

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

December 21, 1999

99-9930

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: Assignment Option for Speech and Language Services as the Result of the Passage of Assembly Bill 466 (Mazzoni)

One of the provisions of Assembly Bill 466 (Mazzoni), signed by Governor Davis on October 5, 1999, establishes an alternate route for assigning individuals to provide speech and language services in California public schools. The change to Education Code Section 44831 is intended to provide flexibility to enable employing agencies to more easily employ qualified individuals to serve in this shortage area. A copy of EC §44831 is on the following page.

Under the provisions of this statute, which is effective immediately, a governing board of a school district or a county office of education may contract or employ an individual to provide speech and language services if the individual has verified the following:

- 1) master's degree in communicative disorders,
- 2) valid license issued by the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board,
- 3) passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST), and
- 4) the criminal record summary according to EC §44332.6.

The master's degree must be in a communicative disorders/language, speech and hearing therapy area such as speech and hearing sciences, speech pathology and audiology, or language, speech and hearing disorders from a regionally accredited college or university.

It is important to note that the use of the assignment option in the Education Code is voluntary by an employing agency and does not result in the issuance of a credential by the Commission.

Individuals employed under this option should be listed by the county offices of education in the category "Other Legal Authority Not Noted Elsewhere in this Report" when reporting to the Commission on the annual monitoring of the certificated assignments in the school districts under the provisions of EC §44258.9. After establishing that an individual has the appropriate degree, passed CBEST, and

obtained the criminal record summary, for monitoring purposes the employing agency should keep a record of the valid license issued by the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board.

For information regarding the license from the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board, contact:

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board
Department of Consumer Affairs
1422 Howe Avenue #3
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 263-2666

Education Code Section 44831.

Governing boards of school district shall employ persons in public school service requiring certification qualifications as provided in this code, except that the governing board or a county office of education may contract with or employ an individual who holds a license issued by the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board and has earned a masters degree in communication disorders to provide speech and language services if that individual meets the requirements of Sections 44332.6 and 44830 before employment or execution of the contract.

Questions

If you have questions concerning this assignment option, please call the Commission's Information Services Office between 8 and 5 Monday through Friday at (916) 445-7254 or (888) 921-2682 if you are calling from outside of the 916 area code. You may also e-mail us at [credentials@ctc.ca.gov].