



PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

DATE:

May 7, 2025

NUMBER:

25-06

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON TEACHING PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR PK-3 EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION SPECIALIST INSTRUCTION CREDENTIAL**

Summary:

This program sponsor alert provides an update on the status of the teaching performance assessment (TPA) in early childhood education for PK-3 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Instruction credential candidates.

Key Provisions:

On April 22, 2025, the Office of Administrative Law approved the Commission's proposal to eliminate language from Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations that provided the option for PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential candidates to take a TPA for multiple subject candidates in a PK-3 setting. As a result, candidates first enrolled in a PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential program on or after July 1, 2025 must pass a TPA approved for the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential.

Background:

In June 2022, the Commission endorsed the proposed authorization statement and credential requirements for updating the current Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction credential. In August 2022, the Commission adopted the authorization statement and credential requirements for the PK-3 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Instruction credential. The Commission then adopted the program preconditions, standards, and teaching performance expectations for the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential in October 2022. Subsequently, the regulatory process was initiated, and in April 2023, the Commission approved the submission to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) of proposed final regulations to add §§80067.1, 80067.2, 80067.3, and 80067.4 to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) pertaining to the new PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential. Those regulations were approved by OAL and went into effect on April 1, 2024.

The April 1, 2024 regulatory language included the requirement that PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential candidates pass a Commission-approved TPA for the Multiple Subject credential in a PK-3 setting or pass a TPA for early childhood education. However, the Commission had not yet developed a TPA for early childhood education, so PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction candidates were required to pass the TPA for the Multiple Subject credential.

Development of a CalTPA for PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction candidates has been ongoing since March 2023, including field testing that will be finalized spring 2025. Staff will recommend adoption of minimum passing scores for the literacy and math cycles of the PK-3 ECE TPA to the Commission at its June 26-27, 2025 meeting. When these scores are set, programs will be notified. Candidates newly enrolled in a PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction program on or after July 1, 2025 will be required to pass this new PK-3 ECE TPA. As of the posting of this Program Sponsor Alert, neither the edTPA nor the FAST (Fresno Assessment of Student Teachers) performance assessment models have an approved assessment for PK-3 ECE candidates, thus, all PK-3 ECE program sponsors will need to use the CalTPA model until such time as other models are developed and approved by the Commission.

Important Dates:

August 2022: Commission adopts authorization statement and credential requirements for the PK-3 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Instruction credential.

October 2022: Commission adopts program preconditions, standards, and Teaching Performance Expectations for the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential

April 1, 2024: Language approved by the Office of Administrative Law adding §§80067.1, 80067.2, 80067.3, and 80067.4 to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations pertaining to the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential goes into effect.

April 22, 2025: Language approved by the Office of Administrative Law related to the elimination of the option for PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential candidates to take a teaching performance assessment for multiple subject candidates in a PK-3 setting.

June 26-27, 2025: Staff to recommend adoption of minimum passing scores for the literacy and math cycles of the PK-3 ECE TPA to the Commission.

July 1, 2025: Candidates first enrolled in a PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential program on or after this date must pass a commission approved teaching performance assessment approved for the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction credential.

Sources:

[Proposed amendments to California Code of Regulations, Title 5, pertaining to PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction teaching performance assessment.](#)

References:

[PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction Credential](#)

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