

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

00-0023

DATE: July 28, 2000

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: Approved Amendments to Section 80066 of Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Pertaining to Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential

The proposed changes to Title 5 Section 80066 concerning the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential requirements and authorization have been approved by the Office of Administrative Law and became effective on June 23, 2000. The regulations will be implemented on August 1, 2000. The amendments to Title 5 §80066 clarify the requirements, the valid period, and the authorization for the professional clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential which were not previously in regulation. This correspondence includes an explanation of the major changes to Section 80066 and a copy of the text of the regulation.

The Commission originally proposed to change two sections of regulations concerning reading; adding Section 80013.4 concerning teaching reading as a separate subject on a basic teaching credential and amending Section 80066 for the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential. The public hearing for these two sections was originally opened on June 3, 1999. At the June public hearing, the Commission voted to delay the public hearing for a minimum of 90 days. On November 4, 1999, at the resumption of the public hearing, Section 80014.3 was withdrawn from consideration and the Commission adopted Section 80066. A clarification of who may be assigned to teach reading in a self-contained or departmentalized setting is included later in this correspondence

Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential

The regulations clarify the requirements for the professional clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential. For individuals trained in California the requirements include a valid prerequisite credential, completion of a professional preparation program, and recommendation from a California college or university with an accredited program. New standards for the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential programs were approved in 1998. Colleges and universities may not admit candidates into their "old" Reading and Language Arts Specialist programs after June 1, 2000. A task force is reviewing colleges and universities' response to the program standards for the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential. A list of the colleges and universities

with “old” and newly approved accredited programs may be found on page 3 of this correspondence.

Individuals trained outside of California must verify possession of a valid prerequisite credential and completion of a professional preparation program. Out-of-state applicants may apply directly to the Commission.

Professional Clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credentials are issued for five years unless the individual’s prerequisite credential expires in less than five years. In this case, the document will be issued with the same expiration date of the required prerequisite credential.

The Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential authorizes the holder to provide the following services at the school site, school district, or county level in grades twelve and below, including preschool, and in classes organized primarily for adults:

- 1) assist and support the classroom teacher in reading instruction and teaching strategies,
- 2) select and adapt reading instruction materials,
- 3) plan and conduct reading staff development,
- 4) assess student progress and monitor student achievement in reading,
- 5) provide direct reading intervention work with students, and
- 6) develop and coordinate reading programs.

The Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential holder plays a leadership role in the development of reading programs at the school site, the school district, or the county office of education. There is an emphasis in the program on working with students experiencing serious difficulties with reading and on offering decision-making and research skills and abilities that affect programmatic decisions.

Teaching Reading as a Separate Subject

As stated previously, at the November 1999 public hearing the Commission withdrew Section 80013.4 concerning teaching reading as a separate subject on a basic teaching credential. Teaching reading is part of every elementary classroom. It is also taught as a departmentalized subject in a pull-out program or in a separate reading class. Reading in self-contained and departmentalized classes may be taught by holders of credentials authorizing elementary level teaching: Multiple Subject, Standard Elementary, or General Elementary Teaching Credentials, as well as the Single Subject Teaching Credential in English. In addition, holders of the Reading Certificate, the Restricted Reading Credential, and the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential are authorized to teach reading in self-contained and departmentalized classes.

It is important to note that holders of Multiple Subject, Single Subject in English, Standard Elementary, or General Elementary Teaching Credentials may have as little as one reading course. For this reason, the Restricted Reading Specialist Credential, the Reading Certificate, and the Reading and Language Arts Specialist

Credential were created to develop deeper preparation in the teaching of reading and to provide essential help in reading to students in California's public schools.

Colleges and Universities with “New” Accredited Reading Specialist Programs

These colleges and universities programs may admit individuals into their programs. Both of these programs also have an “old” program.

CSU Long Beach

CSU Sacramento

Colleges and Universities with “Old” Accredited Reading Specialist Programs

These colleges and universities may not admit individuals into their reading specialist programs after June 1, 2000. However, individuals who have started the program prior to June 1, 2000 may complete the program and be recommended by the college or university for the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential.

CSU Bakersfield

San Francisco State University

CSU Chico

San Jose State University

CSU Fresno

Sonoma State University

CSU Fullerton

UC Berkeley

CSU Los Angeles

Fresno Pacific University

CSU Northridge

Pacific Union College

CSU San Bernardino

St. Mary’s College

CSU Stanislaus

University of La Verne

San Diego State University

Inquiries to the Commission regarding program approval for the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential may be addressed to Ellen Venturino, Consultant, at (916) 323-6087.

Questions

If you have questions concerning this regulation change please call 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].

Amendments to Section 80066 of Title 5 Concerning the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Teaching Credential

Title 5 Section 80066. Specific Requirements for the Professional Clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential.

- (a) The minimum requirements for the professional clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential for applicants who complete a professional preparation program in California shall include (1) through (3):
 - (1) possession of a valid basic California teaching credential as defined in Education Code Section 44203(e);

- (2) completion of a post baccalaureate professional preparation program accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential, including successful completion of supervised student teaching; and
 - (3) the recommendation from a regionally accredited institution of higher education that has a Reading and Language Arts Specialist program accredited by the Committee on Accreditation.
- (b) The minimum requirements for the professional clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential for applicants who complete a professional preparation program outside California shall include (1) and (2). Applicants may apply directly to the Commission for the professional clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential under this section:
- (1) possession of a valid basic California teaching credential as defined in Education Code Section 44203(e); and
 - (2) completion of a post baccalaureate professional preparation program comparable to a program accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for the Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential, including successful completion of supervised student teaching, but taken outside California. The program must be from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and approved by the appropriate state agency where the course work was completed.
- (c) The professional clear Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential issued on the basis of the completion of all requirements shall be dated per Title 5 Section 80553.
- (d) The Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential authorizes the holder to assist and support the classroom teacher in reading instruction and teaching strategies, select and adapt reading instruction materials, plan and conduct reading staff development, assess student progress and monitor student achievement in reading, provide direct reading intervention work with students, and develop and coordinate reading programs at the school site, school district, or county level in grades twelve and below, including preschool, and in classes organized primarily for adults.

Note: Authority cited: Section 44225(q), Education Code. Reference: Sections 44203(e), 44225(d), 44225(e), and 44265, Education Code.