



Credential Information Alert

DATE: November 12, 2013

NUMBER: 13-14

SUBJECT: Adding a Teaching Credential or Content Area: Regulation Changes

Summary:

Additions and amendments to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 80499 pertaining to adding a teaching or content area to a valid general education credential were approved by the Office of Administrative Law on September 16, 2013 and will become effective on January 1, 2014. This Alert is provided as advance notice of changes due to take place. A Coded Correspondence with more specific information will be distributed before January 1, 2014.

Key Provisions:

There are five major areas of change that will take effect January 1, 2014:

- ◆ Pedagogy
- ◆ Reading/ Reading Instruction Competency Assessment (RICA)
- ◆ English Learner Authorization
- ◆ National Board Certification (NBC)
- ◆ Out-of-State Credential Holder

Pedagogy Courses

Pedagogy courses used to add a content area must align with the specific content area requested for Multiple Subjects Credential holders seeking a new Single Subject Credential and for Single Subject Credential holders seeking to add a new content area to an existing credential. For example, an individual holding a Single Subject Credential in physical education seeking to add mathematics as a new content area must complete a departmentalized pedagogy course specific to teaching mathematics. Generic courses that target no specific subject areas, as might be labeled "Secondary Methods," would not meet this requirement.

Reading/RICA Requirement

Single Subject Credential holders seeking the Multiple Subjects Credential are required to complete both a reading course and the RICA, removing the option to complete only one or the other.



English Learner Requirement

All individuals seeking to earn a new teaching credential type or additional content area using the provisions of 5 CCR section 80499 must complete the requirements for earning an English Learner Authorization, except those qualifying by National Board Certification as they are exempt by statute.

In the same manner, educators earning a credential based on completion of a program from out-of-state or outside the United States will now have to meet the English learner requirement *before* they can be issued any additional credential type or content area.

National Board Certification (NBC)

Senate Bill 941 (Chap. 348, Stats. 2011) provided individuals the option to earn an additional credential or add a content area to a general education teaching credential based on National Board Certification (NBC). This option has now been added into regulations. Holders of the Multiple Subjects Credential can earn a new type Single Subject Credential based on completion of NBC in a comparable single subject content area. Single Subject Credential holders will also be able to add a new content area to an existing credential based on completion of NBC in a new content area. For example, a Multiple Subjects Credential holder obtaining NBC in Early Adolescence or Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in Mathematics can use their NBC to apply for a Single Subject Credential in Mathematics.

Due to issues of No Child Left Behind compliance, holders of a Single Subject Credential, or previously issued equivalent general education teaching credential, seeking to earn a Multiple Subjects Credential based on NBC using this option must pass the California Subject Examination for Teachers (CSET): Multiple Subjects examination.

Out-of-State Credential Holders

The approved regulations also allow individuals issued a comparable professional level teaching credential by another state or U.S. Territory to meet the requirement to add a teaching credential or content area. An individual holding a Multiple Subjects Credential may use an out-of-state credential with a departmentalized classroom teaching authorization that is comparable to a content area currently issued in California to obtain the Single Subject Credential. In addition, an individual holding a Single Subject Credential may use an out-of-state credential with an elementary education or self-contained classroom teaching authorization to obtain the Multiple Subjects Credential.

Application Processing

Applications received for a new credential type or additional content area(s) with an issuance date of January 1, 2014 or later will need to show completion of these new requirements. To qualify under the current requirements of 5 CCR section 80499, educators who may presently be in the process of taking examinations or coursework must complete all requirements for the new credential or content area and submit their applications to the Commission, using either a paper application or the online direct web application, no later than December 31, 2013.

Applications based on completing the current requirements by December 31, 2013 may be received by the Commission up to April 1, 2014 if the application is filed through an employing agency or



program sponsor but it must have an issuance date prior to January 1, 2014. Applications using this route filed through an employer or program sponsor must be paper applications.

Important Dates:

The requirements using the provisions of 5 CCR section 80499 listed in this Alert take effect *January 1, 2014*.

Contact Information:

The quickest and most direct method to receive a response to specific questions is by email to the Commission's Information Services Section at credentials@ctc.ca.gov. Place key words indicating the nature of your question in the subject line to allow the Commission to direct the email to the appropriate staff.

You may also contact the Commission by telephone at 916-322-4974 Monday through Friday between 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time.