



# CODED CORRESPONDENCE

**DATE:**

July 22, 2016

**NUMBER:**

16-08

**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 Regulations Pertaining to the Period of Validity of Examinations for Certification**

### Notice of Public Hearing is Hereby Given

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) proposes to take 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:

**September 9, 2016**

**8:30 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 email relevant to the proposed action. The written comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. September 6, 2016. 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. David Crable, 1900 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, California 95811; or submit an email to [dcrable@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:dcrable@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



credential. These are scenarios both prospective and previously credentialed educators encounter that cause inquiries regarding the term of exam validity:

**Example 1:** A candidate passes two of three subtests of a subject matter exam but fails subtest number three repeatedly. The individual manages to pass the third subtest after six years, but the first two subtest scores are now expired and have to be taken again.

**Example 2:** A candidate passes all required subject matter exams but has difficulty passing the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) in spite of repeated attempts. After an additional two or three years, the candidate finally passes RICA but finds the subject matter exam scores are now more than five years old and have expired because they were never used to issue a document.

**Example 3:** A credentialed teacher passes all the required examinations to obtain an English learner (EL) authorization. The teacher thinks that after passing the examinations the new authorization is just added automatically, does not look into application requirements or submit an application and fee, and fails to follow up to verify the authorization has been added to his or her credential. The teacher never notices that the new authorization was not added to the credential, even when renewing. Seven years go by from when the exams were taken before the teacher is questioned by an employer about the lack of an EL authorization, or the teacher plans to apply for a new position and finally looks at the credential only then realizing the authorization was not added (the same scenario has occurred with other types of credentialing exams).

At the June 2016 Commission meeting (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2016-06/2016-06-3B.pdf>), three possible alternatives were brought forward for consideration as potential remedies to such issues. The options to allow an individual to appeal to the Commission for an extended period of test score validity and to “freeze” an examination score for later use were both seen to encounter a number of problematic scenarios that would be hard to quantify for legal purposes, presenting significant difficulties in providing a supporting rationale that would be acceptable to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for regulatory purposes, and fell short in creating a mechanism that could be applied equitably to all educators due to the differing circumstances of those who might be seeking to use the examination route to qualify for an additional type of certification.

The Commission took action to approve a third option under consideration to extend the validity period of examination scores from five years to ten years. The Commission saw the extension to a ten year validity period as necessary to provide educators additional flexibility in the timeframe now required for many to complete all credential requirements and assist them to avoid the negative consequences encountered with the five-year validity term, given how credential program requirements have changed since the five-year validity period was set in 1981. The longer term of validity will prevent many educators from being forced to invest the added time and cost to retake examinations previously passed simply because it now takes many educators longer complete credential programs than in the past, making it more likely that examinations could expire before an educator completes all program requirements. The extended period of validity also maintains a timeframe sufficient to allow for the periodic revision of examinations to assure



that they remain aligned with the current standards and frameworks adopted by the California State Board of Education, thus assuring credential candidates are held to the most up to date standards and are prepared to provide effective instruction to assist all of California's PK-12 students meet state standards.

The Commission also approved adding to the proposed regulations an amendment that would exclude from the change to a ten-year validity period examinations no longer being administered for California certification. This would include the BCLAD examination, discontinued and no longer valid for certification since June 23, 2014, the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) examination #1010, which has been discontinued and no longer valid for certification since February 26, 2016 and the Specialized Science examinations, which were discontinued July 11, 2015.

The BCLAD and SLLA examinations have been replaced by examinations that meet the revised credential program standards for the Bilingual Authorization and the Administrative Services Credential, respectively. Therefore, these examinations which are no longer administered should not be extended along with the change to a ten year validity period as they no longer meet the requirements for the respective types of certification.

As noted in Coded Correspondence 14-09 (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/2014/1409.pdf>), the Commission took action at the August 2014 meeting to streamline the science content area authorization structure for California in order to align the preparation and authorizations for future science teachers with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for California as adopted by the State Board of Education in 2013. As a result of this action, the option to earn a specialized science content area on a Single Subject Teaching Credential will be discontinued as of August 1, 2020, the last date the specialized science examinations, now no longer administered, are valid to use toward obtaining a credential. The proposed regulations provide that any examinations for certification that were discontinued and no longer being administered as of January 1, 2017 would not be included in the proposed change to a ten-year validity period.

In addition, it was brought to attention that regulations regarding the CTEL and CSET World Languages examinations, used by many to qualify for English learner and bilingual authorizations, specifically state that these examinations are only valid for certification use for five years. This limit was included in these sections predicated on the current period of validity for certification examinations of five years given in §80071(b). The proposed amendments also include changes to Title 5 §§80015(b)(3) and 80015.1(a)(2) to harmonize with the proposed extension to a ten year period of validity for certification examinations.

