

---

# 3C

## Information/Action

### *Certification Committee*

## Supplementary and Subject Matter Authorizations

---

**Executive Summary:** This agenda item outlines the different options for teachers who already hold a general education credential to receive an additional authorization, and requests Commission direction related to supplementary and subject matter authorizations.

**Policy Questions:** Should the regulations related to subject matter authorizations be repealed? Should the regulations related to the required course content areas for introductory supplementary authorizations be amended? Should specific supplementary authorization subjects be added or deleted? Should all teachers who add an authorization be required to complete a subject-specific pedagogy course in the new content area?

**Recommended Action:** That the Commission discuss supplementary and subject matter authorizations to provide direction to staff regarding any desired regulatory amendments.

**Presenters:** Tammy A. Duggan, Consultant, Certification Division and Nancy Tseng, Consultant, Professional Services Division

### Strategic Plan Goal

#### *I. Educator Quality*

- c) Ensure that credential processing and assignment monitoring activities accurately, effectively, and efficiently identify educators who have met high and rigorous certification standards and who are appropriately assigned.

---

## Supplementary and Subject Matter Authorizations

---

### Introduction

This agenda item outlines the different options for teachers who already hold a general education credential to receive an additional authorization. Education Code §44225(e) allows a teacher who has met the requirements and standards of the Commission to obtain an “added or supplementary authorization.” Currently, there are three ways that a California credentialed teacher can add an additional teaching or content area to their existing credential: 1) Supplementary Authorization, 2) Subject Matter Authorization, or 3) through the Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) §80499 process. The requirements, coursework, and content for each authorization varies, and the similarities and differences in these three options are discussed in more detail below. The recent passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) has particular implications for the issuance of additional authorizations, specifically because California will no longer be required to comply with the federal regulations of No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

### Background

Holders of valid Multiple Subject or Single Subject Teaching Credentials<sup>1</sup> can add *supplementary* and *subject matter authorizations* to an existing credential by verifying completion of additional coursework or a degree major in the subject to be named on the credential. Both supplementary and subject matter authorizations enable the holder of a general education teaching credential to add one or more departmentalized content area authorizations to their credential; however, there are differences between these two authorizations which are discussed below. A general education teacher can also earn certification to teach in another content area through the *Title 5 §80499 process*. Title 5 §80499 allows a California credentialed teacher to add a teaching or content area to an existing general education teaching credential without completing the full educator preparation program for the new content area or credential type.

### Supplementary Authorizations

Education Code §44256 requires the Commission to issue supplementary authorizations on the basis of 20 semester or 10 upper division semester units. There are two types of supplementary authorizations in core and non-core academic subject areas: *introductory* that may be added to Multiple and Single Subject Teaching Credentials and *specific* that may only be added to Single Subject Teaching Credentials. In addition to the basic teaching credential, a supplementary authorization requires a degree major or the completion of 20 (or 10 upper division) semester units, or equivalent quarter units, of coursework in the requested subject. For teachers without a degree major in the subject, the 20 semester (or 10 upper division) semester units must include

---

<sup>1</sup> References to “Multiple Subject Teaching Credential” include Standard Elementary Teaching Credentials and references to “Single Subject Teaching Credential” include Standard Secondary and Special Secondary Teaching Credentials as defined in Education Code §44256.

a minimum of one course in specified areas subsumed under the broad subject. For example, the supplementary authorization in Introductory English requires a course in each of the following areas: Composition, Grammar or Language Structure, and Literature.

Introductory supplementary authorizations added to Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials authorize the holder to teach the listed subject(s) in grades 9 and below. Introductory supplementary authorizations added to Single Subject Teaching Credentials authorize the holder to teach the subject matter content typically included in curriculum guidelines and textbooks approved for study in grades 9 and below for the listed subject(s). This allows an employer to assign a teacher with an introductory supplementary authorization to teach a class in which the curriculum is for grades 9 and below but the students in the class may be in grades 10-12. Specific supplementary authorizations added to Single Subject Teaching Credentials authorize the holder to teach only the specific subject(s) in preschool, grades K-12, and classes organized for adults.

In 2001, the federal regulations of the NCLB Act required that all teachers be “highly qualified” in NCLB core academic subject areas (i.e., English, reading/language arts, math, science, foreign language, civics/government, economics, arts, history, and geography) by 2006. In order to be considered a “highly qualified teacher” (HQT), NCLB required that teachers hold a bachelor’s degree, state certification, and achieve subject matter competence in the subject area(s) being taught. As determined by the State Board of Education (SBE), NCLB subject matter competence could be met in one of four ways: 1) by passing an examination, 2) completing a Commission-approved subject matter program, 3) earning a degree major, or 4) completing 32 semester units of coursework in the subject area.

