

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

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April 13, 1978

77-7840

TO: Deans and Heads of Education and Directors of Teacher and Administrator Education

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

SUBJECT: Information Relating to the Training of Teachers and Administrators in Special Education

Chapter 1247 of the statutes of 1977 is otherwise known as AB 1250. Section 67.5 of that new law requires the Commission, in cooperation with the Department of Education, to develop requirements that will ensure that all individuals receiving a clear teaching credential or an administrative services credential after July 1, 1979, have received training in the needs of, and methods of providing educational opportunities to, individuals with exceptional needs.

At its April meeting the Commission approved a survey format to help identify the particular training and skills which should be included. A copy is attached for your reaction.

Many of you have asked your Commission Consultant how you may begin to meet this requirement. Our best advice right now is to review your offerings, consider the intent of the law, look at our listing of skills, and identify or develop one or two offerings which you consider will meet the needs of those teachers and administrators dealing with the new special education concepts.

A large number of persons hold preliminary credentials valid up to five years pending completion of an approved fifth year. Persons who will not complete and apply for the clear credential before July 1, 1979 will have to have this training to receive a clear credential. Even though the time for this to become mandatory is over 15 months away, I believe it is imperative for you to begin informing your candidates and graduates about this requirement for the clear credential.

If you have questions about this requirement please contact your consultant for assistance. I will keep you informed at each important step in the development of the guidelines and, ultimately, regulations. Guidelines should be available shortly after the June, 1978 meeting of the Commission.

Attachment