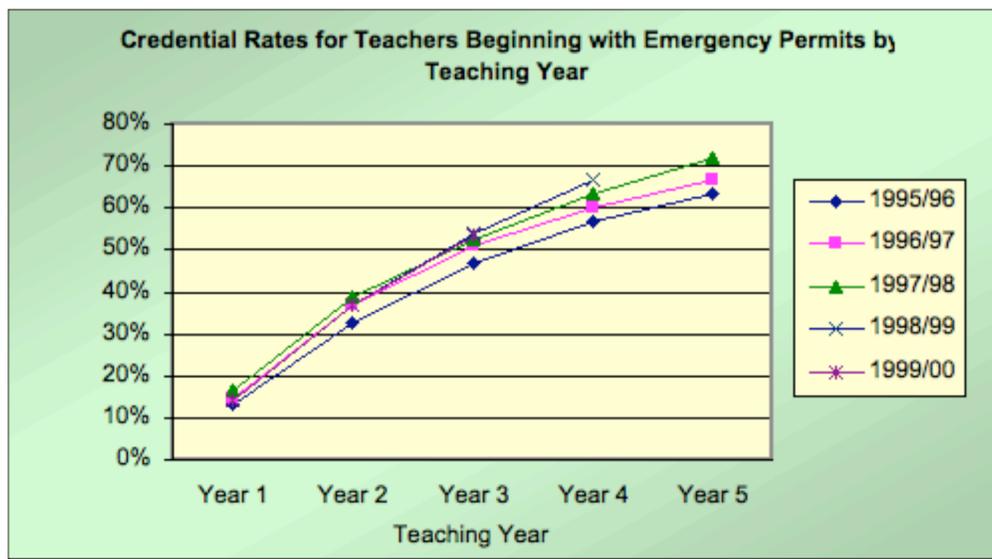
Fiscal Impact

This research was conducted within the Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division's budget.

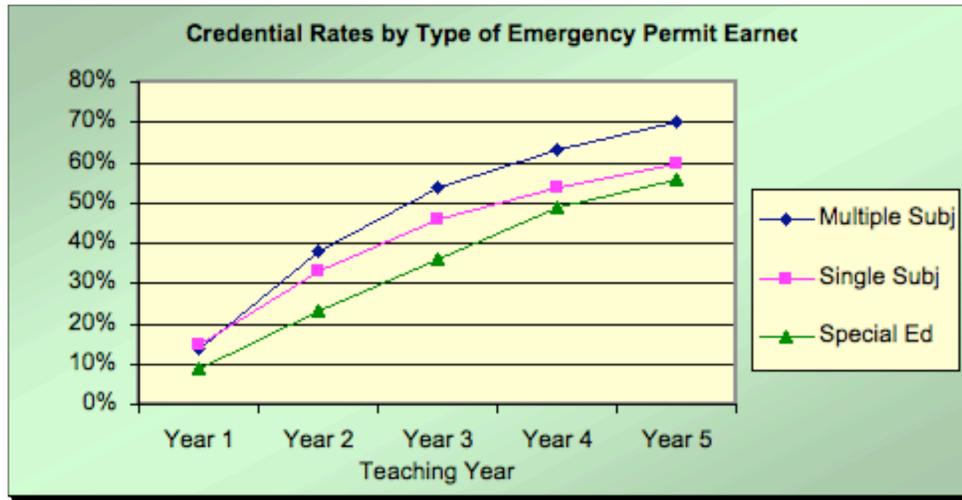
Background

For the purpose of this report, only individual's who earned their first (or new) long-term multiple subject, single subject, and special education emergency teaching permits were included in this study. The multiple subject and single subject permit holders had not previously held a full teaching credential. Special education permit holders often held a full teaching credential in another area, because until 1998 the special education teaching credential required the individual to hold a basic teaching credential.

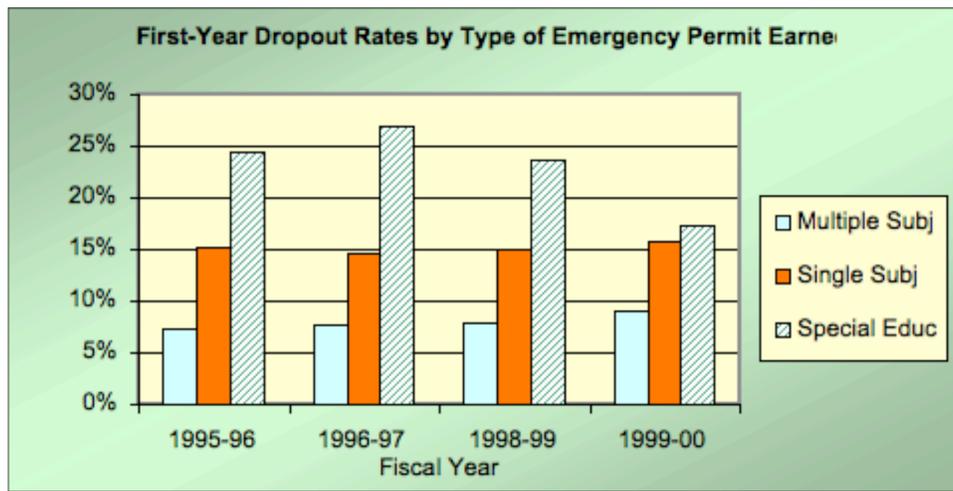
Findings of the study showed that of the 6,184 individuals who received their first long-term emergency teaching permit in fiscal year 1995-96, 4,370 (or 63%) earned a California teaching credential by the end of the five-year period. The percentage increases to 71% for the 1997-98 cohort, contradicting a common perception that most individuals who obtain an emergency teaching permit never go on to obtain a full teaching credential.



The following table breaks out this percentage, by credential type, and verifies that of the 2,599 individuals who earned a multiple subject teaching permit in fiscal year 1995-96, 2,050 (70%) went on to earn a full teaching credential after five years. The percentage decreased to 60% for single subject teaching permit holders, and 56% for special education teaching permit holders during the same time period. Similar results were achieved for fiscal years 1996-97 and 1997-98.



The next table shows the percentage of individuals, by permit type earned, who discontinued teaching after their first year on an emergency permit. The table shows that the first-year dropout rates remained relatively steady for multiple (7-8%) and single subject (15-16%) permit holders over the four-year period. First-year dropout rates for special education permit holders tended to change much more dramatically from year to year, rising to 27% in 1996-97, the first year of class-size reduction, and decreasing to 17% in 1999-00. This decrease may be an indication that a higher percentage of individuals are remaining in special education programs.



The data in this report is helpful in determining the future supply of teachers. In 2000-2001, the last complete year of emergency permit data, the Commission issued 32,573 emergency permits. If the number of emergency permit holders earned credentials at the rate of 71%, the same that is shown for 1997-98 cohort, there is a potential of 22,927 more credential holders in 2005-06. While the information provided in this report is encouraging, a follow-up study to compare teacher employment retention rates among emergency permit holders is currently in process. As in a previous teacher retention study (October 2002) published by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, the Commission is working jointly with the California Employment Development Department to match an individual's credential data with their employment history. It is anticipated that this information will be provided to the Commission in the near future.