Since the state’s minimum requirement for supplementary authorizations is completion of only 20 (or 10 upper division) semester units of coursework in the subject area, teachers qualifying for the supplementary authorization in NCLB core academic subject areas did not meet the subject matter competence requirement. These teachers were, therefore, not considered HQT. Most employers would not hire a teacher in a core academic subject on the basis of a supplementary authorization because the employing district would then have to notify parents that their child’s teacher was not HQT. As such, very few supplementary authorizations have been granted in the core academic subject areas since NCLB regulations were introduced.

### **Subject Matter Authorizations**

To meet the NCLB subject matter competence requirement, the Commission developed the subject matter authorization (SMA) in 2004 so that teachers could earn an additional authorization and maintain compliance with the HQT requirement. Like supplementary authorizations, SMAs are add-ons to a credential that allow an individual to teach classes in a subject outside the area in which he or she earned a credential. These authorizations are limited only to the following NCLB core academic subject areas: English, mathematics, science, foreign language, civics/government, economics, arts, history, and geography.

Similar to the supplementary authorizations, there are two types of SMAs: *introductory* and *specific*. Both types of SMAs require a degree major or 32 semester units of non-remedial

coursework in the subject and, unlike the specific supplementary authorizations, specific SMAs may be added to Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials. There are also subtle differences between the authorizations of supplementary authorizations and SMAs. Introductory SMAs, whether added to a multiple or single subject credential, authorize the holder to teach the subject matter content typically included in curriculum guidelines and textbooks approved for study in grades 9 and below. Specific authorizations are issued in a specific subject area and authorize the holder to teach only that specific subject in grades preschool, K-12, and classes organized for adults.

### 5 CCR §80499 Process

Through the Title 5 §80499 process, teachers can add an additional teaching or content area to an existing credential by verifying their subject matter competence (by examination passage or subject matter program) and completing a 3-unit subject-specific pedagogy (methods of teaching) course in the same content area. This subject-specific pedagogy course must align with the specific Subject Matter Requirements (SMRs) for the particular teaching or content area the credential holder is seeking to add. Teachers who hold single subject credentials and wish to obtain a multiple subject credential by the Title 5 §80499 process must also complete a self-contained pedagogy course, a reading course and pass the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA).

### Similarities and Differences Across Authorizations

Both the supplementary and subject matter authorizations provide a credential holder with similar authorizations to teach in another content area, although the coursework and content required for each authorization does vary. Individuals who seek a supplementary or a subject matter authorization must earn a degree major or complete the specified number of units in the content area of the desired credential, but there is no requirement that the courses cover the scope of the SMRs for the credential. These individuals are also not required to take a subject-specific pedagogy course. Teachers who add a new content area authorization through the Title 5 §80499 process, however, are required to complete a subject-specific pedagogy course. Table 1 provides a comparison of the different requirements for each type of authorization.

**Table 1- Added Authorization Requirements**

Type of Authorization	Requirements for the Authorization	
	Subject Matter Competence	Pedagogy
5 CCR §80499	Pass CSET* or Commission approved program --aligned with SMRs for K-12 students	Requires a subject specific pedagogy course (and beginning reading and RICA for Multiple Subject)
Supplementary Authorization	Degree major or 20 units (or 10 upper division) in the content area	No requirement
Subject Matter Authorization	Degree major or 32 units in the content area	No requirement

\* California Subject Examination for Teachers – Passage of the CSET is currently the only option available to individuals seeking a Multiple Subject credential as an added authorization.

### **Policy Issues Related to Added Authorizations**

Due to the authorization of the ESSA, NCLB will be discontinued beginning in the 2016-17 school year and states will no longer be required to comply with the HQT regulations. This means the units needed to demonstrate subject matter competence will be reduced, and individuals will no longer be required to complete 32 semester units in the content area (as currently required for the SMAs) to show subject matter competence under ESSA. During the 2016-17 transitional year, the minimum unit requirement for verifying subject matter competence will be consistent with California state licensure, which specifies a minimum of 20 semester units of non-remedial coursework. This requirement is equivalent to the coursework requirements for supplementary authorizations.

### **Policy Question #1**

*Due to the discontinuation of NCLB, does it make sense to repeal Title 5 CCR sections 80089.3 and 80089.4 pertaining to the issuance of introductory and specific subject matter authorizations? Does the Commission wish to require more than 20 semester units of coursework to verify subject matter competence?*

As determined by the California Department of Education, 20 semester units of coursework will be required for verifying subject matter competence under ESSA during the 2016-17 transitional year due to the discontinuation of NCLB. Since subject matter authorizations were created solely to satisfy the NCLB subject matter requirements, the Commission may choose to repeal the associated regulatory sections as teachers will no longer be required to complete 32 semester units of coursework to satisfy the ESSA subject matter competence requirement. Subject matter authorizations issued under the current regulations, however, will remain in force under the provisions of Education Code §44225(l)(1) that reads, “A credential, certificate, or permit shall remain in force as long as it is valid and continues to be valid under the laws and regulations that were in effect when it was issued.”

