



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: February 2, 2011

Number: 11-05

Subject: New Mathematics Instructional Added Authorization and  
Mathematics Instructional Leadership Specialist  
Credential Program Standards

## **Summary**

This notice is to alert all interested parties that on September 30, 2010, the Commission approved revised standards for the Mathematics Specialist Credential and established standards for a Mathematics Instructional Certificate. In addition, a new name was proposed for the Mathematics Specialist Credential to become the Mathematics Instructional Leadership Specialist Credential. Included in this PSA are the links to the adopted standards, the Handbook for Teacher Educators, and a link to the Teaching Mathematics Advisory Panel (TMAP) website.

## **Background**

In response to a request from the Commission, staff prepared a series of agenda items addressing mathematics education, student learning of mathematics in California, and the preparation for earning the different authorizations for teaching mathematics in California's public schools, PreK-12. With this information as background, the Commission focused its discussion on one potential option that could assist current teachers of grades PreK-8 mathematics: having access to the services of a Mathematics Specialist Credential holder to provide support and assistance to both students and teachers.

The Commission directed the executive director to convene an advisory panel of mathematics teaching specialists, both those in the classroom and those who prepare individuals to teach mathematics, and charged the panel with the task of reviewing "...the need for and, if necessary, propose authorizations and program standards for a Mathematics Specialist Credential.

The Teaching Mathematics Advisory Panel (TMAP) quickly came to agreement that although teachers of mathematics have at least a basic level of knowledge and expertise regarding teaching mathematics, there is a pressing need to provide additional support to teachers by

increasing access to mathematics teaching expertise on a consistent basis, especially at the elementary and middle grades levels. The panel felt that access to expertise in mathematics would best be accomplished by updating the former mathematics specialist credential program standards so that more mathematics specialists could be available statewide to support classroom teachers. As the panel refined its thinking about the needed changes and updates to the mathematics specialist credential, it determined that a structure that parallels the current, nested structure of the reading certificate and reading specialist credential would be appropriate in the area of mathematics. As a result, the following two credentials were established.

To align with current changes the Commission is making to titles of documents, the Mathematics Instructional Certificate will become the Mathematics Instructional Added Authorization.

### **Mathematics Instructional Added Authorization (MIAA)**

A mathematics added authorization holder is required to complete advanced preparation and fieldwork in both mathematics content and the pedagogy of mathematics above and beyond what is required for the multiple subject teaching credential. In addition, the authorization recognizes that some teachers would have the prerequisite math content mastery to obtain a certificate that would go through but not beyond the level of mathematics content included in curriculum guidelines and textbooks up to and including Pre-Algebra, whereas other teachers might possess the math content that would authorize the teaching of mathematics content included in curriculum guidelines and textbooks up to and including Algebra I. That means that MIAA holders have two slightly different authorizations options based on their mathematics content knowledge.

The added authorization authorizes the holder to work individually or in groups of children through pre-Algebra or Algebra I, depending on mathematics proficiency, and is analogous to the Reading and Literacy Added Authorization in that it will provide training in assessing and remediating students' difficulties learning mathematics.

### **Mathematics Instructional Leadership Specialist Credential (MIL)**

The MIL requires for admission to the program, holding a Mathematics Instructional Added Authorization, or an equivalent, and will provide a higher level of specialized skills that will allow an individual to, not only provide support to teachers, but also to provide leadership at the K-12 level with respect to the teaching and learning of mathematics.

The requirements, authorizations, and titles of the Mathematics Instructional Added Authorization and the Mathematics Instructional Leadership Specialist Credential require amendments to Title 5 regulations. Proposed regulations were presented to the Commission at its January 2011 meeting. It is expected that the process will be completed in summer 2011. Until the regulations are approved, no Mathematics Instructional Added Authorization and Mathematics Instructional Leadership Specialist Credentials may be issued. The Commission is prepared to begin work with institutions interested in developing approved programs at this time.

### **Program Standards**

- **Mathematics Instructional Certificate and Mathematics Credential Program Standards**  
<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/mathematics-specialist.pdf>

## **Program Standards Handbook**

- A Handbook for Teacher Educators and Program Reviewers: Mathematics Instructional Certificate and Mathematics Credential Program Standards (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/mathematics-specialist-handbook.pdf> )

## **Teaching Mathematics Advisory Panel (TMAP) Website**

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/math-specialist.html>

This website provides detailed background information including: CTC Agenda Items Related to Teaching Mathematics; state documents; and Other Resources such as current credential requirements and standards used by other states or professional organizations for similar credentials.

### **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>.

### ***Questions concerning added authorization and credential requirements and authorization:***

Commission's Information Services Unit: [credentials@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:credentials@ctc.ca.gov)