



COMMISSION ON
TEACHER CREDENTIALING

Ensuring Educator Excellence

**Preconditions for
Subject Matter Programs
Including
Driver's Education and Training**

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Commission on Teacher Credentialing
1900 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, California 95811

This handbook is available at:
<http://www.ctc.ca.go>

Table of Contents *(hyperlinked)*

Introduction: Preconditions for California Single Subject Matter Programs.....	1
Preconditions for the Approval of Single Subject Matter Programs	2
Agriculture	2
Art.....	2
Business.....	2
English.....	3
Foundational- Level General Science	3
Foundational-Level Mathematics.....	3
Health	4
Home Economics	4
Industrial and Technology Education	4
Mathematics	5
Music.....	5
Physical Education	5
Science	6
Social Science	6
World Languages (Languages Other than English)	6
World Language: English Language Development	6
Driver Education and Training.....	7



Introduction: Preconditions for California Single Subject Matter Programs

California law provides the Commission on Teacher Credentialing with the authority to approve all single subject matter programs. Individuals who successfully complete a Commission approved single subject matter program meet the Commission's subject matter requirement and are not required to take the subject matter examination (California Subject Examinations for Teachers – CSET). Among other responsibilities, [Section 44225 of the California Education Code](#) states that the Commission shall establish professional standards, assessment and examinations for entry and advancement in the education profession, adopt a framework and general standards for the accreditation of preparation programs for teachers and other certificated educators, and propose appropriate rules and regulations in this area. All institutions wishing to offer single subject matter programs in any of the areas contained in this handbook must first successfully respond to the Commission's preconditions in the related single subject matter area.

What is a Precondition?

A precondition is a requirement for initial single subject matter program approval. Unlike standards, preconditions specify requirements for program compliance, not program quality. The basis for a precondition is either 1) statute, or 2) Commission policy.

The Commission determines whether a program complies with the adopted preconditions on the basis of a program document provided by the institution for initial program review. In the program review sequence, a program that meets all preconditions is eligible for a more intensive review to determine if the program's quality satisfies the Commission's single subject matter standards.

Who reviews preconditions?

Because preconditions are related to issues of compliance and not program quality, Commission staff typically reviews preconditions. This review is done prior to initial institutional approval and initial program approval.

Preconditions for the Approval of Single Subject Matter Programs

In addition to describing how a program meets each standard of program quality, the program document by an institution shall include the course titles, unit designations, catalog descriptions and syllabi of all courses in the program that are used to meet the standards. Program documents must include a matrix chart that identifies which courses meet which standards.

Agriculture

- (1) Each program of subject matter preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in agriculture shall include (a) a minimum of 32 to 36 semester units (or 48 to 54 quarter units) of core coursework in industrial and technology education and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 9 to 12 semester units (or 14 to 20 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of agriculture: plant and soil science, ornamental horticulture, agricultural business and economics, environmental science and natural resource management, and agricultural systems technology which will fulfill Standards 11 through 16.
- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) shall be designed to supplement the core of the program with specialization as described in Standard 17.

Art

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Art shall include (a) a minimum of 36 semester units (or 54 quarter units) of core coursework in art and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 12 semester units (or 18 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of art and related subjects in the California public schools, including two-dimensional art, three-dimensional art, new and emerging art, media art, art history, art criticism, and the history and theories of learning in art.
- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) shall be designed to supplement the core of the program.

Business

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in business shall include (a) a minimum of 30 semester units (or 45 quarter units) of core coursework in business and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 15 semester units (or 22 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of business and related subjects in the California public schools, including accounting and finance, business communications, business law, business management, computer applications and information technology, economics, entrepreneurship, and marketing.

- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) shall be designed to supplement the essential core of the program.

English

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in English shall include (a) a minimum of 36 semester units (or 54 quarter units) of core coursework in English and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 12 semester units (or 18 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) the following subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of English and related subjects in the public schools, including:
- Literature and Textual Analysis;
 - Language, Linguistics, and Literacy;
 - Composition and Rhetoric; and
 - Communications: Speech, Media, and Creative Performance.
- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) designed to supplement the core of the program may be offered in any or all of the following patterns:
- A combination of related content areas within or across domains
 - A concentration in one domain
 - A concentration in any content area within a domain

Foundational- Level General Science

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Foundational-Level General Science shall include (a) a minimum of 32 semester units (or 48 quarter units) of coursework in science as commonly taught in departmentalized science classes in California public schools through grade 9.
- (2) The program of study shall include at least 8 semester units (12 quarter units) as defined by the General Science Subject Matter Requirements in each of four science areas: biology, chemistry, geosciences, and physics.

