



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

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**DATE:**  
May 21, 2020

**NUMBER:**  
20-05

**SUBJECT: Removal of the Prohibition of an Education Major as a Requirement for an Education Specialist Teaching Credential or a Pupil Personnel Services Credential**

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## **Summary:**

This Program Sponsor Alert provides information on the Commission's newly adopted Preconditions that removed the prohibition of a baccalaureate degree in Education to be eligible for the Preliminary Education Specialist teaching credential and Pupil Personnel Services credential.

## **Background:**

Prior to the signing of [AB 525 \(Chap. 427, Stats. 2019\)](#), an individual who held a baccalaureate degree in Education was prohibited from using that degree to satisfy the legislative requirement that the individual hold a baccalaureate degree to be eligible for a Preliminary Education Specialist teaching credential or a Pupil Personnel Services credential.

Since the prohibition of a baccalaureate degree in Education has been removed by the legislature, effective January 1, 2020, the Commission amended the Preconditions for the Preliminary Education Specialist teaching credentials and the Pupil Personnel Services credentials to remove the prohibition of a baccalaureate degree in Education as a requirement for these two types of credentials in order to align with the new Education Code language. The amended Preconditions are shown below:

## **Education Specialist: [Precondition 4](#)**

4. Completion of Requirements. A college or university or school district that operates a program for the Education Specialist teaching credential shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the credential, that the candidate meets all legal

requirements for the credential, including but not limited to: Reference: Education Code Sections 44225(a), 44227, and 44283.2(a).

- Possession of a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Satisfaction of the Basic Skills Requirement
- Completion of an accredited professional preparation program
- Completion of the subject matter requirement
- Demonstration of knowledge of the principles and provisions of the Constitution of the United States
- Passage of the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) [Passage of the RICA examination does not apply to Early Childhood Special Education Credential candidates (Reference: Section 44283.2(b).)]

**Pupil Personnel Services: [Precondition 1](#)**

1. Specialization Requirements. A college or university that operates a program of professional preparation shall have a curriculum that meets the requirements of (a) and one or more of (b), (c), (d), and (e) as specified below. Statutory basis: Title 5 California Code of Regulations, Section 80632, Article 2, Professional Preparation Programs.
  - a. In order to meet the scholastic needs of school pupils with a diverse range of needs, abilities and expectations, all programs approved as preparation in pupil personnel services shall give primary emphasis to helping public school pupils to achieve academic success by emphasizing the importance of academic advising. Persons admitted to programs must have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.

**References:**

[Preconditions for Education Specialist Programs: Preliminary Education Specialist](#)

[Preconditions for Administrative Credentials: Pupil Personnel Services](#)

**Contact Information:**

The Professional Services Division provides a full list of topic and program-specific dedicated email addresses on the [Commission's website](#).

Credentialing Questions: [credentials@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:credentials@ctc.ca.gov)