

**CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

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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: Changes to Credentialing as a Result of AB466 (Mazzoni)

Assembly Bill 466, authored by Assembly member Kerry Mazzoni and sponsored by the Commission, was signed into law effective October 10, 1999. This coded correspondence addresses the implementation of five provisions of this "cleanup" bill that directly affect the issuance of credentials which were discussed at the Commission's Spring Credential Workshops in April.

**The "Teaching of Reading" Requirement for Out-of-State Applicants**

As revised by AB466, Education Code Section 44227(c)(4) requires that applicants for a *Single Subject Teaching Credential* who completed their professional preparation programs outside of California verify completion of a course on the various methods of teaching reading. If such a course was not part of the out-of-state program and is not exempted by some other provision of the law, it may be completed through California college or university with a Commission-accredited professional preparation program. This change means Single Subject Credential applicants no longer have the option of taking an examination to meet this requirement.

Applicants for a *Multiple Subject Teaching Credential* who completed their professional preparation programs out of state but have not yet completed the teaching of reading requirement have the option of either taking a course through a Commission-accredited program in California or taking and passing the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA). If the out-of-state teacher does not hold a valid credential from another state, he or she is required to take RICA; passage of the assessment will satisfy both the teaching of reading and the assessment requirements.

Individuals who received a Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential prior to 10-10-99 or who were advised of the previous option to take the ETS examination "Introduction to the Teaching of Reading" (test #10200) rather than the course or RICA,

may use that examination to renew the preliminary credential. Examination scores are valid for five years.

### **Introductory and Advanced Technology Requirements Effective 7-1-02**

As a result of the passage of AB466, the Education Code now requires that every applicant for a Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, whether prepared in California or outside of the state, demonstrate basic competency in the use of computers in the classroom prior to issuance of his or her first credential by means of either a Commission-approved program or course, or by successful passage of an assessment that has been developed, approved and administered by the Commission. In addition, the statute requires teachers to complete a study of advanced computer-based technology, including the uses of technology in educational settings, for the professional clear credential.

These technology requirements will take effect on July 1, 2002. Coded Correspondence 99-9916 provides California colleges and universities with information about the standards for the pre-service and professional clear requirements and describes the timeline for submission of revised programs. The Commission will begin development of the examination in the near future. More information about how these requirements will affect individual applicants will be distributed early in 2002.

### **Induction in Lieu of a Fifth Year of Study for Out-of-State Applicants**

Under the provisions of AB466, applicants for a professional clear Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential who completed their professional preparation program outside of California now have an option to the fifth-year-of-study requirement. If the applicant has not already completed an out-of-state master's or higher degree or an educationally related and organized program involving at least 30 semester units of post baccalaureate coursework from a regionally accredited college or university, he or she may either (1) complete an approved fifth year of study at a Commission-accredited college or university in California or (2) complete a Commission-approved induction program. The only induction program currently approved by the Commission is the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) program.

This requirement affects individuals who completed an out-of-state program and apply for the *Professional Clear* Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential after 10-10-99.

The BTSA option is not appropriate for every teacher from out of state. To be eligible for BTSA a teacher must have fewer than two years of teaching experience or possess the three-year preliminary Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential based on experience in another state (see coded correspondence #00-0002 for more information on SB1620 experience-based credentials). However, BTSA directors do have some discretion in regard to entrance into a BTSA program once the program has served all of the eligible teachers who choose to participate. Teachers with two or more years of experience who need to complete the fifth-year-or-induction requirement, should contact the BTSA director in case the program has open state-funded or unfunded slots. Participation in BTSA, especially the components that focus on California's curriculum standards and diversity, may be beneficial even for teachers with many years of experience in other states.

## **Two-Year Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Instruction Credential**

Effective October 10, 1999, Education Code Section 44253 allows a special education teacher who completed his or her non-generic professional preparation program outside of California may apply for a two-year Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Instruction Credential in the categorical area appropriate to his or her preparation. "Non-generic" or "categorical" programs prepare candidates to teach students with mild/moderate disabilities, moderate/severe disabilities, visual impairments, or physical and health impairments, or students who are deaf and hard-of hearing or eligible for early childhood special education.

The requirements for the two-year preliminary level I credential are:

- Possession of a bachelor's or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university,
- Completion of a categorical professional preparation program, including student teaching/field work,
- Passage of CBEST (a one-year nonrenewable credential is available), and
- Offer of employment in California and submission of the form showing intent to complete a level II program (CL-777.1); a Certificate of Eligibility is available to teachers who do not have an offer of employment.

To renew the two-year preliminary level I credential for the remainder of the five-year preliminary time period, the teacher must verify completion of the following requirements:

1. Subject-Matter Competency,
2. Teaching of Reading,
3. RICA (unless the teacher holds a valid credential from another state),
4. U.S. Constitution,
5. Non-Special Education Pedagogy,
6. Experience in General Education.

Out-of-state-trained teachers who completed a categorical program but have only been eligible for an emergency permit in the past because they had not yet completed any of the requirements 1 through 6 may now apply for the two-year preliminary credential. Special education teachers who are eligible for the two-year preliminary level I credential, but who have never held a credential or permit in California, may be eligible for the five-year preliminary level I credential under the option created by AB838 (Pacheco) -- see coded correspondence #99-9927 for more information. The Pacheco option provides the teacher with an additional year to complete these requirements, but restricts the document to the employing school district.

## **Special Education Option for Pre-Intern Programs**

The final change made to credentials by AB 466 was the addition of special education to the authorizations that may appear on a Pre-Intern Certificate. The requests for proposal for this Commission grant program that were mailed to potential pre-intern sponsors in February 2000 included specifications for developing programs for Multiple Subject authorizations, for Single Subject authorizations in English, mathematics, or science, and for Education Specialist authorizations.

### **For More Information**

Copies of the coded correspondence listed above may be obtained from the Commission's web page at [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov). Information about specific credential requirements is also available on the web page. To talk to a credential analyst call the Commission's Information Services Office at (916) 445-7254 or call toll free from outside the 916 area code at (888) 921-2682. Credential analysts are available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every business day. For more information about pre-intern programs, contact consultant Suzanne Tyson in the Commission office at (916) 445-8778.