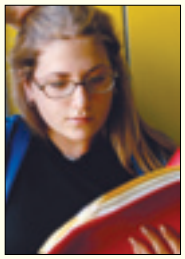
An Information Source

For Prospective California Educators



State of California
Commission on Teacher Credentialing

Certification Requirements for California Educators

Teachers must be certified by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) in order to be employed by a California public school. Once an individual completes all requirements for certification in California, he or she may apply for and receive a California teaching credential.

The Commission issues credentials for other educational occupations requiring state certification, including child development teachers, counselors and school psychologists, school nurses, librarians, and administrators. Please contact a <California college or university> with the appropriate program.

Certification for Teachers Prepared in California

If you complete a teacher preparation program in California, formal recommendation from the California college or university where you completed the program is required.

California-prepared applicants may not apply directly to CCTC for a teaching credential. If you plan to complete a teacher preparation program in California, you must contact a California college or university with a Commission-accredited teacher preparation program. You will be provided with information about the specific requirements needed to complete a teacher preparation program. While all Commission-accredited programs have comparable requirements, specific requirements will vary from program to program.

Alternative Teacher Certification Routes Available in California

A number of programs that provide alternative routes to certification are available in California. These programs include <college internships> and <district internships>.

Certification for Teachers Prepared Outside of California

Teachers who have received their professional preparation outside of California may apply directly to CCTC once they have met California's requirements for certification. Because some of California's certification requirements are specific to this state, our regulations allow out-of-state teachers to postpone completion of some of the requirements so they can begin teaching in California with little delay.

California offers a variety of optons to certification for teachers who are trained outside of California.

These options vary depending upon if you have completed only your credential program or if you have actual teaching experience outside of California.

- *A credential application (form 41-4)*
- *An application for Character and Identification Clearance (form 41-CIC)*
- *Livescan receipt (41-LS) or two completed CCTC fingerprint cards (FD-258)*
- *Official transcripts of all college course work*
- *All applicable fees*

(continued)

Emergency Permits Available in California

The Commission does issue an emergency permit for substitute teaching. This emergency permit is not restricted to any one employer, and it authorizes an individual to teach for one year, but for no more than 30 days for any one teacher.

Under certain conditions, CCTC allows some education agencies in California to apply for emergency teaching permits on behalf of partially trained teachers they wish to employ. Please contact an employer for more information.

Information available

Please click on the subject for additional information.

Credentials, Certificates, and Permits

<Multiple Subject Teaching Credential> (Elementary), prepared out of state

<Multiple Subject Teaching Credential> (Elementary), prepared in California

<Single Subject Teaching Credential> (Secondary), prepared out of state

<Single Subject Teaching Credential> (Secondary), prepared in California

<Counseling/School Psychologist Credential>

<Administrative Services Credential> prepared out of state

<Administrative Services Credential> prepared in California

<Library Media Teacher Services Credential>

<Special Education Credential> prepared out of state

<Special Education Credential> prepared in California

<English Learners Certificates> (CLAD/BCLAD)

<Child Development Permits>

<Day-to-Day Substitute Permits>

<Emergency Permits>

<College Internships>

<District Internships>

<Pre-internships>

Application Materials

<Application forms>

California Examinations

<Examinations for teacher certification in California>

General Information

<California colleges or universities with accredited teacher preparation programs>

<State agency reference list>

<Foreign transcript evaluation information>

<Employment/placement information>

<CalTeach (employment opportunities)>