

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Title 5. Education, Division 8 Commission on Teacher Credentialing

Proposed Amendments to California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Pertaining to the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction Credential U.S. Constitution Requirement

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 included with the added text underlined and the deleted text lined out.

The Commission has not scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action. However, the Commission will hold a hearing if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person, or their authorized representative, no later than 15 days before the close of the comment period.

Written Comment Period

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed action by fax, through the mail, or by email. The written comment period closes on September 29, 2025. Comments must be received by that time or may be submitted at the public hearing, should one be requested. Interested parties may fax their response to (916) 327-3165; write to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, Attn: Mika Laidler-Rubio, Commission on Teacher Credentialing, 651 Bannon Street, suite 601, Sacramento, CA 95811; or submit an email to Mika.Laidler-Rubio@ctc.ca.gov. Alternatively, contact Christina.Villanueva@ctc.ca.gov

Any written comments received by the closing of the public comment period 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

Education Code section 44225(h) and 44225(q) authorizes the Commission to adopt the proposed regulations and amendments.

Reference

Education Code sections 44225(b), 44225(e), , 44279.1, 44335 and 44370.

Information Digest/Policy Statement Overview

Summary of Existing Laws and Effect of the Proposed Action

According to current regulations, there are five minimum requirements for applicants seeking to obtain the preliminary PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction credential. When these regulations were adopted into the California Code of Regulations, the U.S. Constitution requirement was inadvertently left out.

The proposed amendment will add the U.S. Constitution requirement pursuant to Education Code section 44335 and Title 5 section 80415. The Education Code and California Title 5 Regulations state the options for meeting this requirement.

Anticipated Benefits of the Proposed Regulations

The broad objectives of this regulation are to ensure integrity, relevance, and high quality in the preparation and certification of the educators who serve all of California's diverse students. In addition, since verification of Constitutional knowledge is required in law for all teachers, the benefit is that there is consistency in the qualifications of teachers in California. Specifically, aligning the PK-3 ECE regulations with statute and the requirements for other credentials, ensures parity.

Determination of Inconsistency/Incompatibility with Existing State Regulations

The Commission has determined that the proposed regulation amendments are not inconsistent or incompatible with existing regulations. After conducting a review of any regulations that would relate to or affect this area, the Commission has concluded that these are the only regulations that concern the minimum requirements for the preliminary PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction Credential.

Disclosures Regarding the Proposed Actions/Fiscal Impact

The Commission has made the following initial determinations.

Mandate on local agencies or school districts:

None

Fiscal Impact

Costs to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code sections 17500 through 17630:

None.

Cost or savings to any state agency:

None.

Other non-discretionary costs or savings imposed upon local agencies:

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.

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.

Statement of the Results of the Economic Impact Assessment

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.3(b), the Commission has made the following assessments regarding the proposed regulations:

The Commission concludes that it is unlikely that the proposal will (1) create or eliminate any jobs, (2) create any new businesses, (3) eliminate any existing businesses (4) expand any businesses currently doing business within the state of California.

Benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment

The Commission anticipates that the proposed amendments will help improve services to students in grades PK-3 by better preparing California educators to serve in early childhood education settings by ensuring that these new teachers meet the same requirement as all other public school teachers.

The Commission does not anticipate that the proposed regulations will result in an increase in the protection of public health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, or the environment, or an increase in openness and transparency in business.

Small Business Determination

The proposed regulations will not affect small businesses. These regulations establish requirements that only applicants enrolled in a PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist program must adhere to.

Consideration of Alternatives

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), the Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

The Commission invites interested persons to present statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulations during the written comment period.

Contact Persons

Inquiries concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be directed to:

Mika Laidler-Rubio
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
651 Bannon Street, Suite 601,
Sacramento, CA 95811
Phone: (916) 327-8697
Email: Mika.Laidler-Rubio@ctc.ca.gov

The backup contact person for these inquiries is:

Christina Villanueva
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
651 Bannon Street, Suite 601,
Sacramento, CA 95811
Phone: (916) 327-2967
Email: Christina.Villanueva@ctc.ca.gov

Availability of Statement of Reasons, Text of Proposed Regulations, and Rulemaking File

The Commission will make the entire rulemaking file 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 the Notice of Proposed Action, the proposed text of regulations, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the STD 399. The rulemaking file for this regulatory action, which contains those items mentioned above, and all information on which the proposal is based (i.e. rulemaking file) is available to the public upon request directed to the department's contact person. Please direct requests to inspect or copy the rulemaking file to the backup contact person listed above, Christina Villanueva.

Availability of Changed or Modified Text

After considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Commission may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If the Commission makes modifications that are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, it will make the modified text (with the changes clearly indicated) available to the public for at least 15 days before adopting the regulations as revised. Please direct requests for copies of any modified regulations to the contact person(s) listed above. If substantive modifications are made, the Commission will accept written comments on the modified regulations for the duration of the period of public availability.

Availability of Final Statement of Reasons

Upon its completion, the Commission will make copies of the Final Statement of Reasons available. Please direct requests for copies to the contact person(s) listed above.

Availability of Documents on the Internet

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the regulations with modifications highlighted, as well as the Final Statement of Reasons, when completed, and modified text and notices thereof, if any, may be accessed via the Commission's website at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/rulemaking.html>.