

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

03-0023

Date: September 15, 2003

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: Approval of Addition of Sections 80473 and 80473.1 to Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Pertaining to Allowance of a Grace Period for Credential Candidates to Complete Requirements

The Office of Administrative Law approved additions to Title 5 Sections 80473 and 80473.1 effective August 18, 2003.

The approved regulation provides for credential candidates enrolled in a commission-accredited preparation program on or after January 1, 2002 up to twenty-four months after enrollment, during which time new or amended requirements will not apply to that candidate.

An appeal process has also been established to allow candidates to request an additional 12 months without additional requirements to complete their program, when extenuating circumstances have been demonstrated.

The specific text of the approved regulation is provided on the following page(s).

California Commission On Teacher Credentialing

Division VIII of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations

**Proposed Additions of Section 80473 and 80473.1, Pertaining to Allowance of a
Grace Period for Credential Candidates to Complete Requirements**

§80473. Allowance of Grace Period to Complete Requirements: Definitions & Terms

For the purposes of this section and section 80473.1, the following definitions and terms apply:

(a) A commission-accredited preparation program includes: (1) an internship program as defined in Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 44325), Chapter 2, Part 25, Division 3, Title 2 of the Education Code; (2) an internship program as defined in Article 3 (commencing with Section 44450), Chapter 3, Part 25, Division 3, Title 2 of the Education Code; (3) a professional preparation program as defined in Article 7 (commencing with Section 44320), Chapter 2, Part 25, Division 3, Title 2 of the Education Code; and (4) an integrated program of professional preparation as defined in Education Code Section 44259.1.

(b) "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.

(c) "Continuously Enrolled" refers to an individual who has begun a teacher preparation program and does not have a break in that program that exceeds a period of 18 months.

(d) "New or Amended Requirements" refers to requirements added by statutes, regulations and commission standards.

Note: Authority cited Sections 44225, 44252.1, Education Code. Reference: Sections 44252.1, 44259, 44259.1, 44279.4, 44320, 44325, 44450 Education Code.

§80473.1 Allowance of Grace Period to Complete Requirements

(a) A credential candidate enrolled in a commission-accredited multiple or single subject preparation program shall have up to twenty-four months after enrollment, during which time new or amended program requirements shall not apply to that candidate.

(b) A credential candidate may extend up to twelve months in addition to the time specified pursuant to subsection (a) to complete a credential program without additional requirements, if the candidate can demonstrate extenuating circumstances, including but not limited to, personal or family illness, bereavement or financial hardship, and develops a plan to complete the credential program in consultation with the program provider.

(c) Candidates completing integrated programs of professional preparation under Education Code Section 44259.1:

(1) A candidate continuously enrolled in an integrated program of professional preparation on or after January 1, 2002, shall not be held to any new requirements, as long as the candidate does not change the type of credential or program he or she is pursuing.

(2) A candidate continuously enrolled in an integrated program of professional preparation and who has completed all requirements necessary to begin student teaching is eligible to receive an extension of twelve 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.

(3) This subsection (c) will sunset on January 1, 2006.

(d) A modification of a credentialing examination made as a result of a validity study or a passing standard study shall not be considered a new requirement.

(e) If required coursework not yet taken by the candidate is modified, the candidate shall take the modified coursework, unless it is not readily available, would result in an increased cost to the candidate or would delay the completion of the program.

(f) Once a candidate has received a preliminary teaching credential pursuant to Education Code Section 44259 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 teaching credential pursuant to Education Code Section 44279.4, for a period not to exceed the length of time provided for the preliminary teaching credential pursuant to Education Code Section 44251.

(g) The Commission shall maintain a list of candidates who are allowed an extended time period under this section. This list shall include the projected date of program completion for each candidate.

Note: Authority cited Sections 44225, 44252.1, Education Code. Reference: Sections 44252.1, 44259, 44259.1, 44279.4, 44320, 44325, 44450 Education Code.