

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

December 29, 2000

Coded Correspondence No. 00-0031

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

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

Subject: Passage of Assembly Bill 1324 (Zettel)

Assembly Bill 1324 (Zettel), signed by Governor Davis, establishes an alternate route for assigning individuals to provide services to students with mild to moderate disabilities in California public schools. Under the provisions of this statute, which is effective January 1, 2001, individuals with ten years of special day class teaching experience may be assigned to teach students with mild to moderate disabilities in a special day class setting if the teacher holds one of the credentials on a prescribed list and meets certain specified criteria. The provisions of this bill expire on January 1, 2005. The addition of Education Code Section 44268.5 is intended to provide flexibility to enable employing agencies to more easily employ individuals to serve in this shortage area. A copy of EC §44268.5 is included with this correspondence.

To qualify for this option, an individual must hold one of the credentials listed below prior to January 1, 2000:

- 1) Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential which includes the Special Class Authorization.
- 2) Standard Teaching Credential with a minor in Speech and Hearing Handicapped.
- 3) Standard Restricted Teaching Credential in Speech and Hearing Therapy.
- 4) Standard Limited Specialized Preparation in Speech and Hearing Handicapped.
- 5) Special Secondary in Correction of Speech Defects.
- 6) Exceptional Children in Speech Correction and Lip Reading.

The holder of one of these credentials must have completed ten years of special day class teaching experience in order to be assigned to serve students with mild to moderate disabilities. In addition, the teacher must:

- 1) concurrently with the teaching assignment, annually complete six semester or nine quarter units of professional development in the core subject areas and
- 2) pass the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) within one year of the beginning of the school year in which the assignment under this Education Code Section began.

Information on the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) may be found at:

P.O. Box 348150
Sacramento, CA 95834-8150

(916) 928-4004 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pacific time, Monday through Friday)

RICA website at <http://www.rica.nesinc.com>

It is important to note that the use of the assignment option in the Education Code is voluntary by an employing agency and does not result in the issuance of a credential by the Commission.

Individuals employed under this option should be listed by the county offices of education in the category "Other Legal Authority Not Noted Elsewhere in this Report" when reporting to the Commission on the annual monitoring of the certificated assignments in the school districts under the provisions of EC §44258.9.

Questions

If you have questions concerning this assignment option, please call the Commission's Information Services Office between 8 and 5 Monday through Friday at (916) 445-7254 or (888) 921-2682 if you are calling from outside of the 916 area code. You may also e-mail us at [credentials@ctc.ca.gov].

Education Code Section 44268.5.

- (a) *A teacher who does not hold a specialist credential to teach pupils with mild to moderate disabilities in a special day class setting may teach in a special day class setting that consists of pupils with mild to moderate disabilities if the teacher consents to the assignment and meets all of the following conditions:*
- (1) *The teacher has been teaching in a special day class setting for a minimum of 10 years, as of January 1, 2000.*
 - (2) *The teacher holds one of the following:*
 - (A) *A services credential with a specialization in clinical or rehabilitative services with special class authorization.*
 - (B) *A Standard Teaching Credential with the Minor - Speech and Hearing Handicapped.*
 - (C) *A Restricted Special Education Credential - Speech and Hearing Therapy.*
 - (D) *A Limited Specialized Preparation Credential - Speech and Hearing Handicapped.*
 - (E) *A Special Secondary Credential - Correction of Speech Defects.*
 - (F) *An Exceptional Children Credential - Speech Correction and Lip Reading.*
 - (3) *Concurrently with the teaching assignment, the teacher annually completes 6 units or the equivalent thereof of professional development in core subjects.*
 - (4) *The teacher passes the reading instruction competence assessment administered by the commission pursuant to Section 44283 within one year of the beginning of the school year. Passage of the assessment shall be considered evidence of the teacher's competence in reading instruction.*
- (b) *This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2005, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2005, deletes or extends that date.*