

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

Box 944270

Sacramento, California 94244-2700

(916) 445-0184



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

00-0013

DATE: April 25, 2000

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

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

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendments to Title 5 Section 80053, Pertaining to Authorization for Service as a Library Media Teacher

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing has received approval of proposed amendments to Section 80053 of Title 5 Regulations. The changes to this section include revisions of the authorization statement for the Library Media Teacher Services Credential to clarify those duties for which possession of this credential is specifically required. Subsections were added to establish those conditions under which a credentialed teacher may serve as a library media teacher, and to recognize the appropriate inclusion of non-credentialed staff to assist in the delivery of library services. These revised regulations became effective on April 8, 2000. New Library Media Teacher Services credentials will be issued with the new authorization statement provided by Section 80053, and all such credentials previously issued will authorize these same specific services. The new authorization statements will be listed on the previously issued credentials when they are renewed.

These regulations clarify the need for local education agencies responsible for library programs to utilize highly trained library personnel to perform the essential organizational, training and procurement functions in those programs. The functions requiring possession of a library media teacher services credential have been identified as those specifically requiring the training that library media teachers receive in their credential programs. The new regulations also provide a bridge by which a credentialed teacher may serve as a library media teacher while enrolling in a library media teacher services credential program and beginning required coursework for that credential.

Possible Assignment Practices Complying with These Regulations

While ideal practices for staffing public school library media centers would include the employment of a credentialed library media teacher in every library, these regulations

recognize that this is often unfeasible under current circumstances. The following library media center staffing practices would comply with the new regulations.

Small School Districts may form a consortium with other districts of similar size to employ a single credentialed library media teacher to perform those duties identified in the first paragraph of §80053(b) requiring possession of the credential, including but not limited to the selection of library materials, coordinating library programs and developing procedures for management of library services. Another option is for each small district to employ a district-level credentialed library media teacher (or a small number of such individuals) to perform those duties requiring possession of the credential. Other library media center duties, which include most day-to-day activities, may be performed by non-credentialed staff who have been trained by a credentialed library media teacher as described in §80053(b)(2).

Larger School Districts may employ the number of credentialed library media teachers necessary to perform those duties identified in the first paragraph of §80053(b) requiring possession of the credential. Other library media center duties, which include most day-to-day activities, may be performed by non-credentialed staff who have been trained by a credentialed library media teacher as described in §80053(b)(2).

Under any of these practices, holders of teaching credentials based upon a bachelor's degree who pursue library media teacher certification, may serve in the role of library media teacher, provided that they are trained by a credentialed library media teacher, pursue enrollment in a library media teacher services credential program during the first year of service, and obtain an Emergency Library Media Teacher Services Permit before the end of the second year of service.

Section 18100 of the California Education Code provides one additional option for the provision of required library services:

The governing board of each school district shall provide school library services for the pupils and teachers of the district by establishing and maintaining school libraries or by contractual arrangements with another public agency.

California Universities with Approved Library Media Teacher Services Programs

California State University Chico

University of California Los Angeles

California State University Long Beach

Fresno Pacific University

San Jose State University (*including internet and satellite courses*)

Questions

If you have questions, please contact the Information Services Office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at (916) 445-7256 or, if outside of the 916 area code, toll free at (888) 921-2682, or e-mail us at [credentials@ctc.ca.gov].

The regulations referred to in this correspondence appear in their entirety on the following pages.

Title 5 Section 80053. Services Credential Authorizing Service as a Library Media Service Teacher.

- (a) The minimum requirements for the Library Media Teacher Services Credential shall include all of the following:
- (1) a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
 - (2) a valid basic California teaching credential that requires a program of professional preparation including student teaching, or equivalent;
 - (3) completion of either A or B;
 - (A) A Commission-approved Library Media Teacher Services program; or
 - (B) Completion of an out-of-state Library Services program of at least 30 graduate semester units, approved by the appropriate state agency.
 - (4) passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test as specified in Education Code Section 44252(b).
- (b) Authorization. The Library Media Teacher Services Credential authorizes the holder to instruct pupils in the choice and use of library materials; to plan and coordinate school library programs with the instructional programs of a school district; to select materials for school and district libraries; to coordinate or supervise library programs at the school, district or county level; to plan and conduct a course of instruction for those pupils who assist in the operation of school libraries; to supervise classified personnel assigned school library duties; and to develop procedures for and management of the school and district libraries.
- (1) Holders of valid California teaching credentials based upon a baccalaureate degree who do not hold a credential authorizing service as a library media teacher may serve as library media teachers in public schools, provided that they are trained in their duties by a credentialed school library media teacher and supervised by an individual holding certification authorizing such supervision. Teachers employed to provide library services under this provision must, during the first year of service, either apply for the Library Media Teacher Services Emergency Permit and pursue enrollment in a Commission-accredited regional or distance-learning library media teacher services credential program, or submit to the county office of education a description of the factors that made it impossible to enroll in such a program. All teachers must obtain the Library Media Teacher Services Emergency Permit before the end of the second year of service under this provision.
 - (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude local governing boards from employing non-credentialed individuals to assist in the provision of library services, provided that the employment of non-credentialed personnel is not intended to supersede the requirement to

include holders of the Library Media Teacher Services Credential or other credential authorizing library service pursuant to Education Code §44868 in the coordination and implementation of public school library programs. Services provided by non-credentialed personnel shall not include those activities requiring possession of a valid Library Media Teacher Services Credential, as specified in Subsection (b) of this section.

- (c) The School Library Media Teacher Services Credential shall be issued on the basis of the completion of all requirements and shall be dated per Title 5 Section 80553.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 44225, Education Code. Reference: Sections 44252 (d), 44269 and 44868, Education Code.