



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

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**DATE:**

December 19, 2025

**NUMBER:**

25-12

**SUBJECT: UPDATES TO THE PRELIMINARY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CREDENTIAL  
BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026**

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**Summary:**

This Program Sponsor Alert is to provide information for education preparation programs regarding two changes, effective January 1, 2026, to Administrative Services Credential programs as a result of [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 959 \(Chap. 171, Stats. 2025\)](#) and [AB 1009 \(Chap. 629, Stats. 2025\)](#) being signed into law.

**Key Provisions:**

On October 1, 2025, the Governor signed AB 959 into law, which goes into effect on January 1, 2026. AB 959 clarifies that, in addition to regionally accredited institutions of higher education, Commission-approved school districts and county offices of education may now offer internship programs for the preliminary administrative services credential (PASC). It further directs the Commission to examine the preservice, professional development, and supervision requirements for the intern pathway when the administrative standards are next considered.

Beginning on January 1, 2026, Commission-approved school districts and county offices of education with an existing approved PASC program may submit a request to add an intern pathway. The [Adding an Intern Pathway](#) web page has been updated to include instructions on how an existing PASC program can request to add an intern pathway.

Commission-approved school districts and county offices of education that do not currently have an approved PASC program, and would like to offer a PASC program, must go through the Initial Program Review (IPR) process. Information required to prepare and submit an Initial Program Proposal for a new education preparation program can be found on the Commission's web page, [Initial Program Review - Submitting a New Educator Preparation Program Proposal in California](#).

Commission staff will review submissions to ensure they meet Commission requirements and then add the proposal to the next regularly scheduled Committee on Accreditation (COA) meeting agenda for the COA's review and approval.

Institutions must have [Initial Institutional Approval](#) if the institution is not yet Commission-approved.

On October 11, 2025, the Governor signed AB 1009 into law, which goes into effect on January 1, 2026. AB 1009 allows candidates with experience as a school-based occupational therapist (OT) or physical therapist (PT) to be eligible to for the PASC. A valid license to practice occupational therapy issued by the California Board of Occupational Therapy or a physical therapy issued by the Physical Therapy Board of California can be used to meet the prerequisite credential requirement, and the five years of experience as a school-based occupational therapist or physical therapist can satisfy the five years of full-time experience requirement for a PASC. Pursuant to authorizing legislation, a PASC issued to a candidate with a valid OT or PT license may not supervise or evaluate teachers unless the employing local educational agency determines the individual possesses experience and training that qualifies them for the responsibilities of a school administrator. The Division of Licensure and Certification will provide additional information in a future Credential Information Alert on the authorization of credential issued under Education Code Section 44270(a)(1)(D) as amended by AB 1009.

**Important Dates:**

January 1, 2026:

- Existing Commission-approved PASC programs may submit a request to add an intern pathway.
- Updates to prerequisite credential and work experience for school-based occupational and physical therapists go into effect.

September 1, 2028:

- Administrative Services Credential Program Standards must be updated to include content on supporting teachers in delivering effective literacy instruction as well as other content.

**Background:**

Additional changes to the [Administrative Services Credential Program Standards](#) are planned as a result of [AB 1454 \(Chap. 471, Stats. 2025\)](#) and the Governor's request to develop two or more pathways to the PASC.

AB 1454 requires that by September 1, 2028, the Commission ensures that the program standards for Administrative Services credential programs include preparation on how to support teachers in delivering instruction through effective means for teaching literacy, as specified.

The Administrative Services Credential Program Standards were last updated in 2017; therefore, an update is appropriate, particularly for the purpose of including language requiring administrators to have the knowledge and skill to support teachers implementing current literacy standards and content as well as other recent changes to the field. In reviewing the standards any necessary updates, the timing is appropriate to consider developing a new ASC credential type and career ladder for individuals on a non-teaching pathway to administration.

Commission staff are working on a phased plan to update the Administrative Services Credential Program Standards to accomplish the work required to make these updates. At its [October 2025](#) meeting, the Commission approved the work plan to revise and restructure the Administrative Services Credential Program Standards.

Implementation will take time and collaboration from the field, and the Commission will continue to provide updates as the work progresses.

**References:**

[AB 959 \(Chap. 171, Stats 2025\)](#)

[AB 1454 \(Chap. 471, Stats. of 2025\)](#)

[AB 1009 \(Chap. 629, Stats. 2025\)](#)

[California Code, EDC 44270.](#)

Commission Agenda Items

[Agenda Item 2D: October 2025](#)

**Contact Information:**

Contact Information for the Division of Standards, Accreditation, and Workforce Investment is available at the [Professional Services Contact webpage](#).