

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

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July 20, 1977

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TO: Deans of Education, Teacher Preparation Institutions
County and District Superintendents of Schools
Directors of Vocational Education and Adult Education
Directors, Regional Occupational Programs and Centers

FROM: Peter L. LoPresti, Executive Secretary *Ph.L.*

SUBJECT: Designated Subjects Programs:
(1) Interpretation of "Personalized In-Service Training"
(2) The Supervision and Coordination Authorization

The number of questions received has made evident a need to clarify the nature of the Personalized In-Service Training component of Designated Subjects (teaching) credential requirements.

The Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing wishes strongly to encourage flexibility in the implementation by LEA's of Designated Subjects program requirements. The opportunity to exercise such judgment and flexibility, within the parameters presented by Title 5, California Administrative Code and Commission policies, has been inherent in the thrust of program development and approval processes and in the numerous contacts by our staff with individuals closely involved in the preparation and credentialing of Designated Subjects teachers.

Your attention is directed to the Manual for Developing, Evaluating, and Approving Professional Preparation Programs for the Designated Subjects Teaching Credential, issued by the Commission on 6/7/74 and revised 6/6/75, particularly pages 15-17. The program approval guidelines for the Personalized In-Service Training (P.I.T.) are set forth in that section. The following excerpt is especially relevant:

2.1.0 THE LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY SHALL PROVIDE A PERSONALIZED IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM WHICH WILL DEVELOP UNDERSTANDINGS AND DEMONSTRABLE COMPETENCIES IN TEACHER CANDIDATES

The following components shall be included in a personalized in-service training program submitted for Commission approval:

For the part-time Designated Subjects teaching credential, personalized in-service training requirements are a minimum of 4 semester units, or 60 clock hours, or the

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equivalent (emphasis added). The personalized in-service training program for the part-time Designated Subjects teaching credential need not include all, nor is it limited to, the components listed below.

For the full-time Designated Subjects teaching credential, personalized in-service training requirements are a minimum of 9 semester units, or 135 clock hours, or its equivalent (emphasis added).

The Commission feels that all concerned will be best served if the word "equivalent" (emphasized above) is interpreted liberally by program coordinators and credential advisors as individual candidate P.I.T. plans are devised for admission to an approved program. While the guidelines call for a minimum of 4 semester units (or 60 clock hours) for the part-time and 9 semester units (135 clock hours) for the full-time credential, this should be considered as a program benchmark which may not necessarily be required of a given candidate who may bring to the point of admission varied experiences and training.

Program developers have been encouraged to create small blocks of instruction - modular units, "mini-courses" and the like - within which the required competencies may be obtained by candidates seeking the "clear" Designated Subjects credential. It is in this way that an individual, "personalized," training program for each candidate can be devised rather than requiring all candidates to enroll for identical training. Indeed, it is likely that some candidates, possessing highly relevant experiential/preparation background, should be given credit by the LEA as having met all of the P.I.T. requirements on that basis and be recommended immediately for the "clear" Designated Subjects credential.

You are reminded, too, that "subject matter proficiency" referenced on pages 10-12 of the previously cited Manual, must be verified by the LEA as part of the admission process for each credential candidate, and as a vital part of the initial credential-recommendation responsibilities of the LEA.

You will recall that guidelines have been adopted by the Commission for the development by LEA's of program additions to prepare holders of Vocational and/or Adult Education teaching credentials to obtain a credential authorization to supervise and coordinate Vocational or Adult Education programs. No programs have yet been submitted to the Commission for approval. Upon such approval it is the Commission's intent that judgment and flexibility be observed by LEA personnel in granting credit for past equivalent training and/or experience for any candidate seeking to complete such program.

If you have need for additional information and/or assistance, please contact Dr. Sidney Inglis (916) 322-5988, ATSS 492-5988.