

# CREDENTIALS 101

## An Introduction to California Credentials



*Ensuring Educator Excellence*

# California Credentials



- ◆ **Elementary**  
Multiple Subject Credential
- ◆ **Secondary**  
Single Subject Credential
- ◆ **Special Education**  
Various Specializations
- ◆ **Specialist**  
Reading, Math, Bilingual,  
Gifted, Early Childhood
- ◆ **Service**  
Administrator, Counselor,  
Psychologist, Librarian,  
Speech Therapist
- ◆ **Career Technical  
Education**  
In Career Areas Aligned  
With Industry Sectors
- ◆ **Adult Education**  
Academic & Non-academic
- ◆ **Preschool**  
Teaching and  
Administration



# California Teaching Credentials

## Multiple Routes

- ◆ Integrated Undergraduate Program
- ◆ Graduate Program
- ◆ Intern Program (LEA or University)
- ◆ Expedited Internship (Assessments and Demonstrated Skill)
- ◆ Private School Experience
- ◆ College Faculty Experience
- ◆ Out-of-State Teacher
- ◆ Out-of-Country Teacher
- ◆ Adding Subjects to a Credential



# California Teaching Credentials

## More About Multiple Routes – A Few Examples

### Multiple routes to earning credentials are based on two premises:

1. Multiple routes are intended to meet the needs and backgrounds of a wide variety of credential candidates.
2. All candidates must meet the same basic requirements and all routes must meet the same basic program standards.

**Integrated Undergraduate Route** – Ideal for individuals who identify their career goal early in their undergraduate education. This route combines an academic major with early field experiences and courses concentrating on successful teaching methods for the specific academic subject. The candidate graduates with an academic degree. In some programs the preliminary credential is earned by the graduation date, but many provide student teaching after graduation.

**Graduate Program Route** – For individuals who have earned a baccalaureate degree. The credential program is the equivalent of one year and can be completed part-time over a period of time if that suits the candidate. Courses can be offered online, on campus, or at satellite locations. Early field experiences are integrated with the courses and student teaching is required.

**Intern Route** – Geared toward career changers or individuals who have prior experience working with young people. This route requires a baccalaureate degree, the basic skills requirement and subject matter prior to acceptance into the program. The program provides a minimum of 120 hours of training prior to assignment as the “teacher of record.” The intern completes the remaining course requirements while teaching and receives classroom support and mentoring. Interns can only be placed when the district cannot find a suitable, fully credentialed teacher. Most programs are 2 years long.

**Expedited Intern Route** – Similar to the Intern Route, this program allows individuals to “test out” of the course work requirements and to intern for a shorter period of time before earning the preliminary credential.



# Teaching Credential Requirements

## Preliminary Credential

Multiple Subject and Single Subject

- ◆ **Bachelors Degree**
- ◆ **Basic Skills Requirement**
- ◆ **Subject Matter**
- ◆ **US Constitution**
- ◆ **Fingerprint Clearance**
- ◆ **Teacher Preparation Program**
  - Instructional Techniques
  - Student Teaching or Internship
  - Teaching Assessment



### **Preliminary Teaching Credential**

Must upgrade to the Clear  
Credential within 5 years  
(see next page)



# Teaching Credential Requirements

## Clear Credential

### Multiple Subject and Single Subject

