



CODED CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: July 24, 2007	NUMBER: 07-11
TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing	FROM: Dale A. Janssen Executive Director Commission on Teacher Credentialing
SUBJECT: Basic Skills Requirement	

Summary:

Senate Bill SB 1209 (Chap. 517, Stats. 2006) was signed by the Governor on September 28, 2006. One of the changes made by SB 1209 was to add five new options to meet the basic skills requirement, in addition to passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST). This correspondence is an update on three of the new options.

Key Provisions:

SB 1209 allows six options for meeting the basic skills requirement. However, three of the options will not be available at this time as passing scores have not been established by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. These three options are:

- Passage of the ACT Plus Writing examination;
- Passage of the GRE (Graduate Record) examination; and
- Passage of the SAT Reasoning examination.

The current options to meet the basic skills requirement are:

- Passage of the CBEST;
- Passage of a basic skills examination from another state; and
- Passage of the revised CSET: Multiple Subjects examination (CSET: Multiple Subjects Plus Writing Skills) which includes an assessment of writing skills.

Background:

Since 1983, CBEST has been the only option for meeting the state requirement for basic skills proficiency. The current three options to meet the basic skills requirement may be used to satisfy the basic skills requirement for all types of documents requiring that basic skills be met. Passage of the revised CSET: Multiple Subjects examination (CSET: Multiple Subjects Plus Writing Skills) will most likely be used by multiple subject credential applicants. This option became available on May 19, 2007 and has a passing score of 220.

The three additional options to meet the basic skills requirement, passage of the ACT Plus Writing, the GRE (Graduate Record), and the SAT Reasoning examinations, required the passing score to be set by the Superintendent of Public Instruction by July 31, 2007.

The change to the basic skills requirement was discussed in Coded Correspondences 06-0021, 06-0026, and 06-0028.

References:

Basic Skills Requirement leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl667.pdf>

Coded Correspondence 06-0021:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/060021/060021.pdf>

Coded Correspondence 06-0026:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/060026/060026.pdf>

Coded Correspondence 06-0028:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/060028/060028.pdf>

Contact Information:

Contact the Commission's Information Services Unit by telephone at 1-888-921-2682, Monday through Friday between 1:00 pm to 4:45 pm or by email at credentials@ctc.ca.gov.