

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

220 O STREET.

SACRAMENTO 95814

(916) 445-0184



July 26, 1978

78-7905

TO: All County Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Peter L. LoPresti, Executive Secretary *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: Use of Emergency Specialist Credentials in Learning Handicapped, Severely Handicapped, and Physically Handicapped

The Commission has been contacted by teachers, State Department of Education, and organizations of parents and teachers of exceptional children that consideration may be given to use of the emergency specialist credential in Special Education to solve employment and reassignment problems resulting from implementation of Proposition 13.

The purpose of the emergency credential in Special Education is to make it possible for teachers partially prepared in the area of Special Education to be certified for service when fully prepared teachers are not available for employment. Its use is limited to situations in which the following provisions are satisfactorily met.

1. The district has made an extensive effort to recruit fully certificated teachers from the most likely sources with no success.

2. The teacher intends to embark upon and pursue a program of preparation leading to the clear specialist credential.
3. The applicant has completed at least one of the following:
 - a. One year of teaching experience within the past 10 years in the area of specialization desired;
 - b. At least six semester hours of graduate course work specifically appropriate to the credential in the area of specialization desired.
4. The reissuance may not be requested before August 15 for the ensuing school year and then only with a new statement of need as described above.

All applications for emergency specialist credentials for teaching the learning handicapped, severely handicapped, and physically handicapped will be reviewed carefully. The above criteria, described in the California Administrative Code, Title 5, Sections 80026 and 80030, will be applied rigorously.

The Commission needs your assistance in maintaining the highest standards possible in the special areas of instruction. Since your approval and signature is required on the statement of need, you are in a position to make the first evaluation of the recruitment efforts and needs of districts in your county. Your interest and cooperation in all teacher preparation and certification matters is sincerely appreciated.
