



# CODED CORRESPONDENCE

<b>DATE:</b> November 29, 2018	<b>NUMBER:</b> 18-06
<b>TO:</b> All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing	<b>FROM:</b> Mary Vixie Sandy Executive Director Commission on Teacher Credentialing
<b>SUBJECT: Education Specialist Level I Credential Holders: How to Earn a Clear California Credential</b>	

## Summary:

This Coded Correspondence provides clarification as to the ways that the holder of an Education Specialist Level I teaching credential can earn a Clear California teaching credential.

## Key Provisions:

There are multiple ways that an individual may earn or may have earned an Education Specialist Level I teaching credential. The individual:

1. Completed a Commission-approved Level I preparation program prior to 2013 and was awarded either the Level I credential or a Certificate of Eligibility (CE). This individual is a California prepared Level I credential holder.
2. Earned a special education credential based on completing an out of state preparation program that is comparable and aligned with one of California's special education specialty areas. This individual is an out-of-state (OOS) prepared Level I credential holder.
3. Earned a special education credential based on completing an out of state preparation program that is generic rather than aligned with one of California's special education specialty areas. This individual is an out-of-state (OOS) prepared Level I credential holder.



4. Earned a special education credential based on completing an out of country preparation program. This individual is an out-of-country (OOC) prepared Level I credential holder.

The steps that each Education Specialist Level I credential holder must complete to earn the Clear California teaching credential vary depending on which way the individual earned the Level I credential. The renewal code(s) on the Level I credential will indicate what requirements an individual must satisfy to earn the Clear California teaching credential.

**All holders of Education Specialist Level I credentials must complete a Commission-approved Teacher Induction program.** See [Summary Table](#) in the Appendix of this document.

**California Prepared Level I:** This individual must also complete the [Level II content](#) including a course in health education and computer education. A Commission-approved Teacher Induction program or a Commission-approved Preliminary Education Specialist preparation program may deliver the Level II content. The Teacher Induction program must verify that the candidate has completed the Level II content prior to recommending the individual for the Clear Education Specialist Instruction Credential.

**OOS Prepared with Comparable Program:** Unless the renewal codes indicate a specific requirement that must be met, this individual is not required to do anything in addition to completing the Commission-approved Teacher Induction Program. See Leaflet CL-808: Education Specialist Instruction Credential: Requirements for Individuals Prepared Out-of-State in the References section.

**OOS Prepared with Generic Program:** This individual must have his or her transcript evaluated by an institution that sponsors a Commission-approved Preliminary Education Specialist Program. The individual must complete the portion of the Preliminary Preparation program that the Commission-approved program deems the candidate has not met via the transcript evaluation. In addition, this individual may have additional requirements identified in the renewal codes on his or her Level I credential. See Leaflet CL-808: Education Specialist Instruction Credential: Requirements for Individuals Prepared Out-of-State in the References section.

**OOC Prepared:** This individual must have his or her transcript evaluated by an institution that sponsors a Commission-approved Preliminary Education Specialist Program. After a transcript evaluation is conducted by a Commission-approved Preliminary Education Specialist preparation program, the individual must complete the portion of the Preliminary preparation program that has been deemed not met. In addition, the individual may have a number of additional requirements that must be met. See Leaflet CL-872: Education Specialist Instruction Credential: Requirements for Individuals Prepared Outside of the United States in the References section.

#### **Important Dates:**

Effective: November 29, 2018

## Background

### ***California Prepared Education Specialist Level I Credential Holder:***

These individuals completed a Commission-approved Level I program prior to 2013 and were required to complete a Commission-approved Level II program to earn the clear teaching credential. The last date to enroll in a Commission-approved Level II program was December 31, 2014 and the last date to complete a Commission-approved Level II program is January 31, 2019. There are very few, if any, Level II programs that continue to operate.

California prepared individuals holding an Education Specialist Level I credential must complete a Commission-approved Teacher Induction program AND the [Level II content](#) that was previously addressed in the Level II preparation program.

