

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

93-9306

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To: Persons Interested in Guidelines for Professional Administrative Services Credential Programs

From:  Philip A. Hitch, Ed. D., Executive Director

Re: Change in the Use of Private School Experience for the Meeting of Requirements in the Professional Administrative Services Credential Programs

On January 1, 1993, provisions of AB 2987 (Campbell) became effective (Chapter 1050 of the Statutes of 1992). The legislation, among other things, amended §44270.1 of the Education Code. The amendments apply to administrative experience requirements for the Professional Administrative Services Credential.

The amended section now reads (underline added):

- (a) The minimum requirements for the professional services credential with a specialization in administrative services are all of the following:
- (1) Possession of a valid preliminary administrative services credential, as specified in Section 44270.
 - (2) A minimum of two years of successful experience in a full-time administrative position in a public school or private school of equivalent status, while holding the preliminary administrative services credential, as attested by the employing school district or agency, including, but not limited to, the State Department of Education, in the case of state school administrators, and county offices of education, in the case of county school administrators.
 - (3) Completion of a commission-approved program of advanced study and appropriate field experiences or internship, at least one-half of which shall have been engaged in while being employed in a full-time administrative position in a public school or private school of equivalent status, while holding the preliminary administrative services credential.

- (b) The professional administrative services credential shall be valid for a period of five years from the date of issuance and may be renewed.

In order to achieve consistency with the amended section of the Education Code, the following wording changes in the Manual for Developing, Evaluating, and Approving Professional Preparation for the Professional Administrative Services Credential have been made, effective immediately for all Professional Administrative Services credential preparation programs.

Precondition (3) for the Professional Administrative Services credential now reads (underline added):

A college or university that operates a program for the Professional Administrative Services Credential shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the credential, that the candidate has completed a minimum of two years of successful experience in a full-time administrative position in a public school or private school of equivalent status, while holding the preliminary administrative services credential, as attested to by the employing school district or agency, including, but not limited to, the State Department of Education, in the case of state school administrators, and county offices of education, in the case of county school administrators. (REVISED January 1993)

Precondition (4) now reads (underline added):

A college or university that operates a program for the Professional Administrative Services Credential shall insure that at least one-half of the program shall have been engaged in by the candidate while being employed in a full-time administrative position in a public school or private school of equivalent status, while holding the Preliminary Administrative Services Credential. (REVISED January 1993)

Background

When the current two-level administrative credential structure was fully implemented on July 1, 1985, there was a lack of clarity regarding the administrative experience requirements for the Professional Administrative Services Credential. The Education Code provisions required that one-half of the program for the Professional Administrative Services Credential be completed while the candidate was employed in a position requiring the Preliminary Administrative Services Credential, and that two years of successful full-time administrative experience be obtained in a position requiring the Preliminary Administrative Credential.

The program guidelines for the Professional Administrative Services Credential, however, stated that the full-time administrative experience required by the Education Code could be met by successful administrative experience in public schools, or private schools of equivalent status. Staff Counsel issued a legal opinion on June 27, 1991, on the use of private school

administrative experience for these credential requirements. Counsel determined that positions which legally require a Preliminary Administrative Services Credential are only positions in the public school system. Under that interpretation, administrative experience in private schools could not be used to meet the experience requirements of the Professional Administrative Services Credential. The Commission sent Coded Correspondence (91-9114), dated August 1, 1991 informing the field of the legal interpretation and the subsequent change in the acceptability of administrative experience obtained in private schools.

During the 1992 legislative session the Commission sponsored legislation (AB 2987 - Campbell) which would allow the administrative experience required for the Professional Administrative Services Credential to be obtained in private schools. The bill was passed by the Legislature, signed by the Governor on September 27, 1992, and became effective January 1, 1993. The Commission now will be able to determine, on an individual basis, the equivalency of administrative experience obtained in private schools to that obtained in public schools.

If you have questions about the implementation of the amended provision of the Education Code or the revised preconditions, please contact Dr. Larry Birch, Consultant in Program Evaluation and Research at the Commission (916) 327-2967.