



State of California  
Commission on Teacher Credentialing  
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## MULTIPLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIAL

### Requirements for Teachers Prepared in California

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The Multiple Subject Teaching Credential authorizes the holder to teach all subjects in a self-contained classroom, such as the classrooms in most elementary schools, in grades preschool, K–12, or in classes organized primarily for adults. In addition, the holder of a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential may serve in a core or team teaching setting.

#### Teaching English Learners

The Multiple Subject Preliminary Teacher Preparation Program includes content for teaching English learners that authorizes the credential holder to provide instruction for English language development and specially designed academic instruction in English within the subject area and grade level authorization of the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential.

#### Requirements for the Preliminary Credential

The preliminary credential is issued for a maximum of five years. If requirements for the clear credential are not completed before the expiration of the preliminary, the holder will be unable to teach in California's public schools with that credential until those requirements are met and the document is renewed.

Applicants must satisfy **all** of the following requirements for the Five-Year Preliminary Teaching Credential:

1. Complete a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally-accredited college or university
2. Satisfy the [basic skills requirement](#). See Commission leaflet [CL-667](#), entitled *Basic Skills Requirement* for additional information.
3. Complete a [multiple subject teacher preparation program](#) including successful student teaching, and obtain a formal recommendation for the credential by the California college or university where the program was completed
4. Verify subject matter competence by **one** of the following two methods:
  - a. Achieve a passing score on the appropriate subject matter examination(s). Information regarding the appropriate subject matter examination(s), including passing scores and registration, can be found in Commission leaflet [CL-674M \[pdf\]](#), entitled *Verifying Subject Matter Competence by Examination for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials*.
  - b. Complete a [Commission-approved elementary subject-matter program](#) or its equivalent and obtain verification of completion from the authorized person in the education department of a California college or university with an accredited program.
5. Pass the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment ([RICA](#)). Individuals who hold a valid California teaching credential which was issued based upon completion of a teacher preparation program including student teaching, are exempt from this requirement. Visit the Commission's website or the Evaluation Systems, Pearson website at <http://www.ctcexams.nesinc.com> for more information.

6. Satisfy the Developing English Language Skills, including Reading requirement by completing a comprehensive reading instruction course that includes the following: the systematic study of phonemic awareness, phonics, and decoding; literature, language and comprehension; and diagnostic and early intervention techniques
7. Complete a course (two semester units or three quarter units) in the provisions and principles of the U.S. Constitution or pass an examination given by a regionally-accredited college or university
8. Complete foundational computer technology course work that includes general and specialized skills in the use of computers in educational settings

**Note:** The final issuance date for an initial Preliminary Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential based on Ryan program completion for California prepared teachers was **January 1, 2012**. The sunset date includes all routes for an extension by appeal.

### Requirements for the Clear Credential

Individuals who complete a teacher preparation program and receive a five-year preliminary credential must earn a clear credential by completing **one** of the following options:

#### Option 1

Complete a Commission-approved [Teacher Induction Program](#) and submit their application for the clear credential through the Induction Program sponsor.

**Note:** The final issuance date for an initial Ryan Clear Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential for California, out-of-state and out-of-country prepared teachers was **January 1, 2018**. See [Coded Correspondence 17-06](#) regarding options for individuals who did not obtain Ryan clear teaching credentials by January 1, 2018.

#### Option 2

Teachers who are certified by the [National Board of Professional Teaching Standards](#) in one of the qualifying subjects listed below after obtaining the California Preliminary Multiple Subject Teaching Credential will be issued a Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential.

#### **National Board Certification:**

Early Childhood (ages 3 – 8)/Generalist

Middle Childhood (ages 7 – 12)/Generalist

Individuals applying for the clear credential under Option 2 may apply directly to the Commission by submitting an application by mail including **all** of the following:

1. Photocopy of National Board Certification
2. Completed application ([form 41-4](#))
3. Application [processing fee](#)

### Private School Experience

Individuals who have three or more years teaching experience in a private school should refer to the information leaflet entitled *Single Subject and Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials – Requirements for Teachers with Private School Experience* ([CL-834](#)) for information on additional ways to qualify.

*Reference: California Education Code, Sections 44251, 44252, 44259, 44280, 44281, 44283, 44310, and 44335; and Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Sections 80413 and 80424*