



Credential Information Alert

DATE: April 17, 2019

NUMBER: 19-03

**SUBJECT: Approved Regulations Regarding Teacher Induction Programs
and the Issuance of New Type Clear Credentials**

Summary:

The purpose of this Credential Information Alert (CIA) is to provide additional guidance on the information provided in [Coded Correspondence 19-04](#) regarding the approval of Title 5 regulations to allow clear credential holders who complete a Commission-approved preliminary program for a new credential type to be issued a clear credential without having to obtain the preliminary credential first or having to complete a separate induction experience for the new credential. These changes went into effect March 7, 2019.

Key Provisions:

The key provisions apply to Single Subject, Multiple Subject, and Education Specialist credentials only. The approved amendments include the following changes:

- Create a pathway that allows an educator who already holds a clear teaching credential in one area, either general education or special education, to be granted a clear teaching credential in a new credential type, general education or special education, upon completion of the appropriate Commission-approved preliminary teacher preparation program without being required to complete a new induction experience.
- Allow the issuance of two-year and three-year credential extensions to any qualified teacher holding a general education or special education credential that requires completion of a Commission-approved teacher induction program.

With the approval of these regulations, a number of questions have arisen as to how these changes impact current and future credential candidates. This CIA hopes to clarify these issues for both candidates and program sponsors as related to new type clear credentials. A separate CIA will be provided to clarify the regulations related to the two-year and three-year extensions.

- 1. Can my preliminary credential program sponsor recommend me for the clear credential as soon as I complete the program or do I still have to be issued the preliminary credential first?***



It will not be necessary for the holder of a clear general education or special education credential who completes a new type preliminary program to be issued the new preliminary credential before obtaining the clear credential. Once the program for the new credential type is completed, the preliminary credential program sponsor can recommend the individual directly to the Commission for the new type clear credential using the paper application process outlined below.

2. *Can the preliminary credential program sponsor submit the recommendation directly for the clear credential online?*

Changes to the CTC Online system will be necessary before this type of recommendation can be made online. Further instructions will be provided in a later CIA when these updates have been completed.

Since the current online system does not yet allow program sponsors to skip over first issuing a candidate the preliminary credential, the initial recommendations directly for the clear credential will have to be paper applications.

3. *For a paper application, what must the program sponsor submit to the Commission?*

Each application packet should include the candidate's completed Form 41-4, the appropriate recommendation form (Form 41-REC 2042 for a general education credential or Form 41-SPED for a special education credential or Form CL-708 for individuals who complete district intern programs) and the current application fee. The recommendation forms can be found on the CIG. Recommendation forms should be signed by the credential analyst associated with the preliminary program sponsor or another authorized submitter for that institution.

4. *I hold an expired preliminary general education credential. I previously completed an education specialist credential program and induction and earned the clear Education Specialist Credential. I would still like to earn the clear general education credential. What do I need to do? Will the induction program have to recommend me for the clear general education credential?*

Educators who have earned the clear credential in one credential type (general or special education) may hold a previously earned preliminary credential in the other type which may or may not be currently valid. With the changes in regulations and the new teacher induction standards, one induction program now applies to both general and special education credential types. Therefore, an educator who holds a valid clear general or special education and a general or special education preliminary credential that has not been cleared (whether it is currently valid or not) can apply directly to the Commission for the clear credential in the additional credential type. This requires only the submission of an application (Form 41-4) and current application fee.

5. *I hold a Level II Education Specialist Credential. I am now completing a general education preliminary credential program. Do I have to complete an induction program since I did not complete a formal induction program for the Level II Credential?*



Although many educators actively teaching now have completed induction programs, we know that some current educators who earned their 2nd tier professional level credentials in times past completed fifth year/clear credential programs, Level II programs, or BTSA programs. In completing these programs, they also completed the statutory requirements set out in Education Code 44259(c) for the 2nd tier professional level credential, just as is still required for those enrolled in teacher induction programs today.

Educators in this group now have many years of experience, more years than are required for completion of an induction program. Some of these educators will be the ones offering mentoring and support to new teachers who are now or will be enrolled in teacher induction programs. It serves no purpose for these experienced educators to be placed in an induction program as they have already met all the statutory requirements for clear credential holders, especially under the new induction standards, that combine general and special education induction into one program. Thus, if an individual holds a clear or Level II general education or special education credential and completes a Commission-approved preliminary teacher preparation program in a new credential type, the educator will qualify to be recommended directly for the clear credential regardless of the pathway used to earn the initial clear credential.

6. *When will program sponsors be able to begin submitting these applications directly for the clear credential?*

Applications based on the approved changes to regulations may be submitted at any time. However, no application can be accepted with an issuance date for the credential prior to March 7, 2019, the effective date of the changes.

