

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

97-9717

DATE: August 12, 1997

TO: Driver Education and Training Educators/Professionals and Other Groups and Individuals Interested in the Activities of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

FROM: Sam W. Swofford, Ed.D.
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Proposed Addition of Section 80037.5 of Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Pertaining to Subject Matter Programs for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Driver Training

Notice of Public Hearing is Hereby Given:

In accordance with Commission policy, proposed Title 5 Regulations are being distributed prior to the public hearing. A copy of the proposed regulations is attached. The added text is underlined. The public hearing is scheduled on:

October 9, 1997
2:30 p.m.
Hyatt Regency Hotel
1209 L Street
Sacramento, California

Statement of Reasons

There are two major problems with current regulations which specify requirements for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Driver Training:

1. the current requirements [Division VIII of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 80037(a)(2)(D)], do not specify coursework standards for the content of subject matter preparation for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential, and
2. the current requirements [Division VIII of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 80037(a)(2)(D)], limit the availability of subject matter coursework by not permitting the subject matter coursework requirements to be met by completion of Commission-approved staff development programs offered by school districts and county offices in addition to the currently available coursework offered by California college and university sources.

Purpose of Proposed Action

As a result of enactment of Senate Bill 1006 (Chapter 447, Statutes of 1995), Education Code, Section 44260.7 was added to the statutes which permits the Commission to 1) establish subject matter coursework standards in driver education and training, and 2) develop alternative routes to meet subject matter coursework requirements, including approved staff development programs offered by school districts and county offices of education.

The proposed addition of Section 80037.5 specifies coursework standards for the content of subject matter preparation, and permits subject matter coursework requirements to be met by completion of Commission-approved staff development programs offered by school districts and county offices of education in addition to coursework offered by Commission-approved California colleges and universities.

Currently, applicants for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Driver Training are required to verify completion of 12 semester hours of non specified subject matter coursework in driver education. The proposed addition (80037.5 (d)(1) through (13) would specify the content of the subject matter coursework.

Currently, applicants for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Driver Training must complete subject matter coursework requirements at an accredited college or university. The proposed addition (80037.5 (a), and (b)(1) through (5) would expand the places at which Commission-approved coursework could be completed to include a California public school district or consortium of school districts; a California county superintendent of schools office; a California regional occupational program or center; a California State Agency; or a Commission-approved teacher preparation institution.

Rationale for Proposed Regulations

1. This proposed regulation would implement the provisions of Education Code Section 44260.7.
2. During the past few years, more and more school districts, for a variety of reasons, have elected to contract out the driver training (behind the wheel) portion of the driving instruction that they offer. Districts most commonly award these contracts to private driver training schools.

With students participating in driving instruction offered by private training schools, enrollments in driver training classes (behind the wheel) within the public schools declined from 797 students in 1993 to 575 students in 1994, but increased to 879 students in 1995. Meanwhile, enrollments in driver education classes (classroom instruction) declined from 70,414 students in 1993 to 54,101 students in 1995.

Fewer courses in driver training offered by the public schools have translated into fewer employment opportunities for instructors who earn the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential. In 1991, for instance, the Commission issued new Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credentials in Driver Education and Training to 38 candidates. In 1995, only seven (7) candidates earned this credential.

The reduced demand for instructional personnel has been met through waivers granted by the Commission. In the 1994-95 fiscal year, 54 waivers were granted in driver education and training; 48 such waivers were granted during 1995-96; and 16 were granted from July 1996 through December 1996. In 1995,

the slight increase in student enrollments in driver training classes was probably handled by teachers on waiver.

The reduced demand for driver training instructors, and the increased issuance of waivers, have reduced the number of persons who need the subject matter program for credential purposes -- to the extent that California colleges and universities are not able to enroll enough candidates to warrant offering subject matter coursework for driver education or driver training candidates. Because of the absence of students, only one California institution currently offers this preparation in one region of the state. The non-availability of subject matter programs has been cited in many requests to waive the subject matter requirement for the Driver Education and Training Credential.

This proposed regulation would make available both a wider variety and greater number of providers of the required subject matter preparation by permitting the subject matter coursework requirements to be met by completion of Commission-approved staff development programs offered by school districts and county offices in addition to the currently available coursework offered by California college and university sources.

3. No specific coursework standards currently exist for the content of subject matter preparation for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training. This proposed regulation would establish such standards.

Documents Relied Upon in Preparing Regulations

- Recommendations of the Driver Education and Training Advisory Panel
- AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety (1995), Novice Driver Education Model Curriculum Outline, Washington, D.C.

Documents Incorporated by Reference

None.

Written Comment Period

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments on the proposed action. The written comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. on October 8, 1997.

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 the Executive Director's office 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 non substantial 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 Sanford L. Huddy at (916) 322-2304. 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 on which this proposal is based is available for inspection and copying.

Attachments

Division VIII of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations

Proposed Addition of
Section 80037.5

Pertaining to Subject Matter Programs for the Designated
Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver
Education and Driver Training

INITIAL PROPOSED REGULATIONS

80037.5. Subject Matter Programs for the Designated
Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver
Education and Driver Training.