### ***OOS/OOC Prepared Education Specialist Level I Credential Holder:***

All OOS/OOC prepared special education teachers are eligible to apply for a California Level I teaching credential from the Commission. The Level I credential does not include the authorization to teach English learners or an authorization to teach students with Autism, except for the Moderate to Severe and Early Childhood Special Education credentials.

## References:

[PSA 16-03](#): Education Specialist Out-of-State Credentials and Clearing Level I Education Specialist Credentials

Education Specialist Instruction Credential: Requirements for Individuals Prepared Out-of-State (CL-808): <https://www.ctc.ca.gov/docs/default-source/leaflets/cl808.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

Education Specialist Instruction Credential: Requirements for Individuals Prepared Outside of the United States (CL-872): <https://www.ctc.ca.gov/docs/default-source/leaflets/cl872.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

Level II Content for Candidates Prepared in California Who Hold a Level I Credential

- [Mild to Moderate Disabilities](#) (MM)
- [Moderate to Severe Disabilities](#) (MS)
- [Early Childhood Special Education](#) (ECSE)
- [Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#) (DHH)
- [Visual Impairments](#) (VI)
- [Physical and Health Impairments](#)(PHI)

## Contact Information:

Program Questions: [SpecialEducation@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:SpecialEducation@ctc.ca.gov)

Credentialing Questions: [credentials@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:credentials@ctc.ca.gov)

**Summary of Requirements for the Clear Teaching Credential Based on Where  
Initial Level I Preparation was Completed\***

Requirement	California	Out-of-State		Out of Country
		Comparable	Generic (RSG)	
Complete Commission-approved Teacher Induction Program	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes
Complete Level II Advanced Content	Yes	No	No	No
Satisfy Basic Skills	No	No <sup>2</sup>	No <sup>2</sup>	Yes
Authorization to Teach English Learners	No <sup>3</sup>	No <sup>2</sup>	No <sup>2</sup>	No <sup>3</sup>
Evaluation by a Commission-approved Preliminary Program <b>and</b> completion of coursework not verified	No	No	Yes	Yes <sup>4</sup>
Foreign Transcript Evaluation of the bachelor, or higher, degree	No	No	No	Yes
Foreign Transcript Evaluation of the professional preparation program consisting of a minimum of 24 semester units including supervised field work	No	No	No	Yes
Course in Developing English Language Skills	No	No	No	Yes <sup>5</sup>
Pass RICA Exam	No	No	No	Yes <sup>5,6</sup>
US Constitution Requirement	No	No	No	Yes
Satisfy Subject Matter Competence	No	No	No	Yes <sup>6</sup>
Complete at least two semester units in non-special education pedagogy related to teaching academic skills and content	No	No	No	Yes
Supervised field experience in non-special education setting	No	No	No	Yes
Complete a Course in Computer Education	No <sup>7</sup>	No	No	Yes
Complete a Course in Health Education	No <sup>7</sup>	No	No	Yes

\*Some requirements may have been cleared at the time the Level I credential was issued. See the renewal codes on the Level I credential.

- <sup>1</sup> Only for teachers with less than two years of experience teaching out of state. Teachers with two or more years of teaching experience are eligible for a Clear teaching credential if they have met all other requirements for the Clear teaching credential including the English Learner Authorization.
- <sup>2</sup> Unless the candidate cannot verify passage of a basic skills assessment as part of the out of state preparation to meet the Basic Skills Requirement or does not have an out of state credential with a comparable English Learner Authorization to meet the English Learner authorization requirement.
- <sup>3</sup> Although an authorization to teach English learners is not a credential requirement for the Clear credential, most employers will require all teachers to earn an authorization to teach English learners.
- <sup>4</sup> Special education programs completed outside the United States are very rarely comparable to a California program. Check for the “RSG” renewal code on the Level I credential.
- <sup>5</sup> Out of country prepared need one of these, not both.
- <sup>6</sup> Candidates seeking the Early Childhood Special Education – Education Specialist Credential do not have to pass the RICA Examination nor satisfy Subject Matter Competence.
- <sup>7</sup> Unless the course was not completed as part of the initial preparation.