7. *I hold a clear Designated Subjects Career Technical Education Credential. I have now completed a preliminary Single Subject Credential program. Do I have to complete an induction program since I already hold a clear credential?*

The preparation to earn a clear Designated Subjects teaching credential differs significantly from general or special education teaching credential programs, limited to 9 semester units or 135 clock hours and only 2 years teaching experience while holding the preliminary Designated Subjects credential before being eligible for the clear credential. Therefore, an educator holding a clear Designated Subjects teaching credential is not included in the teacher induction regulations and holding a clear Designated Subjects teaching credential does not automatically exempt the educator from completion of a teacher induction program to clear a general or special education teaching credential.

Individuals in this situation, whether seeking a new type general education or special education credential, must be issued the preliminary credential upon program completion. They must then consult a teacher induction program sponsor for guidance as to what will be required and must obtain the formal recommendation from the induction program for the clear general education or special education credential.



8. *I previously held a Level I Education Specialist Credential. I have now completed a general education preliminary credential program and a teacher induction program for the clear general education credential. Since there are no more Level II programs, how do I now earn the clear Education Specialist Credential?*

In this case, it depends on how the educator earned the Level I Education Specialist as to what will be required to upgrade to the clear Education Specialist credential.

An individual that completes a teacher induction program to earn the clear general education credential and also holds a Level I Education Specialist credential based on California preparation must complete the content that was previously included in Commission-approved Level II Education Specialist programs to qualify for the clear Education Specialist Credential. See the Level II content lists for each of the 6 specialty areas at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/level-II-content-for-induction.pdf>.

Individuals can consult a college or university with a Commission-approved preliminary education specialist credential program for the required coursework to complete.

If an individual completes a teacher induction program to earn the clear general education credential and also holds a Level I Education Specialist credential based on preparation outside California, in another state or outside the US, the educator will not have to complete induction again but may have to meet other requirements listed as renewal codes on the Level I credential. See [Coded Correspondence 18-06](#) on the Commission's website for additional details dealing with specific scenarios, as well as the chart found in Appendix A of this CIA.

For educators who earned the Level I Credential based on completion of a generic education specialist program outside of California, the individual will need a transcript evaluation conducted by a Commission-approved preliminary preparation program to determine what courses (if any) need to be completed to obtain equivalency with a California preliminary program. See the [Transcript Equivalency Review for Out-of-State and Out-of-Country Level I Education Specialist Credential Holders](#) for more information on institutions that will provide such an evaluation.

References:

Title 5 California Code of Regulations §80048.8.1 and 80413.

Level II Content that Must be Addressed by a California Prepared Level I Candidate Completing a Teacher Induction Program

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/level-II-content-for-induction.pdf>

Coded Correspondence 18-06: Education Specialist Level I Credential Holders: How to Earn a Clear California Credential

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/docs/default-source/commission/coded/2018/coded-18-06.pdf?sfvrsn=2>



Coded Correspondence 19-04: Approved Amendments to Title 5 Regulations Pertaining to the Single Induction Experience for New Teachers and Extensions by Appeal

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/docs/default-source/commission/coded/2019/coded-19-04.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

Transcript Equivalency Review for Out-of-State and Out-of-Country Level I Education Specialist Credential Holders

This document provides a list of institutions that have notified the Commission that they are willing to do the review of an out of state/country prepared special educator.

https://www.ctc.ca.gov/docs/default-source/educator-prep/standards/level_i_transcript_review.pdf?sfvrsn=2

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 or by telephone at (916) 322-4974 Monday through Friday from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

Appendix A

Level I Education Specialist Credentials – Pathways to the Clear Credential (Educators in these scenarios are clear credential holders who completed a full general education program)		
HOLDS CLEAR GEN ED CREDENTIAL +	MUST COMPLETE	APPLICATION PROCESS
Level I Education Specialist Credential based on California preparation	Level II content	Apply directly to Commission for clear: Submit application and fee with official transcripts and original letter of verification from institution of Level II content
Level I Education Specialist Credential based on preparation in another state (comparable out-of-state (OOS) program)	English Learner Authorization (ELA)	If ELA is completed, submit application and fee to apply directly to Commission for clear
Level I Education Specialist Credential based on preparation in another state (generic OOS program)	ELA + preliminary program equivalency	If ELA is completed, submit application and fee to apply directly to Commission for clear, with original letter verifying preliminary program equivalency
Level I Education Specialist Credential based on outside the US (OTUS) preparation (comparable program)	Complete HEALTH + CPR, COMPUTERS IN EDUCATION, NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION PEDAGOGY, NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION FIELD EXPERIENCE, SUBJECT MATTER COMPETENCE, READING, US CONSTITUTION	Apply directly to Commission for clear: Submit application and fee with official transcripts showing all coursework requirements completed
Level I Education Specialist Credential based on OTUS preparation (generic program)	Complete HEALTH + CPR, COMPUTERS IN EDUCATION, NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION PEDAGOGY, NON-SPECIAL EDUCATION FIELD EXPERIENCE, SUBJECT MATTER COMPETENCE, READING, US CONSTITUTION + preliminary program equivalency	Apply directly to Commission for clear: Submit application and fee with official transcripts showing all coursework requirements completed, along with original letter verifying preliminary program equivalency