

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

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February 10, 1982

81-8225

TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities
of the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing

FROM: John F. Brown, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Information Related to the Resource Specialist
Certificate of Competence

New Statutes

AB 817 (Pappan), Education Code Section 56362(b) adds the Clinical Rehabilitative Services Credential in Language, Speech and Hearing, Including the Special Class Authorization, as an acceptable prerequisite credential for the Resource Specialist Certificate of Competence. The effective date of this legislation is January 1, 1982.

AB 1124 (Hughes), Education Code Section 56362.5, broadens the population of individuals who may utilize experience to qualify for the clear Resource Specialist Certificate of Competence on direct application, and extends the dates during which that experience may occur. AB 1124 was signed by the Governor on January 27, 1982, as an urgency statute effective immediately.

AB 1124 affects two populations of credential holders. A description of each population and the implications of AB 1124 to each population follows:

1. The population affected by Education Code Section 56362.5(b)(1) is comprised of individuals who provided instruction and services as specified in Title 5 Regulations, Section 80070.1(a) for two years prior to September 1, 1981.

Title 5 Regulations, Section 80070.1(a)

(a) "Resource Specialist" as used in Section 80070.2(a)(2) is a person who immediately prior to the operative date of Chapter 797, Statutes of 1980, was a credentialed special education teacher with three or more years of full-time teaching experience and whose instruction and services included:

(1) Providing instruction and services for pupils whose needs were identified in a written individualized education program developed by a school appraisal team or an educational assessment service and who were assigned to regular classroom teachers for a majority of a school day.

(2) Providing information and assistance to individuals with exceptional needs and their parents.

(3) Providing consultation, resource information, and material regarding individuals with exceptional needs to their parents and to regular staff members.

(4) Coordinating the special education services provided each individual with exceptional needs served through the resource specialist program.

(5) Assessing pupil progress on a regular basis and revising individualized education programs, as appropriate, and referring pupils who did not indicate appropriate progress to the educational assessment service.

The Implications of AB 1124:

Education Code Section 56362.5(b)(1) extends the date from June 30, 1980 to September 1, 1981 for the above described population. Individuals who provided the above described instruction and services for two years prior to September 1, 1981, qualify for the clear Resource Specialist Certificate of Competence, on direct application.

2. The population affected by Education Code Section 56362.5(b)(2) is comprised of individuals who provide instruction and services as specified in Title 5 Regulations, Section 80070.2(b), for two years prior to June 30, 1983.

Title 5 Regulations, Section 80070.2(b)

(b) Authorization.

(1) Provide instruction and services for pupils whose needs have been identified in an individualized education program developed by the individualized education program team and who are assigned to regular classroom teachers for a majority of a school day.

(2) Provide information and assistance to individuals with exceptional needs and to their parents.

(3) Provide consultation, resource information, and material regarding individuals with exceptional needs to their parents and to regular staff members.

(4) Coordinate special education services with the regular school programs for each individual with exceptional needs enrolled in the resource specialist program.

(5) Monitor pupil progress on a regular basis, participate in the review and revision of individualized education programs, as appropriate, and refer pupils who do not demonstrate appropriate progress to the individualized education program team.

(6) Emphasize, at the secondary school level, academic achievement, career and vocational development, and preparation for adult life.

The Implications of AB 1124:

Education Code Section 56362.5(b)(2) extends the date from June 30, 1980 to June 30, 1983 for the above described population. Individuals who provide instruction and services as described above, in Title 5 Regulations 80070.1(b), for two years prior to June 30, 1983, qualify for the clear Resource Specialist Certificate of Competence, on direct application.

Additional Information

Verification of Experience for the clear Resource Specialist Certificate of Competence is to be verified, either on the form provided by the Commission office (CL-645) or on letterhead stationery, by the appropriate administrative official of the school district, special education services region or county office of education. The two years of experience required for the clear Resource Specialist certificate of competence need not be in a master plan district/service region or innovative program, as previously specified in SB 1870.

The revision of Title 5 regulations to implement AB 817 and AB 1124 will be drafted for the Commission's review at the April, 1982 meeting. Following the Commission's approval of these proposed Title 5 Regulations, you will receive a copy of said regulations and notice of the date, place and time of the public hearing.

For your information, a copy of AB 1124 is included on page 4. Should you have questions about either AB 817 or 1124 please call our information office, (916) 445-7254.

SECTION 1. Section 56362.5 of the Education Code is amended to read:

56362.5. By July 1982, the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing shall adopt rules and regulations for a resource specialist certificate of competence. The certificate shall provide all the following:

(a) Definition of the competencies required of a resource specialist.

(b) Provision for a system of direct application to the commission for a certificate of competence for each teacher who holds a valid special education credential, other than an emergency credential, and who satisfies any one of the following criteria:

(1) Provided instruction and services as specified in subdivision (a) of Section 80070.1 of Title 5 of the California Administrative Code as it read immediately prior to the operative date of this section, for two years prior to September 1, 1981.

(2) Provided instruction and services as specified in subdivision (b) of Section 80070.2 of Title 5 of the California Administrative Code as it read immediately prior to the operative date of this section, for two years prior to June 30, 1983.

(c) Provision for the issuance, for up to three years, of a preliminary nonrenewable certificate of competence for the resource specialist, and adoption of the standards for the issuance and continuing validity of such a certificate.

(d) Establishment of a system for verification of competencies through both of the following:

(1) Commission of Teacher Preparation and Licensing approved institution of higher education resource specialist certificate program.

(2) Commission of Teacher Preparation and Licensing approved competency assessment panels for resource specialist certification.

(e) Cooperation with the department in implementing these provisions.

SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order that teachers applying for a certificate of competence may demonstrate their competence at the earliest possible time, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.