



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: February 22, 2017

Number: 17-03

Subject: Revised Preconditions for Subject Matter Proficiency
Requirements Applicable to Candidates in
Undergraduate Integrated Programs

Summary

Effective April 1, 2017, newly approved Title 5 regulations will allow candidates for the Preliminary Multiple Subject and Education Specialist credential to complete a Commission-approved Elementary Subject Matter (ESM) program as a means of satisfying the subject matter competency requirement. For many candidates enrolled in an undergraduate integrated program, subject matter preparation and pedagogical preparation occur simultaneously and candidates may not have completed their subject matter preparation prior to beginning solo student teaching. To address this issue, the Commission adopted revisions to the subject matter proficiency Preconditions to allow candidates to complete four-fifths of a Commission-approved subject matter program prior to beginning whole class instructional responsibilities.

Background

Candidates in traditional teacher preparation programs must meet the subject matter competency requirement prior to solo student teaching. These candidates would typically have completed their undergraduate subject matter preparation, either through completion of a Commission-approved subject matter program or passage of the appropriate CSET examination, prior to enrolling in the post-baccalaureate level teacher preparation program. All candidates are

expected to have early, extensive field experiences culminating in a solo teaching experience or whole class instruction. However, candidates in integrated programs are still undergraduates and may not yet have completed their subject matter coursework and preparation prior to participating in this experience. Requiring completion of the subject matter requirement prior to whole class instruction or solo student teaching in integrated program makes it difficult for candidates to complete the program in four years

Historically there had been an approach to establishing subject matter competency in which candidates would complete four-fifths of the subject matter preparation program prior to solo teaching. However, the four-fifths completion option only applied to single subject candidates in undergraduate integrated teacher preparation programs. Given the updated Title 5 regulations that allow the completion of an ESM program as a means of demonstrating subject matter competence and the Commission's recent adoption of the revised subject matter proficiency Preconditions, this four-fifths option is now extended to all preliminary credential candidates enrolled in undergraduate integrated preparation programs.

References

Agenda Item 2B *Proposed Revisions to the Preconditions for Subject Matter Proficiency Requirements Applicable to Candidates in Undergraduate Integrated Teacher Preparation Programs*

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2016-09/2016-09-2J-insert.pdf>

Preconditions for Educator Preparation Programs

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/STDS-preconditions.html>

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>.

Appendix A

Revised Preconditions for Subject Matter Proficiency Requirements Applicable to Candidates in Undergraduate Integrated Teacher Preparation Programs (*new language is indicated by italics*)

Preliminary MS/SS Program Precondition 6: Subject Matter Proficiency

The approved preliminary teacher preparation program sponsor determines that each candidate meets the subject matter requirement prior to being given daily whole class instructional responsibilities in a TK-12 school or before becoming the teacher of record as an intern in a TK-12 school.

- For Multiple and Single Subject programs (traditional and intern), the candidate provides evidence of having passed the appropriate subject matter examination(s) or having completed the appropriate Commission-approved subject matter preparation program, or a course of study deemed equivalent by the program sponsor.
- *For integrated undergraduate programs only, the candidate must be monitored by the program for subject matter competency both prior to beginning and during early field experiences. Each candidate in an integrated undergraduate program must have satisfied subject matter or at a minimum completed four-fifths of the Commission-approved subject matter preparation program prior to beginning solo (i.e., student) teaching.*

Preliminary Education Specialist Precondition 3

The approved teacher preparation program sponsor determines that each candidate meets the subject matter requirement prior to solo teaching, or, for intern candidates, before being given daily whole class instructional responsibilities in a K-12 school or before becoming the teacher of record in a K-12 school. Reference: Education Code Section 44227.

To demonstrate subject matter competence, a candidate for an Education Specialist teaching credential, except for the Early Childhood Special Education credential, shall:

1. Pass the Commission-approved Multiple Subject matter examination; or pass a Commission-approved subject matter examination in Art, English, Mathematics, including foundational-level Mathematics, Music, Social Science or Science, including foundational-level General Science; or
2. Complete a Commission-approved subject matter program in Art, Elementary, English, Mathematics including foundational-level Mathematics, Music, Social Science or Science, including foundational-level General Science; or

For integrated undergraduate programs only, the candidate must be monitored for subject matter competency both prior to beginning and during early field experiences. Each candidate in an integrated undergraduate program must have satisfied subject

matter or at a minimum completed four-fifths of the Commission-approved subject matter preparation program prior to beginning solo (i.e., student) teaching..

3. Hold a California general education teaching credential in any subject.