



CODED CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: February 10, 2012	NUMBER: 12-02
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: Implementation of Senate Bill 941 Concerning National Board Certification	

Summary:

Senate Bill (SB) 941 (Chap. 348, Stats. 2011) was signed by the Governor on September 26, 2011. All changes became effective on January 1, 2012. The bill has three major provisions. This correspondence addresses the two provisions concerning National Board Certification:

- 1) The Commission may issue an additional subject to the holder of a valid Single Subject Teaching Credential or equivalent previously issued general education credential, who has National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification in an additional single subject content area.
- 2) The bill allows the holder of a Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, or equivalent previously issued general education teaching credential, to earn a new credential type if the individual has earned NBPTS certification in the new credential type.

A separate correspondence concerning the provision of dually certified out-of-state general and special education teachers in SB 941 is being distributed and may be found at [Implementation of Senate Bill 941 Concerning Dually Certified Out-of-State General and Special Education Teachers](#).

Key Provisions:

Effective January 1, 2012, individuals may earn an additional credential or add a content subject area to a general education teaching credential based on National Board Certification (NBC). This is an option for individuals who earned their original Multiple or Single Subject Credentials, or equivalent previously issued general education teaching credentials, based on completion of a California, out-of-state, or outside the United States preparation program. Information on appropriate NBC may be found in Appendix 1.

“Equivalent previously issued general education teaching credential” includes teaching credentials issued prior to the currently issued Multiple and Single Subject Teaching Credentials. These are the general education teaching credentials issued under the provisions of statute for General and Standard Teaching Credentials such as the General Kindergarten-Primary, Elementary, Junior High, and Secondary Credentials, Special Secondary Credentials, and the Standard Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Credentials.

The statute allows the Commission to determine if an individual earning a credential using this new option must also satisfy subject-matter competence by examination to comply with the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. While SB 941 was going through the legislative process, the Commission consulted with the California Department of Education, the California agency responsible for NCLB Compliance. Working with the United States Department of Education, it was determined that the Commission through the California Department of Education would need to apply to the United States Department of Education for a waiver of the examination requirement based on the submission of a thorough analysis of the content of the NBC assessments. This process will require further review.

Therefore, a subject-matter examination will be required to earn the Multiple Subject Credential. Holders of a Single Subject Credential, or previously issued equivalent general education teaching credential, earning a Multiple Subject Credential based on NBC using this new option must pass the California Subject Examination for Teachers (CSET): Multiple Subjects examination. Refer to the [Verifying Subject-Matter Competence by Examination for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials](#) information leaflet for specific examination information.

There are three options to earn a general education credential based on NBC detailed in SB 941:

- 1) Holders of Single Subject Credentials, or equivalent previously issued general education teaching credentials, may add another content subject area to their credential based on NBC in the new subject area. Holders of previously issued equivalent general education teaching credentials will be issued a Single Subject Credential in the new content area. For example:

The holder of a Single Subject in Music may add the subject area of Art based on earning NBC in Early and Middle Childhood in Art or Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood in Art. Information on the appropriate NBC may be found in Appendix 1.

- 2) Holders of Single Subject Credentials, or equivalent previously issued general education teaching credentials, may earn a Multiple Subject Credential based on NBC in Early Childhood (ages 3–8)/Generalist or Middle Childhood (ages 7–12)/Generalist. For example:

The holder of a Standard Secondary in English may earn a Multiple Subject Credential based on earning NBC in Middle Childhood (ages 7–12)/Generalist. The individual must also pass the CSET: Multiple Subject Examination.

- 3) Holders of Multiple Subject Credentials, or equivalent previously issued general education teaching credentials, may earn a Single Subject Credential based on NBC in a single subject content area. For example:

The holder of a Multiple Subject Credential may earn a Single Subject Credential in Physical Education based on earning NBC Early and Middle Childhood in Physical Education.

The Commission issues science credentials in five science subject areas: Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Geosciences, Physics, and Foundational-Level General Science. Teachers holding NBC in Science will be issued the specific California science authorization based upon one of three criteria:

- a) photocopy of the individual’s “My Profile” status page report from the NBPTS which indicates the specific science certificate specialty area in which the NBC was issued. An NBC score report will not meet this requirement. Some NBC in Science issued years ago

may not list a specific science certificate specialty area so this option is not available for those individuals;

- b) out-of-state teaching credential with a comparable science subject area; or
- c) official transcripts from a regionally accredited college or university showing a bachelor's or higher degree major or 32 semester units of coursework in a comparable science subject area.

One of the three criteria is required at the time of application in addition to a copy of the individual's NBC. Option (a) is only available for individuals who earned an NBC for Adolescence and Young Adulthood in Science.

Teachers with out-of-state credentials issued in the general subject area "Science" will be issued a California Single Subject Teaching Credential in Foundational-Level General Science unless one of the three criteria above are satisfied.

Application Processing

Refer to the [Adding a Teaching or Subject Area to Multiple and Single Subject Credentials Information Leaflet](#) for application procedures.