## **Summary of Proposed Amendments**

### **§80015**

**(a)(2)(D)** Proposes removing the reference to the CLAD/BCLAD examinations as these exams are no longer administered and their period of validity for certification use has expired pursuant to 80015.1(a)(2). Proposes deleting the acronym LOTE, standing for Languages Other Than English,



and adding the phrase World Languages to match the term now used to describe this category of CSET examinations.

**(a)(4)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

**(a)(6)(C)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

**(a)(7)(D)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

**(b)(3)** Proposes removing the reference to the CLAD/BCLAD examinations as these exams are no longer administered and their period of validity for certification use has expired pursuant to 80015.1(a)(2). Proposes deleting the reference to a five-year validity term and changing the period the CTEL examinations used to qualify for obtaining an English Learner Authorization or CLAD Certificate are valid for certification use to the term of validity specified in §80071(b) so it would harmonize with the proposed change to that section. The Commission saw the extension to a ten year validity period as necessary to provide educators additional flexibility in the timeframe now required for many to complete all credential requirements and assist them to avoid the negative consequences encountered with the five-year validity term, considering that now it often takes credential candidates longer to complete all their program requirements than in the past, given how credential program requirements have changed since the five-year validity period was set in 1981. The extended period of validity also maintains a timeframe sufficient to allow for the periodic revision of examinations to assure that they remain aligned with the current standards and frameworks adopted by the California State Board of Education, thus assuring credential candidates are held to the most up to date standards and are prepared to provide effective instruction to assist all of California's PK-12 students meet state standards.

**(b)(4)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

**(c)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

**(d)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.



### **§80015.1**

**(a)(2)** Proposes deleting the word ‘through,’ adding the word ‘and,’ and changing the subsection reference from (D) to (B) to account for the proposed deletion of the two subsections (a)(2)(B) and (a)(2)(C), re-lettering the section, and for better clarity in grammar since there are only two subsections remaining to reference instead of four. Proposes deleting the reference to a five-year validity term and changing the period the CTEL and CSET: World Languages examinations used to qualify for obtaining bilingual authorizations are valid for certification use to the term of validity specified in §80071(b) so it would harmonize with the proposed change in that section. The Commission saw the extension to a ten year validity period as necessary to provide educators additional flexibility in the timeframe now required for many to complete all credential requirements and assist them to avoid the negative consequences encountered with the five-year validity term, given how credential program requirements have changed since the five-year validity period was set in 1981. The longer term of validity will prevent many educators from being forced to invest the added time and cost to retake examinations previously passed simply because it now takes many educators longer complete credential programs than in the past, making it more likely that examinations could expire before an educator completes all program requirements. The extended period of validity also maintains a timeframe sufficient to allow for the periodic revision of examinations to assure that they remain aligned with the current standards and frameworks adopted by the California State Board of Education, thus assuring credential candidates are held to the most up to date standards and are prepared to provide effective instruction to assist all of California’s PK-12 students meet state standards.

**(a)(2)(A)** Proposes deleting the acronym LOTE, standing for Languages Other Than English, and adding the phrase World Languages to match the term now used to describe this category of CSET examinations.

**(a)(2)(B)** Proposes deletion of this subsection as the CLAD/BCLAD examinations are no longer administered and their period of validity for certification use has expired pursuant to 80015.1(a)(2).

**(a)(2)(C)** Proposes deletion of this subsection as the CLAD/BCLAD examinations are no longer administered and their period of validity for certification use has expired pursuant to 80015.1(a)(2).

**(a)(2)(D)** Proposes re-lettering this subsection to (B) to account for the proposed deletion of the two prior subsections (a)(2)(B) and (a)(2)(C). Proposes adding the word ‘Examinations’ to clarify what the CTEL and CSET: LOTE refer to and to be consistent with previous subsections. Proposes deleting the acronym LOTE, standing for Languages Other Than English, and adding the phrase World Languages to match the term now used to describe this category of CSET examinations.

**(a)(3)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

**(a)(4)** Proposes deleting the word ‘through,’ adding the word ‘and,’ and changing the subsection reference from (D) to (B) to account for the proposed deletion of the two subsections (a)(2)(B) and





(a)(2)(C), re-lettering the section, and for better clarity in grammar since there are only two subsections remaining to reference instead of four. Proposes removing reference to the CLAD/BCLAD examinations as these are no longer administered and their period of validity for certification use has expired pursuant to 80015.1(a)(2). Proposes adding the word 'Examinations' to clarify what the CTEL and CSET: LOTE refer to and to be consistent with previous subsections. Proposes deleting the acronym LOTE, standing for Languages Other Than English, and adding the phrase World Languages to match the term now used to describe this category of CSET examinations.

