

## COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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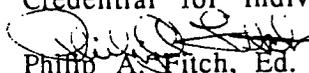


should be 91-9102

CC # 90-9016

January 7, 1991

To: Persons Interested in Preliminary Specialist Instruction  
Credential for Individuals Trained Out-of-State

From:   
Philip A. Fitch, Ed. D., Executive Secretary

Re: Guidelines Used in Reviewing Out-of-State Applications  
for Preliminary Special Education Specialist Credential

The rationale for the Preliminary Special Education Specialist was twofold:

1. To acknowledge the professional preparation of fully trained out-of-state special education teachers desiring to relocate to California;
2. To increase the pool of qualified applicants available to California employers.

This Preliminary Special Education credential will only be issued to those applicants who have never held and do not now hold a basic teaching credential. Staff can only grant the Preliminary Special Education Credential to those who are eligible as of or after a filing date of 9-9-90.

Employers recruiting special education teachers from out-of-state must inform applicants that they will have to be eligible for the basic Multiple or Single Subject Credential before the five year Preliminary Special Education Credential expires. This means the credential candidate will have to complete a teacher preparation program for the basic credential including regular classroom student teaching, as well as the NTE or waiver program in specific subject matter, U.S. Constitution, Reading Methods, and a fifth year. The five year preliminary credential gives teachers the time to earn the required basic credential.

A credential candidate cannot apply for the Preliminary Specialist credential and a basic teaching credential at the same time as the period of validity for specialist credentials is determined by the expiration date of the prerequisite teaching credential. Thus, if the applicant applied for the basic credential at the same time as the specialist credential, the specialist credential would not be valid for five years.

The Preliminary Special Education Credential requires CBEST but is available as a One Year Non-Renewable (OYNR) credential.

To apply for the Five-Year Preliminary Special Education Credential, the applicant must submit:

Application and fee.

2. A written statement from an employing California school district or county office of education, acknowledging that the applicant is aware of the responsibility for completing the requirements for the Multiple Subject or Single Subject Teaching Credential prior to the expiration date of the Preliminary Special Education Credential.
3. Official transcripts showing completion of a minimum of 24 semester units including student teaching or supervised field work, with a minimum grade of "B" in the special education categorical area stated on the application (see below).
4. A clear credential authorizing service to the students in the categorical area stated on the application from the state where the program was completed. If program equivalency cannot be established with one of the California Specialist categories (LH, SH, CH, PH, VH), the application will be returned to the applicant and he or she will be required to obtain a statement from the college or university where the program was completed, or the state licensing agency as to the categorical area of the program. If the explanation is still considered inadequate, i.e., "generic," the applicant will be required to contact a California IHE for course work equivalency evaluation. If the program is not deemed equivalent, the applicant will have to apply for an emergency specialist credential.

Definitions of special education categories from Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart A that apply to California credentials used in evaluating applications include:

*Learning Handicapped*--including specific learning disability and mentally retarded (mild);  
*Severely Handicapped*--including severely emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded (severely), multi-handicapped, and other health impaired (autistic);  
*Communication Handicapped*--including speech and language impaired, deaf, deaf-blind, and hard-of hearing;  
*Visually Handicapped*--including visually handicapped and deaf-blind;  
*Physically Handicapped*--including multi-handicapped, orthopedically impaired, and other health impaired (having limited strength, vitality, or alertness).

Any person wishing additional information should contact Dr. Marie Schrup at the Commission at (916) 327-2966.

Attachments

ADDITION OF SECTION 80048.2  
TITLE 5, CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR  
PRELIMINARY AND CLEAR SPECIALIST INSTRUCTION  
CREDENTIAL IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

**Section 80048.2. Specific Requirements for Preliminary and Clear Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education**

(a) The minimum requirements for the preliminary Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education shall include all of the following:

(1) A baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of postsecondary education;

(2) The completion of a professional preparation program in a special education specialist category comparable to a Commission-approved program, including successful completion of student teaching or supervised field study, but taken outside of California and approved by the appropriate agency in the state where the coursework was completed;

(3) Passage of the California Basic Education Skills Test described in Education Code Section 44252; and

(4) Written acknowledgement from the applicant and the employing district that the applicant is responsible for completing the requirements for the Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, including the student teaching requirement, during the five-year term of the preliminary credential or before another credential authorizing special education instruction will be issued.

(b) The minimum requirements for the clear Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education shall include all of the following:

(1) A baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of postsecondary education;

(2) The completion of a Commission-approved professional preparation program in one or more special education categories or completion of a professional preparation program in one or more special education categories comparable to a Commission-approved program, including successful completion of student teaching or supervised field study, but taken outside of California and approved by the appropriate agency in the state where the coursework was completed; and

(3) Possession of a California Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential or an equivalent California Teaching Credential issued under prior statutes and regulations.

(c) The period of validity of the preliminary Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education is five years. The preliminary credential may not be renewed. The provisions of subsections (a)(1) through (4) shall be repealed on September 30, 1992. The issuance of this preliminary credential is an interim measure to address a severe special education teacher shortage while awaiting completion of a study on this issue.

(d) The period of validity of the clear Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education is dependent upon the period of validity of the prerequisite teaching credential, or five years, if the prerequisite teaching credential is valid for life.

(e) Authorization. The preliminary or clear Specialist Instruction Credential in Special Education authorizes the holder to teach in the special education specialist category named on the credential and as specified in Sections 80046.5 and 80046.6 through 80047.9.

Note: Authority Cited: Section 44225, Education Code. Reference: Sections 44225 and 44265, Education Code.