



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: September 23, 2009 Number: 09-11

Subject: Updates on Title 5 Regulations for Added Authorizations and Last Date to Transition Current Education Specialist Programs

Summary

Over the past two years the Commission has been reviewing the requirements and authorizations for Special Education certification.

Topics addressed in this alert are as follows:

- 1) Updated timeline for submitting program proposals for Education Specialist Added Authorization program documents.
- 2) Updated date when Education Specialist Added Authorization programs based on currently operating programs may begin.
- 3) Updated date for all Education Specialist and Other Related Services programs to transition to the 2008-09 standards.

Background

The Commission is now in the process of implementing updated program standards for all Education Specialist Teaching credentials and Other Related Services credentials. This Program Sponsor Alert provides new information in the implementation of the recently adopted program standards and one component of the Commission's efforts to disseminate information to interested stakeholders.

Institutions submitting proposals for new Added Authorization (AA) Programs

The Title 5 process related to the Education Specialist Added Authorizations has been completed for six of the nine authorizations (Autism, Deaf-Blind, Emotional Disturbance, Orthopedically Impaired, Health Impaired and Traumatic Brain Injury). **Therefore, prospective program sponsors may now submit program proposals for these new Added Authorization programs.** These proposals must be reviewed by a panel of experts and once the proposal is deemed to meet the standards, the AA program will be recommended to the Committee on Accreditation for initial approval.

Institutions planning to offer Added Authorization (AA) Programs based on a currently approved Education Specialist teacher preparation program

If an institution with one or more currently approved Education Specialist teacher preparation program(s) elects to offer *Added Authorization* programs, the institution is now able to offer one or more of the six *Added Authorization* programs identified in the previous paragraph based upon the corresponding preparation program. It is essential that the institution has notified the Commission of its intent to offer the AA program by submitting the [Transition Plan](#) document prior to beginning the program.

For example, if an institution with a currently approved program in Education Specialist: Moderate/Severe elects to offer an *Added Authorization in Autism Spectrum Disorder* it may begin to offer the program once the [Transition Plan](#) has been submitted to the Commission. Conversely, if an institution offers only an approved program in Education Specialist: Mild/Moderate and elects to offer the *Added Authorization in Autism Spectrum Disorder*, the program proposal must be submitted, reviewed and the program must be approved by the Committee on Accreditation before the program can be offered. For more information, please consult the Transition Plan document, chart at the bottom of the second page: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/special-education-docs/webcast/2009-03-13-Transition-Plans.doc>

Final Date to Transition to the Recently Adopted Program Standards

The initial information released to the field stated dates for institutions to transition their current programs to the revised standards and submit programs under the new standards. The date when all current Education Specialist and Other Related Services programs must transition to the 2008-09 standards is being moved from January 1, 2011 to **September 1, 2011**. Therefore the transition dates have been revised from the information shared at the March technical assistance meeting and the June Program Sponsor Alert 09-08. Appendix A provides the updated information for the transition.

References

Updates on the Implementation of the Special Education Credential Reforms, PSA 09-08, <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/PS-alerts/2009/PSA-09-08.pdf> .

Adoption of Program Standards for the Education Specialist Teaching Credential (December 2008) <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2008-12/2008-12-3B.pdf>

Adoption of Program Standards for Other Related Services Credentials and Added Authorizations for Special Education Teaching Credentials (January 2009) <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2009-01/2009-01-3C.pdf>

Adoption of Standards for Clear Education Specialist Credentials, Audiology Credentials, Existing Added Authorizations, and Alignment of Existing General and Special Education Standards (March 2009) <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2009-03/2009-03-2C.pdf>

Update on Implementation of Special Education Credential Reforms (June 2009) <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2009-06/2009-06-6D.pdf>

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>.

Appendix A

Special Education Important Dates—Updated July 27, 2009

Institutions offering programs to prepare individuals for any of the Education Specialist teaching credentials or Other Related Services credentials will be transitioning to the newly adopted program standards (adopted in 2008-09). New Programs can be submitted for review and approval after October 15, 2009 except for Added Authorization programs

Date	Activity
March 13, 2009	Special Education Reforms technical assistance meeting.
April 1, 2009	First date to submit the <i>Intent to Submit a New Program</i> —Intent is due a minimum of 60 days before intended submission of program documents.
July 27, 2009	First date to submit a proposal for a new <i>Added Authorization</i> program.
July 27, 2009	<i>Added Authorization</i> programs maybe offered if the institution currently offers the appropriate full Education Specialist teaching credential program on which the <i>Added Authorization</i> program is based.
October 15, 2009	First date to submit a proposal for a new Education Specialist or Other Related Services program.
October 15, 2009	<i>Plan to Transition</i> due to CTC. This plan identifies the *date* on which all approved special education programs offered at the institution will transition to the recently adopted standards.
January 1, 2010 <i>Pending approval of Title 5 regulations</i>	Earliest date an institution transitions all currently approved special education programs to the recently adopted program standards and updated authorizations. First date for a new program addressing the revised standards to be offered.
September 1, 2011	Last date when an institution transitions all approved programs to the recently adopted program standards and updated authorizations.

See the *Special Education and Accreditation Activities* page for information on the review process for currently approved programs transitioning to the recently adopted standards. The review of these programs will be integrated into Program Assessment and Site Visit activities.

Important dates for Candidates:

December 31, 2010 or	The day prior to the *date* identified on the <i>Plan to Transition</i> , whichever is first	Last date to accept a candidate into a currently approved special education Level I program
September 31, 2013 or	The *date* identified on the <i>Plan to Transition</i> plus 2 years, whichever is first	Final date for a candidate to complete a currently approved special education Level I program