**(b)(3)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

**(c)** Proposes adding a reference to section 80002. Since these regulations were last amended, section 80002 has been added to define what is required when submitting a complete application packet. Proposes adding subsection (a)(1) to 80487 as the specific subsection that refers to the fee.

#### **§80071**

**(b)** Proposes changing the period an exam is valid for certification from five years to ten years. The Commission saw the extension to a ten year validity period as necessary to provide educators additional flexibility in the timeframe now required for many to complete all credential requirements and assist them to avoid the negative consequences encountered with the five-year validity term, given how credential program requirements have changed since the five-year validity period was set in 1981. The longer term of validity will prevent many educators from being forced to invest the added time and cost to retake examinations previously passed simply because it now takes many educators longer complete credential programs than in the past, making it more likely that examinations could expire before an educator completes all program requirements. The extended period of validity also maintains a timeframe sufficient to allow for the periodic revision of examinations to assure that they remain aligned with the current standards and frameworks adopted by the California State Board of Education, thus assuring credential candidates are held to the most up to date standards and are prepared to provide effective instruction to assist all of California's PK-12 students meet state standards.

**(d)** Proposes changing the period an exam is valid for certification from five years to ten years to harmonize with the proposed change in subsection (b).

**(e)** Proposes changing the period an exam is valid for certification from five years to ten years to harmonize with the proposed change in subsection (b). Proposes adding the language that the ten-year limit on scores described in subsection (b) shall not apply to any examination that was discontinued for certification use and no longer administered prior to January 1, 2017. For example, this would include the BCLAD examinations, which are discontinued and have been replaced by the CSET: World Languages examinations, the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) examination #1010, which has been discontinued and replaced by the current California













(F) A proficiency level of “novice-high” or above on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Inc. (ACTFL) Proficiency Guidelines or “0+” (zero plus) or above on the Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) Proficiency Descriptions, verified by an official score report.

(G) A score on a College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) examination in a language other than English administered by the College Board equal to or higher than the minimum score recommended by the American Council on Education for awarding credit for two semesters, verified by an official score report.

(H) Possession of a teaching credential from another state that authorizes instruction in a language other than English.

(I) Residence in a non-English speaking country or countries for twelve consecutive months at age 18 or older, verified by passports, work visas, letters from employers, or other documents.

(J) Successful completion of one academic year (over a single period) at age 14 or above at a school in which all instruction, except in the subject area of English, was delivered in a language other than English, verified by an official transcript or a letter from the school.

(K) Successful completion of two academic years between the ages of 10 and 14, inclusive, at a school in which all instruction, except in the subject area of English, was delivered in a language other than English, verified by an official transcript or a letter from the school.

(L) Initial arrival at age 12 or older in the United States after having spent the years from birth to age 12 in a non-English speaking country or countries, verified by a birth certificate, passport, entry visas, or other documents.

(M) Successful completion of three years of course work in a language other than English in grades seven through 12 in a public or private school with an average grade of B or better, verified by an official transcript or a letter from the school.

(N) Achievement of a score on the Advanced Placement Examination in a language other than English offered by Educational Testing Service for which college credit or advanced standing is awarded, verified by either an official transcript or a letter from the registrar's or admission's office from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

(O) Achievement on a college or university placement examination in a language other than English for which 1) a minimum of six semester academic units or the equivalent quarter units are awarded or 2) placement in an advanced level course, defined as no lower than the second year of a multi-year sequence, is given or 3) an exemption from a one year requirement is granted. This must be verified by either an official transcript or a letter from the registrar's or admission's office from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

(P) Possession of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university as specified in Section 80457.

(3) Completion of one of the following:

(A) 24 semester units (or 36 quarter units) or 12 upper-division/graduate semester units (or 18 upper-division/graduate quarter units) of coursework as defined in subsection (5). The coursework must be applicable toward a bachelor's degree or a higher degree at a regionally accredited college









(D) Submission of a complete application packet as specified in Section 80002 and fee(s) as specified in Section 80487(a)(1).

(b) By examination: The requirements for earning a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization by examination include all of the following:

(1) Possession of a valid credential or permit as specified in Section 80015.2(a).

(2) Experience learning a second language as specified in Section 80015(a)(2).

(3) Passage of ~~either Tests 1, 2, and 3 of the CLAD/BCLAD Examinations or~~ Tests 1, 2, and 3 of the CTEL Examinations described in Section 80015.3. Each passing score used to qualify must have been earned within five years prior to the date of application for a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization shall have the same period of validity for certification examinations as specified in §80071(b).

(4) Submission of a complete application packet as specified in Section 80002 and fee(s) as specified in Section 80487(a)(1).

