



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

DATE:

October 07, 2022

NUMBER:

22-12

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FEE WAIVERS

Summary:

The 2022-23 California State Budget that was signed by the governor on June 30, 2022, includes up to \$24,000,000 in funding to waive fees for California examinations and assessments required for candidates to earn a credential issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Applicable examinations and assessments for the fee waiver include:

- California Basic Educational Skills Test™ (CBEST®)
- California Preliminary Administrative Credential Examination (CPACE)
- California Subject Examinations for Teachers® (CSET®)
- California Teacher of English Learners® (CTEL®)
- Reading Instruction Competence Assessment® (RICA®)
- California Administrator Performance Assessment (CalAPA)
- California Teaching Performance Assessment (CalTPA)
- edTPA for California

Key Provisions:

Examination and performance assessment fees will be waived for eligible candidates during the 2022-23 fiscal year or until the \$24,000,000 has been disbursed. Once all funds have been disbursed, fees will no longer be waived. The Governor and Legislature indicated an intent to also provide funding for examination and performance assessment fee waivers in the 2023-24 state budget; however, that is subject to an appropriation being included in the final 2023-24 budget.

Only individuals with a valid California mailing address may have registration fees waived for an examination and/or assessment. Waived fees are available to individuals with active military status as of July 1, 2022, or who retired or separated as of July 1, 2021, or to dependent family

members of military personnel who are pursuing a California credential. Preparation programs providing financial assistance to candidates for registration fees will not receive reimbursement through the waiver process.

These examination and assessment fee waivers are intended for individuals with a California mailing address or P.O. Box and who are enrolled in or intending to enroll in a Commission approved California educator preparation program.

Eligible individuals can register and schedule five (5) concurrent examinations and/or assessments and fees will be waived, while funds remain. Although there is no limit to the total number of fees waived, a test taker can only be actively registered for five (5) concurrent assessments/subtests. A combination of subtests registered together for a single test session will count as one (1) concurrent active registration. Subtests registered for separately will each count as separate active registrations toward the five (5) concurrent assessments/subtests permitted. Candidates with two unexcused absences from scheduled test sessions will no longer be eligible for the fee waiver.

Examination and assessment fee waivers became available beginning July 1, 2022. Eligible individuals who register for one or more of the applicable examinations or assessments listed above beginning July 1 will automatically be provided a refund. The Commission is seeking approval from the Department of General Services to establish a contract with Evaluation Systems group of Pearson to waive fees at the time of registration. Until such time as that is in place, candidates must pay the applicable fees at the time of registration and be reimbursed later.

Important Dates:

Fee waivers for applicable examinations and assessments will be available through June 30, 2023, or until all \$24,000,000 has been disbursed for the 2022-2023 year.

Sources:

[California Educator Credentialing Assessments website](#) (ES website)

[California Assessment Fee Waivers Frequently Asked Questions](#) (ES website)

References:

[Senate Bill 178 Budget Act of 2022](#)

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