Foundational-Level Mathematics

- (1) Each program of subject matter preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Foundational Mathematics shall include (a) a minimum of 20 semester units (or 30 quarter units) of core mathematics coursework that is directly related to subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized mathematics classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 12 semester units (or 18 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study in applications of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core of the program shall include coursework in subjects commonly taught in departmentalized classes of mathematics and related subjects in the California public schools such as algebra (or demonstrated proficiency), geometry, number theory, and statistics and probability.

- (3) Extended studies (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) in the program shall be designed to supplement the core of the program with coursework which has a strong mathematical basis (e.g. physics, engineering, computer programming).

Health

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Health Science shall include (a) a minimum of 30 semester units (or 45 quarter units) of core coursework in health science and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 18 semester units (or 27 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) the following subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of health science and related subjects in the public schools: health, Coordinated School Health, drug abuse (including alcohol and tobacco), violence prevention, family life, sexually transmitted disease (including HIV and AIDS), fitness and nutrition, disease prevention, health promotion and legislative mandates.
- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) designed to supplement the core of the program in the areas of scientific and behavioral foundations including human biology (anatomy/physiology, microbiology, chemistry), psychology/sociology (including adolescence), and personal health.

Home Economics

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Home Economics shall include (a) a minimum of 36 semester units (or 54 quarter units) of core coursework in English and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 12 semester units (or 18 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) the following subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of health science and related subjects in the public schools: personal, family and child development; nutrition, foods and hospitality; fashion and textiles; housing and interior design; consumer education; or other related subjects commonly taught in California public schools
- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) designed to supplement the core of the program may be offered in any or all of the following patterns:
 - A combination of related content areas within or across domains
 - A concentration in one domain
 - A concentration in any content area within a domain

Industrial and Technology Education

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in industrial and technology education shall include (a) a minimum of 36 semester units (or 54 quarter units) of core coursework in industrial and technology education and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 9 semester units (or 15 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of industrial and technology education and related subjects

in the California public schools, including foundations of the nature of technology and introductions to power and energy, information and communication, and project and product development. These subjects should be understood to also include building and construction, manufacturing, engineering and transportation as appropriate.

- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) shall be designed to supplement the core of the program as described in Standard 12.

Mathematics

- (1) Each program of subject matter preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Mathematics shall include (a) a minimum of 30 semester units (or 45 quarter units) of core mathematics coursework that is directly related to subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized mathematics classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 15 semester units (or 22 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core of the program shall include coursework in subjects commonly taught in departmentalized classes of mathematics and related subjects in the California public schools such as algebra (or demonstrated proficiency), geometry, number theory, calculus, history of mathematics, and statistics and probability.
- (3) Extended studies (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) in the program shall be designed to supplement the core of the program.

Music

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Music shall include (a) a minimum of 30 semester units (or 45 quarter units) of core coursework in music subjects and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 15 semester units (or 22 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3 below.
- (2) The core of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes of music and related subjects in the public schools, including general music, music theory, music history, ensemble performance, and applied instrumental or vocal music.
- (3) Extended studies (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) in the program shall be designed to supplement the core of the program.

Physical Education

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Credential in Physical Education shall consist of (a) at least 24 semester units (or 36 quarter units) of core coursework in physical education and related subjects commonly taught in California public schools and (b) 21 semester units (or 32 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3 below.
- (2) The core of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) foundations in human movement as commonly taught in California public schools (Standards 11, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17).
- (3) Extended studies (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) in the program shall include coursework designed to provide experiences in and applications of movement concepts and forms as taught in

California public schools (Standard 14). A concentration may, at the choice of the institution, be created with additional coursework in one of the nine areas of human movement. If a concentration is created, the coursework will be in addition to the units for applications of movement, concepts and form.