(c) By converting a Language Development Specialist Certificate: Converting a Language Development Specialist Certificate to a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization is not required. Unless used to apply for a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization, a Language Development Specialist Certificate shall remain valid as long as the holder's prerequisite credential or permit remains valid. The Language Development Specialist Certificate authorizes the same services as the CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization as specified in Section 80015.2(b) and may be used in conjunction with any valid prerequisite credential or permit per Section 80015.2(d). The requirements for earning a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization by converting a Language Development Specialist Certificate is submission of a complete application packet as specified in Section 80002 and fee as specified in Section 80487(a)(1).

(d) By converting a CLAD Certificate: Converting a CLAD Certificate to an English learner authorization is not required. Unless used to apply for an English learner authorization, a CLAD Certificate shall remain valid as long as the holder's prerequisite credential or permit remains valid. The CLAD Certificate authorizes the same services as the English learner authorization as specified in Section 80015.2(b) and may be used in conjunction with any valid prerequisite credential or permit per Section 80015.2(d). The requirement for earning an English learner authorization by converting a CLAD Certificate is submission of a complete application as specified in Section 80002 and fee(s) as specified in Section 80487(a)(1).

(e) The provisions in Sections 80015(a)(3) and 80015(b)(3) may be combined toward the issuance of a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization as determined by a Commission-approved CTEL program accredited by the Committee on Accreditation as provided in Education Code § 44373(c) and verified by the program as provided in §44227(b).

Note: Authority cited: Sections 44253.9 and 44225(q), Education Code. Reference: Sections 44227(b), 44253.3, 44253.6, 44253.10, 44253.11, 44225(b), 44225(d) and 44373(c), Education Code.



### **§80015.1. Requirements for the Bilingual Authorization.**

A bilingual authorization can be earned in one of the following ways:

(a) By examination: The requirements for earning a bilingual authorization by examination include all of the requirements specified in subsections (1), (2), and (3) below:

(1) Possession of a valid credential or permit as specified in Section 80015.2(a).

(2) Completion of one of the requirements listed below in subsections (A) through (D). All test scores used to qualify for a bilingual authorization, with the exception of scores on the CLAD/BCLAD Examinations, shall have the same period of validity for certification examinations as specified in §80071(b)~~must have been earned within five years prior to the date of application for the bilingual authorization~~. CLAD/BCLAD Examination scores used to qualify for a bilingual authorization must have been earned within seven years prior to the date of application for the bilingual authorization. The CLAD/BCLAD and CSET: ~~LOTE~~World Languages Examinations referred to in this subsection are those examinations described in Section 80015.3.

(A) Passage of Tests 1 through 3 of the CTEL Examinations and Test II or III depending on the specific language as detailed in Section 80015.3(c)(3), Test IV, and Test V of the CSET: ~~LOTE~~World Languages Examinations.

~~(B) Passage of Tests 1 through 6 of the CLAD/BCLAD Examinations.~~

~~(C) Passage of Tests 4, 5 and 6 of the CLAD/BCLAD Examinations and one of the following:~~

~~1. Possession of a Language Development Specialist Certificate (pursuant to Article 3.5, commencing with Section 44475, of Chapter 3 of the Education Code as that article existed on December 31, 1992).~~

~~2. Completion of the coursework or program described in Section 80015(a)(3).~~

~~3. Possession of a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization as described in Section 80015.~~

~~(DB) Passage of Test II or III depending on the specific language as detailed in Section 80015.3(c)(3), Test IV and Test V of the CSET: ~~LOTE~~World Languages Examinations, and one of the following:~~

~~1. Possession of a Language Development Specialist Certificate (pursuant to Article 3.5, commencing with Section 44475, of Chapter 3 of the Education Code as that article existed on December 31, 1992).~~

~~2. Completion of the coursework or program described in Section 80015(a)(3).~~

~~3. Possession of a CLAD Certificate or English learner authorization as described in Section 80015.~~

(3) Submission of a complete application packet as specified in Section 80002 and fee(s) as specified in Section 80487(a)(1).

(4) In subsections (A) ~~through~~ and ~~(DB)~~ above, the requirement to pass ~~Test 6 of the CLAD/BCLAD Examinations~~ or Test II or Test III of the CSET: ~~LOTE~~World Languages depending on the specific language as detailed in Section 80015.3(c)(3) may be waived by either of the following:

(A) Possession of a valid, non-emergency California Single Subject or Standard Secondary Teaching Credential with a major in a language other than English.









## Commission on Teacher Credentialing

1900 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95811-4213 (916) 323-5119 Fax (916) 323-0048 www.ctc.ca.gov

**Attn:** David Crable, Certification Division

**Title:** Proposed Amendments to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations Pertaining to the Period of Validity of Examinations for Certification

**Sections:** Amend 5 CCR §80015, 80015.1, 80071

### 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 David Crable, at the above address or fax to his attention at (916) 322-0048. The response must arrive at the Commission by 5:00 pm September 5, 2016 for the material to be presented at the September 9, 2016 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.** 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 dc**