

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

1020 O STREET
SACRAMENTO 95814

75-7601

3 July 1975

TO: County and District Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Peter L. LoPresti, Executive Secretary *PL*

SUBJECT: Credential Status of Teachers in Programs for Educationally Handicapped Children

The teacher of the educationally handicapped, including learning disabilities, has been required to hold only a basic teaching credential appropriate to the grade level being taught, such as a general or standard elementary or a general or standard secondary credential. No credential authorizing service in special education will be required until September 1, 1976.

After August 31, 1976, no teacher shall be assigned to teach in a program for the educationally handicapped unless the teacher holds a specialist instruction credential in special education with an authorization to teach the learning handicapped or the severely handicapped.

At its June 1975 meeting, the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing adopted emergency regulations which became effective July 1, 1975. These regulations, a copy of which is attached, provide that a teacher may apply directly to this agency and receive a preliminary Specialist Credential in Special Education in Learning Handicapped if

1. he holds a valid California teaching credential requiring a baccalaureate degree (may be a partial credential or a restricted credential in special education); and
2. he has completed one (1) year or its equivalent of successful classroom experience with learning handicapped children (out-of-state experience is acceptable).

The preliminary credential will be granted for five (5) calendar years and will not be renewable. Since service will not be limited to any one county or district, no statement of employment will be required. The holder will have 5 years to obtain the full credential in special education, either by completing an approved program of preparation in special education in a California institution or by securing the recommendation of an approved institution on the basis of demonstrated competence and experience.

If the applicant chooses not to apply directly for the credential to the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing between July 1, 1975 and December 31, 1976, he must then be recommended for the appropriate clear credential for this type of service by a California institution having a Commission approved program. The enclosed list shows those institutions having such programs at this time.

Because these emergency regulations are subject to review and possible change, you may wish to suggest early application by those eligible.

Attachment

FACE OTHERS
FOR FILING ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 11380.1)

Copy below is hereby certified to be a true and correct copy of regulations adopted, or amended, or an order of repeal by:
Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing
.....
(Agency)

Date of adoption, amendment, or repeal:

June 5, 1975

By: *Peter L. La Presti*
.....
Executive Secretary
(Title)

WRITE IN THIS SPACE

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ORDER ADOPTING REGULATIONS
OF
COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING
AS AN EMERGENCY

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Gov. Code, Title 2, Div. 3, Part 1, Chapter 4.5) and pursuant to the authority vested by Section 13114(b) of Education Code, and to implement, interpret, or make specific Sections 13125.2, 13176, and 13177 of the Education Code, the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing hereby adopts its regulations in Title 5, California Administrative Code, as follows:

(1) Adopts new Section 5935 to read:

Section 5935. Teaching Educationally Handicapped; Specialist Instruction Credential Required After August 31, 1976. After August 31, 1976, no teacher shall be assigned to teach in a program for the educationally handicapped unless he holds a specialist instruction credential in special education with an authorization to teach the learning handicapped or the severely handicapped as both are defined in Section 7027 of the Education Code.

(2) Adopts new Section 5935.1 to read:

Section 5935.1. Direct Application for Preliminary Specialist Instruction Credential on or Before December 31, 1976, Based Upon Experience. On or before December 31, 1976, holders of a teaching credential who are certified by the appropriate district or county school administrator, or the appropriate administrator of a private school approved by the State of California, as having completed one year of successful full-time teaching or its equivalent in a program for the educationally handicapped may apply directly to the Commission for a preliminary specialist instruction credential in special education with an authorization to teach the learning handicapped.

(a) This preliminary credential shall be issued for a period of five years and shall not be renewable.

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CONTINUATION SHEET
FOR FILING ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE

(Pursuant to Government Code Section 11380.1)

- (b) Prior to the issuance of a clear credential, the candidate shall complete an approved program of professional preparation and shall be recommended by the institution whose approved program he has completed for the appropriate credential; or the candidate shall be recommended by an institution having an approved program in the area in which he seeks the credential based upon his demonstrated competencies and experience.

FINDING OF EMERGENCY

The Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing finds that an emergency exists and that the foregoing regulation is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety or general welfare. A statement of the facts constituting such emergency is:

There are many teachers of the educationally handicapped who have obtained competence through their teaching experience, but who lack the requirements to obtain a preliminary specialist instruction credential in special education with an authorization to teach the learning handicapped. In order to take advantage of their experience and continue to permit them to teach, it is necessary to provide an avenue by which they can obtain the preliminary credential on the basis of their experience.

Since the Commission will not meet during July and August, the required statutory public hearing cannot be held until September, by which time the new school year will have started. The adoption of these regulations on an emergency basis will thus clarify the employment status of the affected individuals well in advance of the school year and will enable their employing school districts to plan properly for the school year.

The said regulation is therefore adopted as an emergency regulation to take effect upon July 1, 1975, as provided in Section 11422(c) of the Government Code.

NOTE: The Executive Secretary has determined that the above regulations will add no cost to local government, pursuant to Section 2231, Chapter 358 of the 1973 Statute of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

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