Science

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Science shall include (a) a minimum of 24 semester units (or 36 quarter units) of core coursework in science subjects and related subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 18 semester units (or 27 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject, and (c) 3 semester units (or 5 quarter units) in the subject. These requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.
- (2) The core of the program (Breadth of Study) shall include coursework in (or directly related to) biological sciences, chemistry, geosciences and physics as commonly taught in departmentalized science classes in California public schools.
- (3) Extended studies in the program (Depth of Study) shall include at least one concentration of the four science areas. Each concentration shall comprise at least 18 semester units or 27 quarter units. In addition the program shall include at least 3 semester units (5 quarter units) of additional extended study, either designated as breadth or depth studies at the discretion of the institution.

Social Science

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Teaching Credential in Social Science shall include (a) a minimum of 30 semester units (or 45 quarter units) of core coursework in history and social science subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools, and (b) a minimum of 15 semester units (or 22 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3 below.
- (2) The core of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) the following subjects that are commonly taught in departmentalized classes in California public schools: history and geography of the world, the United States, and California; government; and economics.
- (3) Extended studies (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) in the program shall be designed to supplement the core of the program.

World Languages (Languages Other than English)

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Credential in Languages Other Than English shall prepare prospective teachers in one language other than English, and shall include at least 33 semester units (or 50 quarter units) of advanced (non-introductory) coursework in the language and in related subjects commonly taught in California public schools.
- (2) The program coursework in (or directly related to) a language other than English shall include language, culture, linguistics, literature, and other related subjects commonly taught in California public schools. All courses used to meet the standards in the program shall be taught in the target language, with the exception of programs for classical languages such as Greek and Latin.

World Language: English Language Development

- (1) Each Program of Subject Matter Preparation for the Single Subject Credential in World Language: English Language Development shall prepare prospective teachers to teach English Language

Development and shall include (a) a minimum of 33 semester units (or 50 quarter units) of coursework in English Language Development and in related subjects as appropriate for language development studies in California public schools; and (2) a minimum of 12 semester units (or 18 quarter units) of coursework that provides extended study of the subject as described below. These two requirements are elaborated in Preconditions 2 and 3.

- (2) The core (breadth) of the program shall include coursework in (or directly related to) English and English Language Development, as indicated below:
 - Knowledge of English Learners in California and the United States
 - Applied Linguistics, including English Language linguistics
 - Cultural Foundations
 - Foundations of English Learner Education in California and the United States
 - Principles of English Language Development (ELD) Instruction and Assessment
- (3) Extended studies in the program (breadth, depth, perspective, concentrations) designed to supplement the core of the program may be offered in any or all of the following patterns:
 - A combination of related content areas within or across domains
 - A concentration in one domain
 - A concentration in any content area within a domain

Driver Education and Training

- (1) To be granted preliminary approval or continued approval by the Commission, a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training shall include 12 semester hours, or 180 clock hours, of subject matter course work and/or staff development work in driver education and training.
- (2) To be granted preliminary approval or continued approval by the Commission as a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training, the program must be developed, submitted and implemented by a Local Education Agency (LEA). An LEA, as it applies to subject matter programs in driver education and training, means any of the following categories of agencies:
 - (a) A California public school district or consortium of school districts;
 - (b) A California county superintendent of schools office;
 - (c) A California regional occupational program or center;
 - (d) A California State Agency;
 - (e) A Commission-approved teacher preparation institution.
- (3) An LEA desiring to develop a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training shall file with the Commission a request for preliminary approval or continued approval, signed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the agency or each agency constituting the LEA. This request shall include a complete description of how the program will meet all requirements, including each standard of program quality and effectiveness adopted by the Commission, with a particular focus upon how the LEA proposes to assure that students will acquire the competencies, skills and knowledge required.
- (4) The Commission will approve a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training after a review of the request, when such request

reflects that the program submitted by the LEA meets the requirements and standards. Programs will be monitored by the Commission to determine if the requirements and standards are continuing to be met.

- (5) To be granted preliminary approval by the Commission for a subject matter program for the Designated Subjects Special Subjects Teaching Credential in Driver Education and Training, the program must:
- (a) Demonstrate that the program will fulfill all of the applicable regulations and standards that have been adopted by the Commission, and
 - (b) Include assurances that:
 - (i) The LEA will cooperate in an evaluation of the program by an external team or monitoring of the program by a Commission staff member within four years of the initial enrollment of students in the program, and
 - (ii) The LEA will respond to all requests of the Commission for data regarding program enrollments and completions within the time limits specified by the Commission.