



CODED CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: December 7, 2011	NUMBER: 11-17
TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing	FROM: Mary Vixie Sandy Executive Director Commission on Teacher Credentialing
SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations Pertaining to Fingerprint Submissions	

Notice of Public Hearing is Hereby Given

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) proposes to amend the regulatory action described below after considering all comments, objections and recommendations regarding the proposed action. A copy of the proposed regulations is attached with the added text underlined and the deleted text lined out.

A public hearing on the proposed actions will be held:

**January 27, 2012
9:00 a.m.
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
1900 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, California 95811**

Written Comment Period

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments by fax, through the mail, or by e-mail on the proposed action. The written comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 23, 2012. Comments must be received by that time or may be submitted at the public hearing. You may fax your response to (916) 322-0048; write to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, attn. Tammy A. Duggan, 1900 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, California 95811; or submit an email at tduggan@ctc.ca.gov.

Any written comments received 15 days prior to the public hearing will be reproduced by the Commission's staff for each member of the Commission as a courtesy to the person submitting the comments and will be included in the written agenda prepared for and presented to the full Commission at the hearing.

Authority and Reference

Pursuant to the authority vested by Section 44225 of the Education Code, and to implement, interpret or make specific Sections 44339 and 44340 of the Education Code, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing is proposing the amendments to §§80028, 80301, and 80442 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Summary of Existing Laws and Regulations

The Joint Legislative Audit Committee requested that the Bureau of State Audits within the California State Auditor's office conduct an audit of the Commission's educator discipline process. The audit report, completed in April 2011, included a recommendation that the Commission notify the Department of Justice (DOJ) when it no longer needs reports of arrest and prosecution (RAP) sheets on an individual for misconduct perpetrated in California. The audit report determined that the Commission spends between one week and five weeks of staff time each year needlessly reviewing RAP sheets for individuals who do not hold valid documents. The proposed amendments are designed to reduce the number of RAP sheets reviewed by Commission staff each year by invalidating the fingerprint information for individuals who have not held valid documents for more than eighteen months.

Penal Code §11105.2(d) states that "Any agency which submits the fingerprints of applicants for licensing, employment, certification, ... shall immediately notify the department ... when the applicant's license or certificate is revoked, [or] when the applicant may no longer renew or reinstate the license or certificate..." Notifying the DOJ that fingerprint information is not needed will allow the DOJ to discontinue the notification of subsequent arrest reports process for the affected individuals.

The Commission solicited input regarding the invalidation of fingerprints from California school districts, county offices, and institutions of higher education. Through this contact, it was decided that fingerprints should be invalidated for individuals who have not held valid documents for more than eighteen months. Invalidating fingerprints for individuals with documents that have lapsed for less than eighteen months could potentially create additional work for Commission staff, stakeholders, and credential applicants as individuals often take leaves of absence for a year or less due to illness, difficulty finding teaching positions, or to further their education. As stated above, the Commission only receives subsequent RAP sheets for misconduct that occurs in California. Therefore, waiting more than eighteen months after an individual's documents have lapsed before invalidating their fingerprints increases the odds that he/she will leave the state and commit a crime for which the Commission will not receive notification. The proposed regulations will require individuals to resubmit their fingerprints if they have not held a valid document for more than eighteen months.

The Commission also routinely receives fingerprint information from individuals prior to the submission of an application for a credential, certificate, permit, waiver, or document. The proposed amendments add language stating that the fingerprints for these individuals will be valid for eighteen months. If an application for a credential, certificate, permit, waiver, or document is not received within eighteen months from the date the DOJ provides the Commission with the fingerprint information, the individual's fingerprints will be invalidated and the resubmission of fingerprints will be required with his/her next application. This will allow the Commission to notify the DOJ that subsequent RAP sheets are not required for individuals who submit their fingerprints more than eighteen months prior to submitting an application for a credential, certificate, permit, waiver, or document.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) does not provide subsequent RAP sheets to the Commission; arrest information from the FBI is only provided at the time an individual's fingerprints are submitted through the DOJ for clearance. Requiring individuals to resubmit fingerprints when they have not held a valid document in California for more than eighteen months will allow the Commission to receive updated arrest information from other states. This is especially important because individuals with expired documents may have resided outside California during the lapse in their certification.

Proposed Amendments to Title 5 Regulations

§80028

Note: Updates the subdivision referenced for EC §44320 from (b) to (d). Amendments to Education Code (EC) §44320 as a result of Senate Bill (SB) 1422 (Chap. 1245, Stats. 1992) moved the subdivision that includes the Certificate of Clearance requirement from (b) to (d). Adds Education Code §44350 as a Reference. EC §44350 states that all Commission documents must be issued with expiration dates.

§80301

Title: Deletes "Application for" from the title of this section. A separate form was previously required with applications that included fingerprint information. However, the separate form was discontinued several years ago when the character and identification clearance information was added to the Application for Credential Authorizing Public School Service form.

(b): Updates the name of the application form required for all types of documents issued by the Commission along with reference to the Title 5 section that defines the application form. Also adds the Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificate (EC §49024) to the list of documents requiring character and identification clearance.

