



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

DATE:
July 17, 2020

NUMBER:
20-07

SUBJECT: Pupil Personnel Services Credential Program Field Practice Assignment Flexibility

Summary:

This Program Sponsor Alert provides information about the field assignment flexibility that was put into place on June 29, 2020 for Pupil Personnel Services Credential program candidates when [Governor Newsom signed the 2020-21 State Budget](#).

Key Provisions:

Pursuant to Section 37 of [Senate Bill 98 \(Chap. 24, Stats. 2020\)](#), Section 44266.5 is added to the Education Code, to read:

The requirement for the field practice assignment for a pupil personnel services credential to take place in two or more school settings pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 80632.2 of, subdivision (b) of Section 80632.3 of, and subdivision (b) of Section 80632.4 of, Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations is reduced to one school setting from March 19, 2020, to June 30, 2021, inclusive.

Important Dates:

The requirement for the Pupil Personnel Services Credential field practice assignment is reduced from two or more school settings to one school setting effective only between the dates of March 19, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Background:

In March 2020, Governor Newsom issued stay at home orders for California due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the transition of California's K-12 schools to online and distance learning, many prospective educators enrolled in programs were confronted with challenges to meeting

credential requirements, particularly with respect to fieldwork and clinical practice. To assist the field, the Commission took action in April 2020 to provide certain flexibilities for candidates who would have completed their programs in academic year 2019-20 were it not for the closure of schools and testing centers due to COVID-19. Governor Newsom also issued an Executive Order in May 2020 that provided further flexibilities for some credential areas. And finally, the legislature and the Governor provided some additional relief in certain credential areas for candidates through the Budget Trailer Bill.

The Budget Trailer Bill (Senate Bill 98) modified Education Code Section 44266.5 to assist Pupil Personnel Services credential programs whose candidate placements have been impacted by the health and safety restrictions related to COVID-19. This Education Code modification provides flexibility for program candidate by reducing the field assignment requirement of two or more school settings to one school setting. This statute change did not reduce the required total minimum number of fieldwork and clinical practice hours as outlined in the Commission adopted standards but does allow those hours to be completed in a single school setting. This language will assist those candidates for whom finding multiple placements has been difficult as a result of school closures due to COVID-19.

This flexibility expires on June 30, 2021.

References:

[Senate Bill 98](#) Trailer Bill Language, Section 37

Contact Information:

For questions about this PSA, please email Accreditation@ctc.ca.gov.