



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: September 7, 2016

Number: 16-10

Subject: Updates on Implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Subject Matter Requirements (SMRs)

Summary

This Program Sponsor Alert provides guidance for subject matter preparation program sponsors related to implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). This alert provides information on the process for all Commission-approved Single Subject Science Subject Matter Programs to verify that the coursework completed by prospective science teachers is aligned with the NGSS. Subject matter programs in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science and Space Sciences, Physics, and General Science must submit an updated alignment matrix showing in which course(s) candidates will learn about each of the SMRs.

Background

On September 4, 2013, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted the NGSS for California Public Schools, Kindergarten through Grade Twelve (CA NGSS), as required by Education Code §60605.85. Since the SBE's action, the Commission's work plan has included a focus on ensuring that all relevant Commission standards, approved programs, and examinations are aligned with the NGSS.

Aligning Subject Matter Programs with NGSS

Alignment matrices reflecting the updated SMRs have been posted on the Commission's Standards web page (see references below). All Commission-approved Science Subject Matter Programs must review their sequence of courses, update the courses where appropriate, and complete and submit the alignment matrix. Updated alignment matrices are due to the Commission by June 1, 2018.

The review of the alignment matrices will take place during summer of 2018 by pairs of reviewers. The Commission is requesting that each Science Subject Matter program provides one faculty member to review the alignment matrices. This will allow the review to be completed in a timely manner with no reviewers having to review more than two alignment matrices.

All Commission-approved Science Subject Matter programs must be addressing the revised SMRs by the beginning of the 2018-19 academic year. Institutions with Commission-approved Science Subject Matter programs that do not submit an updated alignment matrix by June 1, 2018 showing alignment with the NGSS will expire and no longer be approved by the Commission.

Next Steps

The next phases of work related to NGSS include, but are not limited to, the following: Aligning examinations and program standards with the NGSS; aligning the Single Subject content areas of science with the literacy components of the California Common Core State Standards; and continuing to work on revisions to the teaching performance assessment in order to ensure alignment with the NGSS.

References

Alignment Matrices *(Revised July 2016)*

- [General Science](#) [MS Word]
- [Life Sciences-Biology](#) [MS Word]
- [Chemistry](#) [MS Word]
- [Physics](#) [MS Word]
- [Earth and Space Sciences](#) [MS Word]

June 2016 Commission Agenda Item 2A

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2016-06/2016-06-2A.pdf>

Contact Information

The Professional Services Division provides a full list of topic- and program- specific dedicated email addresses at: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/PSD-contact.html>.