- (a) To be approved by the Commission, a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training shall include 12 semester hours, or 180 clock hours, of subject matter coursework and/or staff development work in driver education and training.
- (b) To be granted preliminary approval or continued approval by the Commission as a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training, the program must be developed, submitted and implemented by a Local Education Agency (LEA). An LEA, as it applies to subject matter programs in driver education and training means any of the following categories of agencies:
 - (1) A California public school district or consortium of school districts;
 - (2) A California county superintendent of schools office;
 - (3) A California regional occupational program or center;
 - (4) A California State Agency;
 - (5) A Commission-approved teacher preparation institution.
- (c) An LEA desiring to develop a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training shall file with the Commission a request for approval, signed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the agency or agencies constituting the LEA. This request shall include a complete description of how the program will meet all requirements, including each standard of program quality and effectiveness adopted by the Commission with a particular focus upon how the LEA proposes to assure that

students will acquire the competencies, skills and knowledge required.

(d) The request for approval of standards of program quality and effectiveness for subject matter programs for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training shall specify the competencies, skills and knowledge to be required of the student in each of the following areas:

(1) Motivation (including, but not limited to the ability to identify and use the important of motivational factors in driving, including risk tolerance, emotion, intrinsic motivators, and resistance to negative learning);

(2) Knowledge (including, but not limited to the ability to identify and use the knowledge related to driving in the Highway Transportation System, including the California Vehicle Code, driving tasks, human factors, and the physics of driving);

(3) Attention (including, but not limited to the ability to make use of attention in driving, including alertness, divided attention, and switching attention);

(4) Detection and Perception (including, but not limited to the acquisition of knowledge and the ability to use detection and perception skills which includes the driver's searching, scanning, noticing potential hazards, and the mental processing of information from the senses);

(5) Evaluation of Potential Perceived Hazards (including, but not limited to. the ability to evaluate perceived potential hazards, including factors such as speed and distance, risk assessment, other road users' expectations and motivations);

(6) Decision Making (including, but not limited to the ability to identify and weigh options while driving, selecting and timing responses to optimize benefits and reduce or eliminate negative impacts);

(7) Motor Skills (including, but not limited to the demonstration, behind the wheel, of adequate psychomotor skills to properly execute an intended action, including executing correct choices, sensitivity to vehicle response, controlling acceleration and speed, controlling deceleration, steering, and error correction);

(8) Safety Margin (including, but not limited to the ability to practice an adequate safety margin, including the management of the time and space available for detection,

perception, evaluation, decision, and response, as well as the control of safety margin through choice of driving speed and vehicle placement);

- (9) Responsibility (including, but not limited to the practice of basic self-correction and self-control needed for safe, mature, efficient, and socially responsible use of the roads, including the self-monitoring of one's driving behavior and its effects on other road users, a commitment to driving unimpaired, conflict avoidance, use of safety restraints, positive/negative communication among road users, and energy/environmental conservation);
- (10) Diversity and Equity in the Program (including, but not limited to understanding and appreciation of the role of human diversity in Driver Education and Training, including cultural, ethnic, gender, age, socio-economic, language diversity, and individuals with exceptional needs, including the promotion of educational equity by utilizing instructional, advisement and curricular practices that offer equal access to program content and career options for all credential candidates);
- (11) Computer Literacy and Educational/Instructional Technology (including, but not limited to the employment of multiple strategies, activities and materials that are appropriate for effective instruction and assessment of learning and development in Driver Education and Training and that provide the foundation for the credential candidates to examine and use technology in the teaching and learning process. Credential candidates will demonstrate knowledge of basic operations, terminology and capabilities of computer-based technologies);
- (12) Program Organization and Management (including, but not limited to the demonstration knowledge about and competence in the organization and management of a driver education and training program, including scheduling, budgeting, facilities and equipment, legal aspects, public relations, parent involvement, and evaluation);
- (13) Behind the Wheel (including, but not limited to the demonstration of competence in teaching the content identified in these standards as well as those California laws and regulations that are applicable to novice drivers under actual on-street driving conditions, including the demonstration of knowledge of a variety of additional

techniques and methods, including simulators, driving range, and interactive technology products).

- (e) The Commission will approve subject matter programs for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training after a review of the request, when such request reflects that the program submitted by the LEA meets the requirements and standards. Programs will be monitored by the Commission to determine if the requirements and standards are continuing to be met.
- (f) An LEA that offered a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training on the effective date of this section shall continue to be authorized to offer that program, but for no longer than one calendar year from the effective date of this section, or until approved by the Commission, whichever is first.

Note: Authority cited: Section 44225(q) and 44260.4, Education Code. Reference: Sections 44260.7, 44225(b), and 44225(d), Education Code.

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Attn.: Sam Swofford, Ed. D.
Executive Director

Title: Driver Education and Training
Section No.: 80037.5

Response to the Attached Title 5 Regulations

So that the Commission on Teacher Credentialing can more clearly estimate the general field response to the attached Title 5 regulations, please return this response form to the Commission office at the above address by 5:00 pm on October 8, 1997, in order that the material can be presented at the October 9, 1997 public hearing.

- 1. Yes, I agree with the proposed Title 5 regulations. Please count me in favor of these regulations.
- 2. No, I do not agree with the proposed Title 5 Regulations for the following reasons: (If additional space is needed, use the reverse side of this sheet.)
- 3. Personal opinion of the undersigned. and/or
- 4. Organizational opinion representing: _____
(Circle One) School District, County Schools, College, University, Professional Organization, Other
- 5. I shall be at the public hearing, place my name on the list for making a presentation to the Commission.
- 6. No, I will not make a presentation to the Commission at the public hearing.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____ Phone: _____

Employer/Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

s/h