

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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00-0015

DATE: May 24, 2000

TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the
Commission on Teacher Credentialing

FROM: Sam W. Swofford, Ed.D.
Executive Director

SUBJECT: The Fifth-Year Requirement Taken Within a Bachelor's Degree
Program

With the passage of AB1620 (Scott) in 1998, the Commission certification staff is authorized to evaluate out-of-state and out-of country trained teachers to determine if the fifth year requirement for the Multiple and Single Subject Teaching Credentials has been satisfied within the bachelor's degree. The certification staff will be using the following guidelines to clear the fifth year requirement based on units found within the bachelor's degree:

1. The bachelor's degree consists of a minimum of approximately 150 semester units (or 225 quarter units).
2. The fifth year requirement is considered met if individuals have a minimum of 146 semester units within their bachelor's degree and still need to complete the health, special education (mainstreaming), and computer education requirements.
3. The Commission can only clear the "fifth year" if it is completed prior to receiving the bachelor's degree. An example of an unacceptable scenario is an individual who has 139 units within the bachelor's degree and then completes 11 additional units.
4. The 5 years of coursework within the degree needs to be an organized program, such as a dual major, an extensive program in a single major (ex. engineering or pre-medicine), or two bachelor's degrees granted on the same date. Someone who could not decide on a major and took courses in numerous areas would not be eligible.
5. When considering the total units within the bachelor's degree, only units from a community college that are transferred to a four-year institution will be considered. Advanced placement and military training credit will be included as long as the units are listed on the transcripts of the degree

granting institution. Courses listed on the transcripts with grades of *Pass*, *Credit*, and *Satisfactory* are acceptable.

6. The Commission will not review individuals who completed their teacher education program in California. They must contact a California institution with an approved credential program appropriate to the credential sought.

Questions

If you have questions concerning these regulations, please contact the Commission's Information Services Office between 8 am and 5 pm 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>.