Holders of Preliminary Teaching Credentials

Individuals qualifying under any of the options noted above who hold a Preliminary Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, or equivalent previously issued preliminary general education teaching credential, will earn a Preliminary Multiple Subject Teaching Credential or a new Preliminary Single Subject Teaching Credential with the additional subject area. The expiration date will not change on the Single Subject Credential when a new subject is added. For the holder of a Multiple Subject Credential earning a Single Subject Credential, or vice-versa, the new preliminary teaching credential will be valid for five years.

Holders of preliminary teaching credentials will need to complete the requirements to earn a clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential ([multiple subject out-of-state prepared](#); [multiple subject California prepared](#)) or Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential ([single subject out-of-state prepared](#); [single subject California prepared](#)).

Holders of Clear Teaching Credentials

Individuals qualifying under any of the options noted above who hold a Clear Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, or equivalent previously issued general education teaching credential, will earn a new Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential with the additional subject area or a Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, as appropriate. The individual must also pass the CSET: Multiple Subjects Examination prior to issuance of the Multiple Subject Credential.

Holders of Life Teaching Credentials

Individuals qualifying under any of the three options noted above who hold a Life Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential, or equivalent previously issued general education teaching credential, will earn a new Five-Year Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in the additional subject area or a Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. No additional requirements are needed.

Important Date:

January 1, 2012 - Effective date of the provisions of SB 941

Background:

Holders of Multiple or Single Subject Credentials wishing to add another subject or credential type who earned NBC in a new content subject area or credential type were required to complete subject-matter competence and other requirements prior to the change in statute.

The Commission has issued clear teaching credentials based on National Board Certification since 1999. Originally certification was limited to out-of-state prepared elementary and secondary teachers and was later expanded to include teachers who obtained NBC after their California preliminary teaching credentials were issued. The National Board expanded their subject areas in 2001 which allowed special education teachers to also qualify for this option.

The NBPTS is an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to advance teaching quality through standards for accomplished teaching and its voluntary National Board Certification program.

Source:

Education Code §§44274.2 and 44399.1

References:

Adding a Teaching or Subject Area to Multiple and Single Subject Credentials Information Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl621a.pdf>

Multiple Subject Teaching Credential for Individuals Prepared Out-of-State Information Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl561.pdf>

Multiple Subject Teaching Credential for Individuals Prepared in California Information Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl561c.pdf>

Verifying Subject-Matter Competence by Examination for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials Information Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl674m.pdf>

Single Subject Teaching Credential for Individuals Prepared Out-of-State Information Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl560.pdf>

Single Subject Teaching Credential for Individuals Prepared in California Information Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl560c.pdf>

Verifying Subject-Matter Competence by Examination for Single Subject Teaching Credentials Information Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl674s.pdf>

Contact Information:

Commission's Information Services Unit by telephone at 1-888-921-2682, Monday through Friday between 12:00 pm to 4:45 pm or by email at credentials@ctc.ca.gov.

Questions concerning National Board Certification: <http://www.nbpts.org/>

Appendix 1

National Board Certification

Multiple Subject

Early Childhood (ages 3–8)/Generalist or Middle Childhood (ages 7–12)/Generalist

Single Subject

National Board Certification	California Certification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early and Middle Childhood Certificate in Art • Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Art 	Single Subject Credential in Art
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Adolescence Certificate in English Language Arts • Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in English Language Arts 	Single Subject Credential in English
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Career and Technical Education 	Single Subject Credential in Industrial and Technology Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in World Languages Other Than English 	Single Subject Credential in Languages Other Than English (specify language)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood in Health 	Single Subject Credential in Health Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Adolescence Certificate in Mathematics • Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in Mathematics 	Single Subject Credential in Mathematics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early and Middle Childhood Certificate in Music • Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Music 	Single Subject Credential in Music
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early and Middle Childhood Certificate in Physical Education • Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Physical Education 	Single Subject Credential in Physical Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Adolescence Certificate in Science • Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in Science 	Single Subject Credential * Science: Biological Sciences Science: Chemistry Science: Geosciences Science: Physics Foundational-Level General Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Adolescence Certificate in Social Studies-History • Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in Social Science-History 	Single Subject Credential in Social Science

The Commission issues science credentials in five science subject areas: Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Geosciences, Physics, and Foundational-Level General Science. Teachers holding NBC in Science will be issued the specific California science authorization based upon one of three criteria:

- a) photocopy of the individual's "My Profile" status page report from the NBPTS which indicates the specific science certificate specialty area in which the NBC was issued. An NBC score report will not meet this requirement. Some NBC in Science issued years ago may not list a specific science certificate specialty area so this option is not available for those individuals;*
- b) out-of-state teaching credential with a comparable science subject area; or*
- c) official transcripts from a regionally accredited college or university showing a bachelor's or higher degree major or 32 semester units of coursework in a comparable science subject area.*

One of the three criteria is required at the time of application in addition to a copy of the individual's NBC. Option (a) is only available for individuals who earned an NBC for Adolescence and Young Adulthood in Science.

Teachers with out-of-state credentials issued in the general subject area "Science" will be issued a California Single Subject Teaching Credential in Foundational-Level General Science unless one of the three criteria above are satisfied.