(c): Updates the name of the application form required for all types of documents issued by the Commission along with reference to the Title 5 section that defines the application form.

Note: Adds EC §49024 pertaining to the Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificate as a Reference.

§80442

Title: Changes the title from “Personal Identification Cards” to the more generic term of “Fingerprints.” Penal Code §11077.1 as amended by SB 970 (Chap. 470, Stats. 2003) requires submission of fingerprints via livescan unless a livescan station is not available. This Title 5 section requires submission of fingerprints via livescan and allows for the submission of personal identification (fingerprint) cards only if an individual resides outside California.

(a): Clarifies that the requirement in EC §44340 to include fingerprints when filing an application is met with the submission of fingerprints via livescan (electronic process) as required by the DOJ. Penal Code §11077.1 as amended by Senate Bill 970 (Chap. 470, Stats. 2003) requires submission of fingerprints via livescan unless a livescan station is not available. Adds language allowing the submission of personal identification (fingerprint) cards by individuals applying for certification while residing outside California.

(c): Amends the language pertaining to “personal identification cards” and the subsequent filing of “cards” to “fingerprints.” Subdivision (a) defines who must submit livescan and who are allowed to submit fingerprint cards; therefore, the generic term of “fingerprints” is more appropriate in this subdivision. Adds new language requiring the submission of fingerprints by applicants who have not held a valid document issued by the Commission for more than eighteen months. The Commission continues to receive subsequent arrest information for individuals who do not hold valid credentials, certificates, permits, waivers, or documents which unduly increases the workload of the Commission’s Division of Professional Practices. The proposed language will allow the Commission to notify the DOJ that it is no longer interested in receiving subsequent arrest information for individuals who have allowed their California certification to lapse for more than eighteen months.

(d): The Commission routinely receives fingerprint information from the DOJ for individuals who submitted their fingerprints via livescan (electronically) but who do not subsequently submit an application for any type of credential, permit, certificate, waiver, or document. The Commission continues to receive subsequent arrest information for these individuals which unduly increases the workload of the Division of Professional Practices. The proposed language will allow the Commission to notify the DOJ that it is no longer interested in receiving subsequent arrest information for individuals who submit their fingerprints electronically but who do not apply for a credential, permit, certificate, waiver, or document within eighteen months from the date the fingerprint information is received from the DOJ. Individuals who do not apply for certification within eighteen months from the date the fingerprint information is received from DOJ will be required to resubmit fingerprints with their next application.

Personal identification cards (fingerprint cards) are not accepted separate from an application form and processing fee.

Documents Incorporated by Reference: None.

Documents Relied Upon in Preparing Regulations: California State Auditor April 2011 Report 2010-119 available on the Bureau of State Audits website at <http://bsa.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2010-119.pdf>.

Disclosures Regarding the Proposed Actions

The Commission has made the following initial determinations:

Mandate to local agencies or school districts: None.

Other non-discretionary costs or savings imposed upon local agencies: None.

Cost or savings to any state agency: None.

Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: None.

Significant effect on housing costs: None.

Significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states: None.

These proposed regulations will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts that must be reimbursed in accordance with Part 7 (commencing with section 17500) of the Government Code.

Cost impacts on a representative private person or business: The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Assessment regarding the creation or elimination of jobs in California [Govt. Code §11346.3(b)]: The Commission has made an assessment that the proposed amendments to the regulations would not (1) create or eliminate jobs within California, (2) create new business or eliminate existing businesses within California, or (3) affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within California.

Effect on small businesses: The proposed regulations will not have a significant adverse economic impact upon business since they apply only to the submission of fingerprint information from individuals seeking documents that authorize service in California's public schools.

Consideration of Alternatives

The Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the agency or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the agency will be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or will be as effective as and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed actions. These proposed regulations will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts that must be reimbursed in accordance with Part 7 (commencing with §17500) of the Government Code.

Contact Person/Further Information

General or substantive inquires concerning the proposed action may be directed to Tammy A. Duggan by telephone at (916) 323-5354 or Tammy A. Duggan, Commission on Teacher Credentialing, 1900 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95811. General question inquiries may also be directed to Janet Bankovich at (916) 323-7140 or at the address mentioned in the previous sentence. Upon request, a copy of the express terms of the proposed action and a copy of the initial statement of reasons will be made available. This information is also available on the Commission's website at www.ctc.ca.gov. In addition, all the information on which this proposal is based is available for inspection and copying.

Availability of Statement of Reasons and Text of Proposed Regulations

The entire rulemaking file is available for inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at the Commission office at the above address. As of the date this notice is published in the Notice of Register, the rulemaking file consists of this notice, the proposed text of regulations, and the initial statement of reasons.

Modification of Proposed Action

If the Commission proposes to modify the actions hereby proposed, the modifications (other than nonsubstantial or solely grammatical modifications) will be made available for public comment for at least 15 days before they are adopted.

Availability of Final Statement of Reasons

The Final Statement of Reasons is submitted to the Office of Administrative Law as part of the final rulemaking package, after the public hearing. When it is available, it will be placed on the Commission's website at www.ctc.ca.gov or you may obtain a copy by contacting Tammy A. Duggan at (916) 323-5354.

