



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: April 22, 2011

Number: 11-08

Subject: Revised Foundational-Level Mathematics Preconditions

Summary

In December 2010 the Commission adopted preconditions for the Foundational-Level General Science (FLGS) Subject Matter Programs including the requirement of 32 semester units (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2011-01/2011-01-2C.pdf>). This Program Sponsor Alert (PSA) presents information on the revised Preconditions for Foundational-Level Mathematics (FLM) Subject Matter Programs consistent with the recently adopted preconditions for FLGS programs.

Background

The Single Subject Teaching Credential in Foundational-Level Mathematics authorizes the holder to provide instruction in the content taught to the majority of California's K-12 public school math students: general mathematics, algebra, geometry, probability and statistics, and consumer mathematics. Instruction is permitted in grades twelve and below, including preschool and classes organized primarily for adults. However, this credential does not authorize teaching of higher levels of mathematics such as calculus, trigonometry, and math analysis commonly taught in the higher secondary grades and beyond the scope of the mathematics content areas noted above.

An individual may satisfy the FLM subject matter requirement by passing Subtests 1 and 2 of the California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET): Mathematics, or by completing a Commission-approved subject matter preparation program. Preconditions for Foundational-Level Mathematics Subject Matter Programs (FLM) were adopted in 2003 and were the same number of semester units (45) as the preconditions for full mathematics subject matter programs. In order to create a viable program pathway for Foundational-Level Mathematics, the Commission adopted new preconditions on April 14, 2011. The chart below defines the course requirements for the new FLM subject matter programs:

FLM Program Course Requirements	
Total Semester Units	32
Core Mathematics Courses: algebra, geometry, number theory, and statistics and probability (SMR Domains 1-4)	20
Extended Study of Mathematics-based or Affiliated Courses (e.g., physics, engineering, computer programming)	12

Currently approved Mathematics Subject Matter Programs will not need to undergo the complete review process but may submit the approved core mathematics course list applicable to the FLM program along with additional mathematics-related course syllabi for review for FLM program approval. Current approved mathematics subject matter programs are not required to respond to the two *Standards Common to All* to add the FLM subject matter program.

At an institution where no approved mathematics subject matter program exists, the program sponsor will submit materials for a full review of the proposed FLM program. The materials must address all of the Foundational Level Mathematics Subject Matter Program Standards and provide supporting documentation such as course descriptions and syllabi.

An individual who has satisfied the FLM subject matter requirement is eligible for a single subject FLM teaching credential once the preliminary teacher preparation program has been completed. The FLM credential can be earned as an initial teaching credential. In addition, an individual who holds a single subject teaching credential in another subject may add the FLM authorization by satisfying the subject matter requirement. The FLM is different from the Subject Matter Authorization in Mathematics (SMA) in that the SMA does not involve completing an approved program and may only be added to an existing multiple or single subject credential. In addition, the scope of the authorization for each is distinct.

References

Approval of Revised Preconditions for Foundational-Level Mathematics Subject Matter Programs (April 2011): <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2011-04/2011-04-agenda.html>

Mathematics and Foundational-Level Mathematics: Preconditions, Standards, Program Proposal Template and Alignment Matrix: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/STDS-subject-matter.html>

Program Submission Information: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/new-program-submission.html>

Contact Information:

The Professional Services Division provides a full list of topic specific dedicated email addresses as well as program areas with the most up to date Commission staff member's email address here <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/PSD-contact.html>.