

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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*OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

DATE: April 29, 2002 02-0005

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

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

SUBJECT: Implementation of Assembly Bill 1307

On October 5, 2001 Governor Davis signed AB 1307 (Goldberg) (Statutes of 2001, Chapter 565), adding section 44252.1 to the Education Code. This bill allows a grace period for candidates currently enrolled in a credential preparation program to complete requirements *that were in place* when they entered the program. This bill became effective January 1, 2002.

AB 1307 pertains to candidates enrolled in commission-accredited credential programs including, internship programs, professional preparation programs and integrated programs (blended) of professional preparation for multiple and single subject credentials.

Enrolled Candidates

Effective January 1, 2002, candidates who are currently *enrolled* in a commission-accredited preparation program will have 24 months after enrollment to complete the program. Any new requirements added by statute, regulation or commission standard within the 24-month period will not apply to that candidate.

“Enrolled” refers to an individual who, on or after January 1, 2002, continuously participates in and is working toward completing the requirements for a program that meets the minimum requirements for a California preliminary multiple or single subject teaching credential. (This refers to any student currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program.)

The bill states the Commission will maintain a list of candidates being allowed the extended time provided in this bill. As AB 1307 is implemented, preparation programs will need to forward the names of the candidates to be included on the list and include a projected program completion date for each candidate. Further instructions regarding this provision will be provided in future correspondence as necessary.

Continuously Enrolled Candidates – Integrated Program

AB 1307 provides that candidates *continuously enrolled* in an integrated program (blended) of professional preparation on or after January 1, 2002 not be held to any new requirements, as long as they do not change the type of credential or program they are pursuing.

Additionally, AB 1307 provides that a candidate who is *continuously enrolled* in an integrated program (blended) and has completed all requirements necessary to begin student teaching is eligible to receive an extension of 12 months when necessary, to complete the outstanding requirements that were in place when the candidate enrolled in the program. Further, the candidate shall not be held responsible for any new requirements added once student teaching has begun. This provision will sunset on January 1, 2006.

“Continuously Enrolled” refers to an individual who is enrolled in a program and does not have a break in participation that is more than eighteen months in duration.

College and University Advisement

The bill language includes a statement that the Legislature finds and declares that it is incumbent upon credential preparation programs to inform candidates of new requirements and extension provisions available to eligible candidates. The Commission’s Professional Services Division is in the process of developing language for Common Standard 6 “Advice and Assistance” to assure that credential candidates are informed of new requirements. This language is being prepared for Commission consideration at the May Commission meeting and will be provided to the field in future correspondence.

Numerous inquiries have been received by the Commission asking if AB 1307 applies to the new technology requirement for the preliminary multiple and single subject credentials. All multiple subject and single subject teacher candidates are required to meet the technology requirement for preliminary credentials issued after July 1, 2002. Coded Correspondence 99-9916 issued on July 12, 1999 provides details on the technology requirement. Because the technology requirements are in existing law and current program sponsors and participants were notified of these requirements, AB 1307 does not apply. Credential Information Alert 01-09 provides additional specific details about the technology requirement.

The Commission is in the process of implementing new teacher preparation and subject matter programs based on the Senate Bill 2042 (Alpert-Mazzoni)(Statutes of 1998,Chapter 548). The transition process from the current credential structure to SB 2042 is based on the provisions of AB 1307. For information of implementation timelines for SB 2042 see coded correspondence 00-0019.

Appeals – All Programs

For participants in any program of professional preparation, AB 1307 also provides that an additional 12 months without additional requirements be granted to a candidate when he or she can demonstrate extenuating circumstances that have led to a delay in the completion of his or her credential requirements. This includes but is not limited to personal or family illness, bereavement or financial hardship. As part of the appeals process the candidate must develop a

plan for continued progress in consultation with the credential preparation program. This is consistent with the Commission staff appeal process that is currently in place. For additional information on the appeal process use the following address at the Commission's website: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentialinfo/leaflets/al3.html>.

Modifications of Requirements

Any modifications to credentialing examinations or coursework currently offered by institutions shall *not* be considered a new requirement. If required coursework not yet taken by the candidate is modified, the candidate must take the modified coursework. The candidate would not be required to take the modified coursework if it is not readily available, would result in an increased cost to the candidate, or would delay the completion of the program.

In addition, once a candidate has received a preliminary teaching credential and is employed as the teacher of record in a California public school, he or she will not be held to any new requirements for completing the induction phase, which is required to obtain the professional clear credential.

For further information, please contact the Commission's Information Services Office at (916) 445-7256 or toll free 888-921-2682 or visit our website at www.ctc.ca.gov or e-mail us at credentials@ctc.ca.gov.