

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

1900 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, California 95811-4213
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DIVISION



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 28, 2014

TO: Preliminary Preparation Program Deans and Directors, Superintendents, Faculty, and Credential Analysts

FROM: Teri Clark, Director, Professional Services Division, Commission on Teacher Credentialing

SUBJECT: Commission's Survey of Candidates Completing a Commission-approved Educator Preparation Program

Summary of Key Information:

Why is the Commission conducting a survey? The Commission is currently piloting a survey for Preliminary Multiple Subject, Single Subject, and Education Specialist Program Completers. The purpose of the survey is to collect data that reflects credential program completers' experiences in and perceptions of the quality of the professional preparation program they have just completed.

How are your program completers contacted regarding the survey? An invitation to complete the survey is sent from the Commission to all completers once they have paid for their preliminary teaching credential. Completers being surveyed are those who received a preliminary credential between January 1 and August 30, 2014. Completers are being asked to complete the survey by September 15, 2014.

What is on the survey?

- Basic demographics such as age and ethnicity as well as the type of credential program they attended, for example, online, blended or residency program
- Opportunity to learn skills associated with the credential
- Quality of preparation for assuming the role and managing responsibilities associated with the credential
- Adequacy of learning supports for working with a variety of students under different circumstances
- Supporting English Learners and students from special populations, including appropriate types of instructional and assessment strategies
- Creating and maintaining healthy learning environments, for example, setting norms and providing a supportive climate for students
- Feedback on the clinical experience and the support received from both program and fieldwork supervisors

Where can I see a copy of the full survey? <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/completer-surveys.html>

What can you do to help? We urge you to encourage program completers, who may contact you about the survey, to complete the survey at their earliest opportunity. Please help your completers understand that they are uniquely positioned to evaluate how well their professional program prepared them for the classroom. Only they can identify what worked for them and what did not work for them as they progressed through your program.

What information will each program receive from the survey? The survey link will continue to be sent to completers until August 30, 2014. Completers will have until September 15 to complete the survey. This will allow time to prepare both statewide and institution-specific reports. Individual candidate data, however, will not be provided, nor will individual candidates be identifiable from the aggregated survey results.

The reports will be available by October 15, 2014 for programs to use in Biennial Reports and other Accreditation activities. In addition, if there are sufficient responses per program, the number of completers who need to be interviewed at the site visit for accreditation purposes can be reduced and programs could use the data to complete the Biennial Report. The data could also be used to identify issues in the program that need to be addressed, and, potentially, could reduce the amount of work required to prepare for a site visit.

How will the survey results be used? The survey results may be used by programs for program improvement purposes as well as by the Commission, within the Accountability System, as an important source of information about the perceived quality of the candidates' experiences in the program.

What's next? The Commission is working on finalizing a survey for completers of Preliminary Administrative Services programs. We anticipate that, beginning late this summer, Preliminary Administrative Services completers will receive an email to participate in the survey in the same way as explained previously for preliminary teaching credential respondents. That survey will close on September 30, 2014.

Other surveys for 2014-15 completers are being developed for the Clear Teaching Credential (General Education Induction, Clear General Education, and Clear Education Specialist Induction programs), the Administrator Clear Induction program, Pupil Personnel Services programs, Master Teachers and finally, for Employers. We are investigating how to identify and contact employers for survey purposes. That issue still needs to be addressed in order to capture feedback from these critical stakeholders.

Thank you for your attention to this memo and for your help in encouraging program completers to respond to the current and future surveys.