The Commission on Teacher Credentialing issues three different types of Substitute Permits: the Emergency 30-day Substitute Teaching Permit, the Emergency Career Substitute Permit, and the Emergency Substitute Teaching Permit for Prospective Teachers. The Emergency 30-day Substitute Teaching Permit authorizes the holder to serve as a day-to-day substitute teacher in any classroom, including preschool, kindergarten, and grades 1-12 inclusive, or in classes organized primarily for adults. The holder may serve as a substitute for no more than 30 days for any one teacher during the school year, except in a special education classroom, where the holder may serve for no more than 20 days for any one teacher during the school year. The permit is valid for one year and is renewable. The Emergency Career Substitute Permit authorizes the holder to serve as a day-to-day substitute teacher in any classroom, including preschool, kindergarten, and grades 1-12 inclusive, or in classes organized primarily for adults. The holder may serve as a substitute for no more than 60 days for any one teacher during the school year, except in a special education classroom, where the holder may serve for no more than 20 days for any one teacher during the school year. The permit is valid for one year and is renewable. The Emergency Substitute Teaching Permit for Prospective Teachers authorizes the holder to serve as a day-to-day substitute teacher in any classroom, including preschool, kindergarten, and grades 1-12 inclusive, or in classes organized primarily for adults. The holder may serve as a substitute for no more than 30 days for any one teacher and may only serve for a maximum of 90 days during the school year. In a special education classroom, the holder may serve for no more than 20 days for any one teacher during the school year. The permit is valid for one year and may be renewed only once.

Among the three types of substitute permits issued, the highest number of permits issued was the Emergency 30-day Substitute Teaching Permit (98 percent), and the proportion has remained steady over the past ten years. The Emergency Substitute Teaching Permit for Prospective Teachers accounted for about 2 percent and the Emergency Career Substitute Teaching Permit accounted for less than 1 percent (0.5 percent) in 2012-13.

In 2003-04, there were about 57,000 permits issued. There was a steady increase in the number of permits issued in the early five years, reaching a maximum of more than 60,000 permits in 2008-09. The increase between 2003-04 and 2008-09 was about 5 percent. In the past five years, there has been a steady decline in the number of permits issued (about 29 percent) between 2008-09 and 2012-13.

In 2003-04, the number of initial permits issued represented more than one-third of the total issued (36 percent) while the number of renewals issued represented nearly two-thirds (64 percent). However, in 2012-13, the proportion of new permits issued was about one-third (33 percent) and the renewals about two-thirds (67 percent).

Data includes all three types of substitute permits.