

State Of California  
Commission On Teacher Credentialing

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## DESIGNATED SUBJECTS SPECIAL SUBJECTS TEACHING CREDENTIALS

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The Preliminary or Clear Special Subjects Teaching Credential authorizes the holder to teach the subject named on the credential in grades K–12 inclusive, and classes organized primarily for adults.

The Special Subjects Teaching Credentials are issued to individuals who meet the requirements listed below and who apply through and are recommended by either a [Commission-approved program sponsor](#) or an Employing School District (ESD). They are available in the following subject areas:

- Aviation Flight Instruction
- Aviation Ground Instruction
- Basic Military Drill
- Reserve Officers Training Corps
- Driver Education and Training
- Limited Driver Training

### Requirements for the Five-Year Preliminary Credential

Individuals must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Verify four years of experience or education as specified below (at least one year of the experience must be within the three-year period immediately preceding the issuance of the credential.)
  - *Aviation Flight Instruction or Aviation Ground Instruction*  
Experience must be verified by copies of flight logs
  - *Basic Military Drill*  
Experience must be verified by the Adjutant General of the State of California
  - *Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)*  
Experience must be verified by the branch of the military service sponsoring the program in the employing school district
  - *Driver Education and Training*  
Education must include a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university verified by official transcript
  - *Limited Driver Training*  
Experience must be verified by submission of a current transcript of driving record from the Department of Motor Vehicles
2. Possess the appropriate license, complete the appropriate course work, **or** obtain the recommendation of the appropriate agency as specified below:
  - *Aviation Flight Instruction or Aviation Ground Instruction*  
Possess a properly rated valid certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Agency
  - *Basic Military Drill*  
Obtain the recommendation of the Adjutant General of the State of California

- *Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)*  
Obtain the recommendation of the branch of military service sponsoring the program in the employing school district
  - *Driver Education and Training*  
Possess a valid California driver's license and receive verification by an LEA that the applicant has completed 12 semester units, or 180 clock hours, in a Commission-approved program of subject-matter preparation in driver education and training\*
  - *Limited Driver Training*  
Possess a valid California driver's license, submit a written statement from the employing school district attesting to the applicant's ability to actually perform behind-the-wheel driver instruction, and submit written assurance from the ESD that adequate supervision and appropriate staff development will be provided for the individual receiving the limited driver training authorization
3. **One** of the following requirements must be satisfied:
    - a. possess a high school diploma
    - b. possess a diploma based on passage of the GED Test
    - c. possess the foreign equivalent of a high school diploma
  4. U.S. Constitution – applicants must satisfy **one** of the following requirements:
    - a. complete a course (at least two semester units or three quarter units) in the Provisions and Principles of the U.S. Constitution at a regionally-accredited college or university (Submit a copy of the course description for evaluation purposes.)
    - b. pass an examination in the Provisions and Principles of the U.S. Constitution given by a regionally-accredited college or university
  5. For Driver Education and Training only, satisfy the [basic skills requirement](#). See Commission leaflet [CL-667](#), entitled *Basic Skills Requirement*, for additional information
  6. Obtain verification by the ESD or [Commission-approved program sponsor](#) that the applicant is aware of the requirements for the clear credential
  7. Completed application ([form 41-4](#)) and current application [processing fee](#)

\*Effective April 18, 1999, only Commission-approved subject-matter programs will be accepted toward meeting this requirement.

**Note:** A Preliminary Special Subjects Credential may be issued for one year to applicants who have completed all requirements except the U.S. Constitution requirement, as listed above. The credential may be extended to its full five-year term once the U.S. Constitution requirement has been met.

## Requirements for the Clear Credential

Individuals must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Possess the appropriate valid Preliminary Special Subjects Teaching Credential
2. Obtain verification by the ESD of two years of successful teaching experience as authorized by the preliminary credential defined as follows:
  - a. teaching a minimum of one course in each of four semesters within the five-year period of validity of the preliminary credential
  - b. the renewal of an employment contract or other employment agreement with one ESD for a minimum of three of the four semesters
3. Obtain verification by a Commission-approved [program sponsor](#) that the applicant has completed nine semester units, or 135 clock hours, in a Commission-approved program of personalized preparation
4. Complete a course in health education, including, but not limited to, nutrition; the physiological and sociological effects of alcohol, narcotics, and drug abuse; and the use of tobacco. This requirement must also include training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) which covers infant, child, and adult CPR skills.
5. Completed application ([form 41-4](#)) and current application [processing fee](#)

[Click here for Professional Preparation Programs](#) or visit the Commission web site @ [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov).

*Reference: California Education Code, Section 44252(e) and Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Section 80037*