

**COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

1812 Ninth Street

Sacramento, California 95814-7000

(916)445-7254



95-9501

**DATE:** January 13, 1995

**TO:** All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing

**FROM:**  Philip A. Hitch, Ed.D.  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Amendment of Section 80457 of Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Pertaining to Institutions of Higher Education

**Notice of Public Hearing is Hereby Given**

In accordance with Commission policy, proposed Title 5 Regulations are being distributed prior to the public hearing. The public hearing is scheduled on:

March 2, 1995  
1:30 p. m.  
Clarion Hotel  
700 16th Street  
Sacramento, California

**Statement of Reasons**

As proposed, Section 80457 would only allow credential requirements to be satisfied by degrees from regionally accredited institution unless noted in specific credential statutes or regulations. It would allow evaluating agencies approved by the Commission to review studies completed outside of the United States. It would clarify that "accredited colleges and universities" and "accredited institutions" in regulations refer to regionally accredited institutions of higher education.

The following is a brief overview of the proposed amendments by sub-section.

§80457(a): Numerous Education Code Sections, such as 44203, 44225, 44227, 44253.3 and others, specify that baccalaureate degrees used to satisfy credential requirements need to be from regionally accredited institutions. This amendment would require that degrees used toward credential requirements be from regionally accredited institutions rather than also allowing the use of degrees from non-regionally accredited institutions if a regionally accredited

institution has given the individual graduate standing. The addition of the second sentence allows the use of coursework taken at a non-accredited institution if a regionally accredited institution will accept the coursework as applicable toward a degree. The addition of the clause "unless otherwise stated in statutes or regulations" to both situations would allow the Commission the discretion to create regulations that allow the use of coursework and degrees from other than regionally accredited institutions. The addition of the last sentence would allow degrees that were already accepted toward certification, under the current regulations, to be accepted toward future certification.

§80457(b): The proposed amendments clarify the wording but do not change the meaning of this sub-section.

Current §80457(c) & (d): The deletion of these two sub-sections would no longer allow certification staff to accept a degree from a non-accredited institution toward credential requirements if a regionally accredited institution has given the individual graduate standing based on that degree. The portion referring to institutions located outside of the United States has been re-written into the proposed §80457(c).

Proposed §80457(c): The amendment to this sub-section would allow not only certification staff, but also evaluating agencies approved by the Commission, to review studies completed outside of the United States. They would be responsible for determining the equivalency of the foreign institutions, degree grades, and unit values to those in the United States. This is needed because certification staff knowledgeable in this area are no longer with the Commission.

Proposed §80457(d): Since there is inconsistency in the wording of certification regulations, the addition of this sub-section clarifies that "accredited colleges and universities" and "accredited institutions" refer to regionally accredited institutions of higher education.

### Documents Relied Upon in Making Determination to Change These Regulations

- Statistical reports from the certification officers, institutions of higher education, and foreign evaluating agencies.

### **Written Comment Period**

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments on the proposed actions. The written comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. on March 1, 1995. Any written comments received 14 days prior to the public hearing will be reproduced by the Commission's staff for each Commissioner as a courtesy to the person submitting the comments and will be included in the written agenda prepared for and presented to the full Commission at the hearing.

## **Submission of Written Comments**

A response form is attached for your use when submitting written comments to the Commission. Please send it to the Commission at 1812 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-7000, so it is received at least one day prior to the date of the public hearing.

## **Public Hearing**

Oral comments on the proposed action will be taken at the public hearing. We would appreciate 14 days advance notice in order to schedule sufficient time on the agenda. Please contact Dr. Philip A. Fitch at (916) 445-0184 regarding this.

Any person wishing to submit written comments at the public hearing may do so. It is requested, but not required, that persons submitting such comments provide twenty-five copies. All written statements submitted at the hearing will, however, be given full consideration regardless of the number of copies submitted.

## **Modification of Proposed Actions**

If the Commission proposes to modify the actions hereby proposed, the modifications (other than nonsubstantial or solely grammatical modifications) will be made available for public comment for at least 15 days before they are adopted.

## **Contact Person/Further Information**

Inquiries concerning the proposed action may be directed to Yvonne Novelli, telephone (916) 445-5865. Upon request, a copy of the express terms of the proposed action and a copy of the initial statement of reasons will be made available. In addition, all the information upon which this proposal is based is available for inspection and copying.

## **Attachments**

DIVISION VIII OF TITLE 5, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 80457  
PERTAINING TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

80457. Acceptance of College or University Work for Purposes of Certification in California.

(a) ~~For the purposes of certification, course work requirements a degree must be completed in a regionally accredited institution of higher education, except as provided in subsection (c) unless otherwise stated in statutes or regulations. Course work taken at an institution of higher education that is not regionally accredited, may be used towards certification if it is accepted by a regionally accredited institution of higher education for degree granting purposes, unless otherwise stated in statutes or regulations. A degree taken at an institution of higher education that is not regionally accredited but that was accepted towards certification under prior regulations, may be used towards future certification.~~

(b) ~~Course work requirements completed in programs in through the California campus or center of an offered by out-of-state institution of higher education will meet credential requirements only if a satisfactory evaluation of the program by the regional accrediting agency of the out-of-state institution, and by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, has been submitted to the Commission, and the Commission has approved the program.~~

(c) ~~For purposes of validating a degree, appropriate course work credit earned in an institution not accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association, or in an institution outside the United States, may be accepted as meeting requirements for a California credential when the applicant has been accepted and is matriculated in a graduate program in a college or university which is accredited by a regional accrediting association for the advanced degree which it grants. The Commission may require the accredited institution to authenticate all undergraduate credit completed in an unaccredited institution, or institution outside the United States, that is accepted by the accredited institution for the purpose of validating the baccalaureate degree and granting of graduate standing.~~

(d) ~~Appropriate course work credit earned in an institution not accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association, or in an institution outside the United States, may be accepted as meeting requirements for a California credential when (1) the applicant has been accepted and is matriculated in an accredited institution with a Commission approved program for said credential, and (2) the accredited institution of higher education recommends acceptance of the course work. The Commission may require the accredited institution to authenticate all course work completed in an unaccredited institution, or institution outside the United States, that is accepted by the accredited institution for purposes of meeting credential requirements.~~

(e) (c) Credit, course work, programs, or degrees earned completed in an institution of higher learning education outside of the United States is are acceptable toward a credential certification when the Commission or an evaluating agency approved by the Commission has determined that such institution's course work, programs, or degrees are comparable equivalent to those offered by a regionally accredited institutions and their programs in the United States. The Commission reserves the right to accept or reject an approved evaluating agency's determination.

(d) For certification purposes, an accredited institution, accredited college, or accredited university is defined as a regionally accredited institution of higher education, unless otherwise defined in statutes or regulations.