If the Commission chooses to repeal the SMA regulations now, the minimum unit requirement for issuance of a supplementary authorization will be consistent with Education Code §44256 (i.e., 20 semester or 10 upper division semester units). The Commission could also decide to increase the minimum coursework requirement of 20 semester units as currently specified in Education Code §44256; if so, the Commission would need to determine the appropriate number of units teachers should complete to demonstrate subject matter competence and further legislative action would need to occur to implement the increase.

### **Policy Question #2**

*Should the course content requirements for the introductory supplementary authorizations be revised to align with the current state-adopted content standards?*

Although the course content requirements for the introductory and specific supplementary authorizations in Computer Science were updated earlier this year, the other available introductory subject areas have not been updated in recent history. In addition, the course content areas for the introductory supplementary authorizations are not the same as for the

introductory SMAs in the core academic areas. Additional or more specific course content areas were added to align with the state-adopted content standards at the time the SMAs were implemented. Appendix A provides the course content requirements for each introductory supplementary and subject matter authorization.

The semester units required for issuance of introductory supplementary authorizations cannot be increased without a change in statutory language, but Education Code §44256 does authorize the Commission to approve the course content necessary to qualify for supplementary authorizations. In light of the rigorous standards outlined by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), the Commission may direct staff to strengthen the course content requirements for the introductory supplementary authorizations through regulatory amendments.

### **Policy Question #3**

*Should subject areas be added or deleted from the list of available specific supplementary authorizations in the Title 5 regulations?*

Specific supplementary authorizations may only be added to Single Subject Teaching Credentials and authorize the holder to teach the listed subject in preschool, grades K-12, and classes organized primarily for adults. Subsection (a) of Education Code §44256 authorizes the Commission to issue supplementary authorizations, “...in any subject commonly taught in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, other than the subject for which he or she is already certificated to teach...” With the exception of the health science, home economics, and science areas, there have been no recent additions or deletions to the list of available specific supplementary authorizations.

Appendix B lists the specific supplementary and subject matter authorizations available under the current regulations. The Commission may direct staff to amend the Title 5 regulations to delete subjects that are no longer commonly taught in grades 7-12 or to add additional subjects that are commonly taught to the list of specific subject matter authorizations. No amendments to the list of available specific SMAs are recommended at this time due to the discontinuation of NCLB.

### **Policy Question #4**

*Should all teachers who add an authorization to teach in a new content area be required to complete subject-specific pedagogy course for that new content area?*

Another policy issue relates to the inconsistency of the subject-specific pedagogy course requirement among the different options for teachers seeking to receive an additional authorization. As outlined in Table 1, neither the supplementary authorization nor the SMA requires a teacher to complete a subject-specific pedagogy course in the new content area being added.

Amendments to Title 5 §80499 effective April 1, 2000 added completion of a departmentalized pedagogy course for issuance of a Single Subject Teaching Credential as an added authorization.

The departmentalized pedagogy course did not need to be in the subject area requested; a general departmentalized pedagogy course was acceptable. Additional amendments to Title 5 §80499 effective January 1, 2014, require completion of a departmentalized pedagogy course in the content area of the Single Subject Teaching Credential sought as an added authorization.

Supplementary and subject matter authorizations do not currently require completion of a departmentalized pedagogy course in the subject area sought. However, the Commission may direct staff to amend the regulations to add such a requirement under the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of Education Code §44256 that read, “...*The commission, by regulation, may require that evidence of additional competence is a condition for instruction in particular subjects, including, but not limited to, foreign languages.*”

### **Staff Recommendation**

That the Commission discuss the requirements for supplementary and subject matter authorizations and provide direction to staff regarding any desired regulatory amendments. Staff also recommends that stakeholder meetings are scheduled so that interested parties can learn about and present their views and ideas on the possible changes in requirements related to supplementary and subject matter authorizations.

### **Next Steps**

Staff will implement action from the Commission as directed.