Availability of Documents on the Internet

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons and the text of the regulations in underline and strikeout can be accessed through the Commission's website at www.ctc.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
TITLE 5. EDUCATION
DIVISION 8. COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

§ 80028. Certificate of Clearance.

A Certificate of Clearance is a document, issued by the Commission, which verifies that the holder meets personal qualifications necessary to obtain a regular California teaching or services credential. Each candidate for an initial credential shall, prior to admission to student teaching under any professional preparation program approved by the Commission, obtain a Certificate of Clearance. No less than 60 working days prior to admission to student teaching, the candidate shall submit the following materials to the Commission:

- (a) A completed application via the online application system.
- (b) One-half of the credential issuance/reissuance or renewal fee specified in Section 80487(a)(1) unless otherwise established by law. The fee shall apply toward the initial credential.
- (c) Verification of completion of livescan.

The Certificate of Clearance shall be issued for a period of five years when the Commission has verified that the candidate meets personal qualifications necessary to obtain a regular California teaching or services credential.

Note: Authority cited: Section 44225(b), Education Code. Reference: Section 44320(~~b~~d) and 44350, Education Code.

§ 80301. Notice to Applicants for Issuance or Renewal of Credentials; ~~Application for Character and Identification Clearance.~~

- (a) An applicant for issuance or renewal of a credential shall not be required to disclose, and the Committee of Credentials shall not inquire into or consider, any acts or omissions not related to his or her fitness or competence to perform the duties authorized by his or her credential.
- (b) Each applicant for initial issuance of a credential shall submit a completed Application for ~~Character and Identification Clearance on Credential Authorizing Public School Service form adopted by the Commission~~ as specified in §80001 on which he or she will set forth evidence of identification and good moral character which shall be used for the sole purpose of determining the applicant's eligibility for a credential, ~~or Certificate of Clearance, or Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificate.~~

(c) The Application for ~~Character and Identification Clearance~~ Credential Authorizing Public School Service as specified in §80001 shall include, but not be limited to, the following information for applicants:

- (1) that the Commission is prohibited from issuing to or renewing the credential of any person convicted of any sex offense listed under Education Code Section 44010; or any narcotics offense listed under Education Code Section 44011; or who has been determined to be a mentally disordered sex offender; or that if a person holds a credential and has been convicted of any offense listed in Education Code Section 44424, such credential must be revoked.

Note: Authority cited: Section 44225(q), Education Code. Reference: Sections 44339, 44346, ~~and~~, 44425 and 49024, Education Code.

§ 80442. ~~Personal Identification Cards~~ Fingerprints.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (c), each applicant for a credential shall submit with the application verification of livescan. Individuals who reside outside California may submit duplicate personal identification cards provided by the Commission or obtained from the Bureau of Identification of the Department of Justice. Such identification cards shall be completed in the manner required by the instructions on the card.

(b) The fingerprints of the applicant shall be taken by a qualified officer or employee of the state, or of any political subdivision thereof, or by a person designated by the Commission.

(c) Where an applicant is seeking an additional credential and has filed ~~personal identification cards~~ fingerprints in connection with a previous credential, or renewal thereof, said applicant need not ~~file~~ subsequently submit fingerprints ~~cards~~ except upon express request by the Commission or when a valid credential, certificate, permit, waiver, or other document has not been held for more than eighteen months.

(d) Fingerprints submitted to the Commission electronically via livescan prior to the filing of an application form by the individual will be valid for eighteen months. If an application form is subsequently filed after the eighteen month validity period, the individual will be required to resubmit fingerprints.

Note: Authority cited: Section 44225, Education Code. Reference: Section 44340, Education Code.



Commission on Teacher Credentialing

1900 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95811 (888) 921-2682 Fax (916) 327-3166 www.ctc.ca.gov

Attn: Tammy A. Duggan, CAW Division
Title: Fingerprint Submissions
Section: Proposed Amendments to §§ 80028, 80301, and 80442

Response to the Attached Title 5 Regulations

To allow the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to more clearly estimate the general field response to the attached regulations, please return this response form to the Commission office, attention Tammy A. Duggan, at the above address or fax to her attention at (916) 322-0048. The response must arrive at the Commission by 5:00 pm January 11, 2012 for the material to be presented at the January 27, 2012 public hearing.

- 1. **Yes**, I agree with the proposed Title 5 Regulations. Please count me in favor of these regulations.
- 2. **No**, I do not agree with the proposed regulations for the following reasons:
PLEASE LIST THE SPECIFIC SECTION (80028, 80301, and/or 80442). If additional space is needed, use the reverse of this sheet or additional page.

- 3. Personal opinion of the undersigned and/or
 Organizational opinion representing: (Circle One) School District, County Schools, College/University, Professional Organization, Other_____
- 4. I shall be at the public hearing. Place my name on the list for making a presentation to the Commission.
 No, I will not make a presentation to the Commission at the public hearing.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____ Phone: _____

Employer/Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Route to tad