



# CODED CORRESPONDENCE

**DATE:**

May 8, 2017

**NUMBER:**

17-04

**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: Approval of Recentered SAT® Scores to Meet Basic Skills Requirement**

**Summary:**

At the December 2016 meeting, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) approved the acceptance of recentered Scholastic Aptitude Test® (SAT®) scores to meet California's basic skills requirement (BSR). This change allows Commission staff to utilize the College Board SAT Equivalence Table to "recenter" scores submitted by individuals who took the test prior to April 1995.

**Key Provisions:**

In 1995, the College Board recentered the SAT score scales for individuals who took the examinations prior to April 1995. Recentering of the SAT score scales allows individuals to adjust their pre-1995 scores for a more accurate comparison with current SAT scores.

The SAT scores required to satisfy the BSR are 500 for the Reading and Writing section (formerly titled "Critical Reading" or "Verbal") and 550 for the Mathematics section. Displayed below is an example of recentered scores using the College Board® *SAT I: Individual Score Equivalents* tables (link provided in the References section) for an individual who took the test in June 1981:

SAT Section	Original Score	Recentered Score
Verbal	470	550
Mathematics	530	550

The scores in the sample above will be acceptable to satisfy California's BSR once they have been recentered. The process of recentering SAT scores **only** applies to individuals who took the test

prior to April 1995. SAT scores for individuals who took the test after April 1995 will not be recentered.

**Background:**

The California Education Code and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations specify that, in most cases, applicants for a credential, certificate, or permit to serve in the public schools of California must demonstrate basic skills proficiency before the credential, certificate, or permit will be issued. Expanded options to meet this requirement were adopted by the Commission in 2014, including the option to accept SAT scores. The Commission's decision at the December 2016 meeting affects only the SAT scores and allows Commission staff to use the equivalence tables created by the College Board to determine if pre-1995 recentered scores meet the currently-adopted cut scores of 500 for Reading and 550 for Math. Additional information regarding the Commission's decision to accept recentered SAT scores is available on pages 15 and 16 of the December 2016 Commission agenda item at the link provided in the References section.

**Important Dates:**

This change is effective as of December 8, 2016.

**Source:**

Education Code section 44252

**References:**

December 2016 Commission Agenda Item 1C – Approval of the December 2016 Consent Calendar: Use of Recentered SAT Scores to Meet the Basic Skills Requirement:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2016-12/2016-12-1C.pdf>

Information Leaflet CL-667 – Basic Skills Requirement:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl667.pdf>

College Board SAT Equivalence Table:

<https://research.collegeboard.org/programs/sat/data/equivalence/sat-individual>

**Contact Information:**

Questions regarding credential requirements and application submission may be directed to the Commission's Information Services staff by email at [credentials@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:credentials@ctc.ca.gov) or by telephone at (916) 322-4974 Monday through Friday from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

Questions about Commission examinations may be directed to the Commission's Examinations staff by email at [exams@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:exams@ctc.ca.gov).