## Appendix A

<b>Introductory Subjects Required Content Areas</b>		
<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Supplementary Authorization</b>	<b>Subject Matter Authorization</b>
Agriculture	Animal Science Plant Science Agricultural Mechanics	No subject matter authorization
Art	Drawing and Painting Art History or Appreciation Crafts	Art History, including Aesthetics and Appreciation Two-Dimensional Art including Drawing, Painting, and Printmaking Three-Dimensional Art including Sculpture and Ceramics Photography/Computer Generated Imagery
Business	Business Management Business Marketing or Introduction to Business Computer Concepts and Applications Economics Business Communications or Business English Accounting	No subject matter authorization
Computer Science	Computational Thinking, Computing Practice and Programming Computer and Communications Devices Impacts of Computing	No subject matter authorization
English	Composition Grammar or Language Structure Literature	Advanced Composition Drama or Theatre Grammar or Language Structure Literature Speech
Health Science	Substance Abuse (including alcohol, drug, and tobacco) Family Life Education (including human sexuality, HIV/AIDS, and sexually transmitted diseases) Nutrition Comprehensive School Health Systems or Programs Health Education Theory, Behavior, or Foundations	No subject matter authorization
Home Economics	Food and Nutrition Clothing Child Development Family Life and Parenting	No subject matter authorization
Industrial Arts	Drafting or Graphic Arts Woods or Metals Electricity or Electronics	No subject matter authorization



<b>Introductory Subjects Required Content Areas</b>		
<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Supplementary Authorization</b>	<b>Subject Matter Authorization</b>
Language Other Than English	Grammar Composition Conversation Literature Verification of Oral Language Proficiency	Grammar Composition Culture Conversation Literature
Mathematics	College Algebra Geometry Development of the Real Number System or Introduction to Mathematics  Three courses in calculus or other mathematics for which intermediate algebra and geometry are prerequisites satisfy the listed areas	Algebra Advanced Algebra Geometry Probability or Statistics Development of the Real Number System or Introduction to Mathematics
Music	Vocal Music Instrumental Music Music History or Appreciation Music Theory	Vocal Music, including the analysis of repertoire and literature appreciation for developing musicians Instrumental Music, including the analysis of repertoire and literature appreciation for developing musicians Aural Musicianship Keyboard Music History, including Music Appreciation Word Music Conducting and Music Theory
Physical Education	Team Sports and Games Fundamental and Creative Movement Skills Human Movement, Motor Development, and/or Motor Learning Individual, Dual, Nontraditional, and Global Sports and Games	No subject matter authorization
Science	Biological Science Chemistry Geosciences Physics  Coursework must include a one-year sequence of courses in at least two of the listed areas and at least one course must include a laboratory component.	Biological Science Chemistry Geosciences Physics  The one-year sequence of courses and the laboratory component are not required for the SMA.
Social Science	United States History California History World History Geography United States Government	United States History California History World History World Civilization or World Cultures Physical Geography United States Government

## Appendix B

Specific Subjects	
Supplementary Authorizations	Subject Matter Authorizations
<p>Accounting (including Finance)                      Agricultural Mechanics                      Animal Science                      Anthropology                      Auto Mechanics                      Biological Sciences*                      Chemistry*                      Child Development (Home Economics)**                      Clothing and Textiles (Home Economics)**                      Comparative Political Systems and International Relations                      Computer Science                      Consumer Education (Home Economics)                      Crafts, including Jewelry and Ceramics (Art)                      Dance                      Drafting                      Drama                      Economics                      Economic and Consumer Education                      Electronics                      English Composition                      Family Life and Parenting (Home Economics)                      Family Life Education including Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Use Prevention (Health Science)***                      Food and Nutrition (Home Economics)**                      Forestry and Horticulture                      Geography                      Geosciences*                      Graphic Arts                      Industrial Crafts and Plastics                      Instrumental Music                      Interior Design (Home Economics)**                      Journalism                      Literature                      Marketing/Entrepreneurship                      Metals (Industrial Arts)                      Office Technologies including Word Processing and Business Communications                      Ornamental Horticulture                      Painting and Drawing                      Photography                      Physics*                      Plant Science                      Plastics (Industrial Arts)                      Psychology                      Sociology                      Speech                      US Government and US Civics                      US History and California History                      Vocal Music                      Woods (Industrial Arts)                      World History</p>	<p>Art History/Appreciation                      Biological Sciences                      Chemistry                      Civics/Government                      Dance                      Drama/Theatre                      Economics (Social Science)                      English Composition                      Geography                      Geosciences                      History                      Instrumental Music                      Literature                      Photography                      Physics                      Plant Science                      Three-Dimensional Art                      Two-Dimensional Art                      Vocal Music</p>

\* The specific supplementary authorizations in science must include the components for that area as shown below. At least one course must include a laboratory component:

Biological Sciences: Molecular and Cellular Biology, Biology or Organisms, and Evolution

Chemistry: Structure and Stability and Chemical Reactions

Geosciences: Astronomy, Geology, Meteorology, and Oceanography

Physics: Energy-Mechanics, Energy-Heat, Energy-Electricity & Magnetism, Wave Motion, and Atomic & Nuclear Physics.

\*\*Subjects marked must include a laboratory component.

\*\*\* Family Life Education, including Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Use Prevention (Health Science) must include the following components: Sexually Transmitted Diseases including HIV/AIDS, Human Development and Human Sexuality, Parenting Education, Violence Prevention, and Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Use, Prevention, and Cessation.