



Credential Information Alert

DATE:

December 30, 2025

NUMBER:

25-10

SUBJECT: Approved Regulation Changes Regarding a New Preliminary Pupil Personnel Services Credential

Summary:

The purpose of this Credential Information Alert is to inform interested parties that on October 6, 2025, the Governor signed Assembly Bill (AB) 606 (Chapter 375, Statutes of 2025) that established a new Preliminary Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) credential for individuals who completed a program in School Counseling, School Social Work, or School Psychology at an out-of-state regionally accredited institution of higher education. In addition, AB 606 allows local educational agencies (LEA) to offer the Clear Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Counseling, School Social Work, or School Psychology.

Key Provisions:

AB 606 revised Education Code Sections 44266 and 44266.5 pertaining to out-of-state prepared individuals seeking the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential in School Counseling, School Social Work, and School Psychology.

Establishment of a 2-Year Preliminary PPS Credential for Out-of-State Candidates

Previously, individuals who hold or are eligible for a corresponding Pupil Personnel Services credential based on preparation at an out of state institution of higher education could only apply for the issuance of the Clear PPS credential upon completion of all requirements found in the Pupil Personnel Services Credential Leaflet [CL-606](#). Beginning **January 1, 2026**, pursuant to the new legislation, candidates prepared outside of California that did not meet the requirements of the Clear PPS may apply for a 2-year preliminary credential after completing all of the following:

1. A baccalaureate degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university.

2. Verify possession of a valid comparable out-of-state PPS credential based upon an out-of-state preparation program.

3. Completed Live Scan receipt ([form 41-LS](#)) and processing fee of \$100

Online Submissions Directly by Applicant

This is available for out-of-state prepared applicants who meet all the requirements for either the Preliminary or Clear PPS credential. Interested individuals who have never submitted a direct application through the CTC Online system may review the steps on the Commission's [Submit an Online Application](#) page. Submission will require logging in to the CTC Online system. Assistance can be found on the [Login Help](#) page on the Commission's website.

- Applicants for the new preliminary PPS should ensure they select the **Prepared in another state outside California – Preliminary** from the Preparation Route field.

General Application Category*	Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPS)
Type of Credential/Permit Requested*	Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPS)
Authorization/Subject*	
Preparation Route*	Prepared in another state outside California – Preliminary

- Applicants for the clear PPS should ensure they select the **Prepared in another state outside California – Clear** from the Preparation Route field.

General Application Category*	Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPS)
Type of Credential/Permit Requested*	Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPS)
Authorization/Subject*	
Preparation Route*	Prepared in another state outside California – Clear

Online Courtesy Submissions by LEAs

LEAs may submit an application on behalf of an educator through the online portal. These submissions are considered courtesy applications and are not formal online recommendations as submitted by Commission-approved programs. As such, the Commission will complete an evaluation of requirements. Each courtesy submission should include all materials that demonstrate satisfaction of all requirements.

- Application for initial issuance of the two-year preliminary document - LEAs should select program type **COURTESY**, the **P2** term, and authorization code **R511**, **R512**, or **R513** as appropriate.

- Application for initial issuance of the clear document based on out-of-state completion-LEAs should select program type **COURTESY**, the **CL** term, and authorization code **R511**, **R512**, or **R513** as appropriate.

Out-of-state residents must submit two fingerprint cards (FD-258) in lieu of a Live Scan receipt. If submitting fingerprint cards, current fingerprint processing fees must accompany a paper application packet. Additional fingerprint submission details can be found on the Commission's Fingerprint Information page.

If all requirements for the preliminary and clear credential are met with the initial application, the individual will be issued the clear credential and not the preliminary.

Available One-Time Renewal

Individuals issued the Preliminary PPS credential who have not completed the requirements for the Clear Credential by the end of the 2-year term may apply for a one-time renewal upon meeting all of the following requirements:

1. Satisfactory progress toward completion of the renewal requirements, as determined by the local educational agency. Verification letter must be on the local educational agency's official letterhead.
2. Processing fee of \$100

Renewal applications may only be submitted online by the local educational agency.

Upgrading to the Clear PPS Credential

Individuals receiving the Preliminary PPS credential based on completion of an out-of-state institution of higher education may work at a California public school on that preliminary credential and will have two years to complete any outstanding requirements for the clear credential. Candidates will have to determine whether to continue their journey to the clear credential through the out-of-state route or become a California prepared candidate, as outlined in the two options below.

Option 1: Complete PPS Clear Requirements Through the Out-of-State Route. Candidates may choose to complete any outstanding requirements through their out-of-state institution of higher education or another out-of-state institution of higher education.

- Candidates will submit an online application to the Commission through the Out-of-State Candidate Route for the Clear PPS credential. This may be a direct online submission from the candidate, or an online courtesy submission from the LEA. Appropriate supporting materials such as official transcripts and/or verification letters must be included with the online submission.

Option 2: Complete PPS Clear Requirements Through Enrollment in a Commission-approved PPS Credential Program. Candidates holding the Preliminary PPS credential

may enroll in a Commission-approved PPS program of preparation and complete the Commission-approved program based on adopted PPS program standards for California. Candidates who choose this route will be held to California prepared Clear credential requirements, not limited to finishing outstanding out-of-state Clear credential requirements.

- Upon completion, candidates will be recommended online for the Clear credential by the Commission-approved program.

Authorizing Local Educational Agencies to Offer the Clear PPS Credential

AB 606 will also now allow local educational agencies (school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools) to offer a Clear PPS credential in one of the three specialization areas: School Counseling, School Social Work, and/or School Psychology beginning January 1, 2026. Additional details for LEAs seeking approval to offer the PPS credential can be found in [Program Sponsor Alert 25-11](#).

Important Dates:

The new law becomes effective on **January 1, 2026**. The Commission's Division of Licensure Certification will begin granting Preliminary credentials to individuals who meet the out-of-state qualifications for the Preliminary PPS credential at that time.

Sources:

AB 606 Bill Text:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB606

Pupil Personnel Services Credential for Individuals Prepared Out-Of-State:

[https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/pupil-personnel-services-credential-\(cl-606\)](https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/pupil-personnel-services-credential-(cl-606))

Application For Credential Authorizing Public School Service:

<https://educatortools.ctc.ca.gov/CredentialApplication/Create>

Fee Schedule Information Leaflet:

[https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/fee-schedule-information-\(cl-659\)](https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/fee-schedule-information-(cl-659))

Live Scan Receipt Form 41-LS:

<https://docs.ctc.ca.gov/Document/Download/29865>

Out-of-State Fingerprint Card Request Portal:

<https://educatortools.ctc.ca.gov/FingerprintCardRequest/Create>

Fingerprint Information:

<https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/fee-and-fingerprint>

Submit an Online Application:

<https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/ctc-online-services-help/application-payment-help/submit-online-app>

CTC Online – Login Help:

<https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/ctc-online-services-help/login-help>

Contact Information:

Questions regarding credential requirements can be directed to the Commission’s Division of Licensure Certification through the online form found at

<https://educatortools.ctc.ca.gov/ContactUs>.

Contact Information for LEAs seeking initial program approval is available at the following Division of Standards, Accreditation, and Workforce Investment (DSAWI) webpage:

<https://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/psd-contact>.