

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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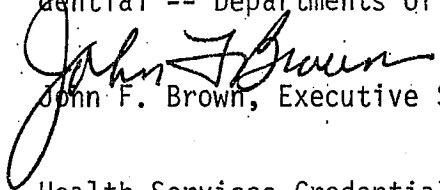


OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

September 6, 1983

83-8409

TO: Those Institutions Which Offer Health Services Credential Programs or Courses Leading to the Health Services Credential -- Departments of Nursing, Departments of Education

FROM: 
John F. Brown, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Health Services Credential

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing, at its August 5, 1983 meeting, adopted the following statements with regard to difficulties some candidates for the Health Services (School Nurse) credential are experiencing:

1. Colleges and universities be encouraged to develop more health services credential consortia to make available to students required coursework in local geographic areas.
2. That universities be encouraged to accept equivalence for courses taken at other accredited institutions.
3. That institutions with approved school nurse credential programs serve as hosts and provide the core nursing courses. Other institutions in the vicinity could provide some of the course requirements for the total program. The Commission is aware that some institutions have already established such articulation agreements. For instance, one state institution provides a program which offers video and audiotape lectures, take-home exams, and field work in the candidates' own communities.
4. That the Commission continue to provide time extensions to school nurse candidates on the basis of an individual appeal based on a justifiable hardship.

Background

There have been a number of appeal cases that have come before the Commission's Licensing Committee regarding the difficulties that the appellants have experienced in completing the requirements for the Clear Health Services Credential within the required five-year period. The reasons for this problem are varied and include some of the following: 1) low availability of programs within certain geographic areas; 2) low availability of specific course offerings during certain periods; and 3) lack of required courses because of low enrollment in such courses.

The fact that a large number of cases have come from the northern California area indicates a geographic problem. There is also a problem regarding availability of courses indicated by the types of appeals cases presented.

Suggestions Requested

The Commission welcomes suggestions for additional solutions to this problem.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Dr. Barbara Tardif, Programs Consultant, (916) 322-2638.