Date: January 20, 2011  
Number: 11-03  

Subject: New Reading and Literacy Added Authorization and Reading and Literacy Specialist Credential Program Standards

Summary
This notice is to alert all interested parties that on September 30, 2010, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing approved revised standards for, and renamed, the Reading Certificate and Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential to become the Reading and Literacy Added Authorization and Reading and Literacy Specialist Credential. Included in this PSA is a link to a web page for information on the process of developing these standards, the standards themselves, as well as forms and assistance for transitioning to the new standards.

Background
In keeping with the Commission’s policy of reviewing all program standards every ten years, the Executive Director of the Commission was charged to convene an advisory panel of reading teaching specialists, both those in the classroom and those who prepare individuals to teach reading. The panel was charged with the task of reviewing the 1998 program standards, the revised Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) content specifications, and the revised Multiple and Single Subject Teacher Preparation Program Standards 7A (Preparation to Teach Reading-Language Arts for Multiple Subject Candidates), 7B (Preparation to Reading-Language Arts for Single subject Candidates), and 8B(d) (Pedagogical Preparation for Subject-Specific Content Instruction by Single Subject English Candidates) to determine changes to the 1998 program standards.

The panel was convened in June 2008 and met over a period of two years before finalizing the revised program standards that were adopted on September 30, 2010.

Some of the major differences or added emphases in the 2010 standards as compared to the 1998 standards are:
Focus on a Culture of Literacy, not just Reading, which includes Writing, Speaking & Listening and the setting
All domains are included—not just fluency and comprehension as before
Research-based best practices
Response to Instruction and Intervention (RtI²) model
Use of data
Increased focus on Pre-kindergarten & adolescent literacy
Leadership/Coaching/Adult Learning Theory (working with other teachers)
Assessment of Candidate Competence
Information/Technology literacies and K-12 library content standards

Current approved programs must transition to the 2010 standards by January 2013.

Information on the transition process may be found at:
http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/reading-specialist.html

Registration for Webcast—Technical Assistance for Programs Transitioning to New Reading Specialist Standards:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ReadingSpecialistStandardsWebinar

Technical Assistance Webcast web page link—for materials and set up for the webcast and to watch the archived webcast after the webcast date (January 31, 2011):
http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/webcasts.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.

For information concerning reading certificate/credential:
Commission’s Information Services Unit by email at credentials@ctc.ca.gov