

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

94-9420

DATE: November 29, 1994

TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in Specialist and Services Credentials

FROM:  Philip A. Fitch, Ed.D., Executive Director

SUBJECT: Issuance and Dating Policies for Professional Clear Specialist and Services Credentials

In accordance with Title 5 Regulations, specialist and services credentials initially issued on or after July 1, 1994 are being issued as *professional clear* (PC) credentials and are subject to professional growth and service requirements for every five-year renewal. The following explains the Commission's policy concerning the issuance and dating of these credentials. The new professional clear credentials are:

Health Services	No Basic Required
Clinical or Rehabilitative Services	No Basic Required
Pupil Personnel Services	No Basic Required
Eminence Service	No Basic Required
Administrative Services	Dependent Credential
Library Media Teacher Service	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Agriculture)	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Bilingual)	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Early Childhood)	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Gifted)	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Health Science)	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Mathematics)	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Reading & Language Arts)	Dependent Credential
Specialist (Special Education)	Dependent Credential

ISSUANCE OF PC CREDENTIALS

A specialist or services credential will be a PC if it is the applicant's first credential of that type after completing all appropriate program and experience requirements and submitting an application on or after 7-1-94. The document will be issued as a PC regardless of

whether the prerequisite (basic) credential is preliminary, clear, professional clear, or life.

When an individual adds a new *stand-alone* authorization to an existing *clear* specialist or services credential after 7-1-94, the new document will list both authorizations and will be a PC. *Stand-alone* authorizations include:

Special Education	Learning Handicapped
	Severely Handicapped
	Physically Handicapped
	Visually Handicapped
	Communication Handicapped
Clinical or Rehabilitative	Audiology
	Language, Speech and Hearing
	Orientation & Mobility
Pupil Personnel	School Counseling
	School Psychology
	School Social Work

Example: Ms Susan A. Teacher holds a CLEAR Special Education Specialist in Learning Handicapped. She completes a program to add Severely Handicapped to her credential. The new credential will be a PC document that lists both LH and SH. Susan may continue to renew her CLEAR LH credential with a separate application and fee, if she wishes. She may also request that her CLEAR LH be reissued at any time in the future if she decides not to renew the PC or just wants the CLEAR back. The SH will always be a PC.

Individuals adding either *Special Class Authorization* to a clear Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential or *Child Welfare and Attendance* to a clear Pupil Personnel Services Credential will get a *clear* credential with both authorizations listed on it. These authorizations cannot stand alone.

The rules for a one-time two-year extension have not changed. The extension is available to an individual only once, regardless of the number of professional clear credentials he or she holds.

DATING OF PC CREDENTIALS

The dating of PC specialist and services credentials is affected by two factors: the expiration date of the prerequisite credential and the expiration date of any other PCs the applicant may hold. Regulations require that a dependent credential expire with its prerequisite and also that an individual need do only one set of professional growth and service requirements to renew all of the PCs that he or she holds. When we issue a dependent PC specialist or services credential, we

will make every effort to align all of the affected credentials so that they all expire on the same date.

When a person with a dependent professional clear credential wants to use his or her one-time 2-year extension, we will align the basic and PCs at the time the extension is renewed for a full term.

REVISED PROFESSIONAL GROWTH MANUAL

The California Professional Growth Manual was revised in July 1994 to include information about specialist and services credentials. The Manual can be ordered by contacting the Commission on Teacher Credentialing Certification Support Unit, Box 944270, Sacramento, CA 94244-2700 or by calling (916) 445-5941. Please continue to use the 1992 edition for individuals who hold Professional Clear Multiple and Single Subject credentials until your supply is exhausted.

One of the major differences for holders of professional clear services and specialist credentials is in the area of professional growth advisors. It is the responsibility of the services or specialist credential holder to locate a colleague to serve as his or her advisor. This advisor must either hold a clear specialist or services credential or be a postsecondary instructor in the credential area. Agencies that employ professional clear credential holders of any type are encouraged to designate one or more persons to be professional growth advisors, but this is not required for services and specialist credential holders as it is for Multiple and Single Subject Teaching Credential holders.

After reviewing the revised Professional Growth Manual, if you have questions, please contact our Information Services Office any workday afternoon at (916) 445-7254.