Senate Bill 859, signed by the Governor on October 14, 2007, authorized the Commission to issue the Visiting Faculty Permit (VFP). The VFP was created to assist individuals with experience teaching at the postsecondary level earn an authorization to teach in a departmentalized setting in grades K-12. SB 859 sunsets on July 1, 2015. Therefore, the last issuance date for the Commission to initially issue the VFP was July 1, 2013. However, previously issued VFPs may be renewed until June 30, 2015.

The application for the VFP (and the subsequent preliminary and clear credentials) must be submitted to the Commission by a California public school employer that has an annual Declaration of Need on file at the Commission office. The holder of the VFP will be restricted to employment with the requesting employer.

Once the employing agency has determined that the holder of the VFP has met the requirements for the Preliminary Single Subject Teaching Credential, they will submit the application for the preliminary credential to the Commission and employment will again be restricted to the employing agency.


**Authorization**

The VFP authorizes the holder to teach the specific subject(s) named on the permit in departmentalized classes such as those in most middle schools and high schools. However, a teacher authorized for this type of instruction may be assigned to teach any subject in his or her authorized fields at any grade level (preschool, grades K–12, or in classes organized primarily for adult).

The subjects available for the VFP are as follows:

- Agriculture
- Art
- Biological Sciences (Specialized)
- Business
- Chemistry (Specialized)
- English
- Foundational-Level General Science
- Foundational-Level Mathematics
- Geosciences (Specialized)
- Health Science
- Home Economics
- Industrial and Technology Education
- Languages other than English ([specify](#))
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics (Specialized)
- Science: Biological Sciences
- Science: Chemistry
- Science: Geosciences
- Science: Physics
- Social Science

**Requirements for the VFP**

Individuals must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Official transcripts showing a master’s degree or higher from a regionally-accredited college or university in a subject area closely related to the subject area (see *Terms and Definitions*)
2. Verification of three years of full-time teaching experience earned at a regionally-accredited California community college, college, or university (see Terms and Definitions)

3. Verification of two years of the most recent performance evaluations, student evaluations, or other evaluations that indicate teacher effectiveness while teaching in a regionally-accredited California community college, college, or university

4. Completed application (form 41-4) submitted to the Commission by the employing agency and, if not previously submitted to the Commission, a completed LiveScan receipt (form 41-LS). Out-of-state residents must submit two fingerprint cards (FD-258) in lieu of a LiveScan receipt. If submitting fingerprint cards, current fingerprint processing fees must accompany the application packet.

5. Application processing fee

Note: Verification of basic skills is not a requirement for the VFP.

Requirements for the Reissuance of the VFP
The VFP will be issued for one year and may be reissued twice (for a total of three years on the permit) at the request of a public school employer if the individual satisfies all of the following requirements:

1. Completion of a three semester unit (or four quarter unit) course in departmentalized methodology offered by a California college or university with a Commission-approved professional preparation program (first reissuance only)

2. The California public school employer must have an annual Declaration of Need on file at the Commission office

3. Completed application (form 41-4), submitted to the Commission by the employing agency. Individuals may not apply directly to the Commission for this permit.

4. Application processing fees

Requirements for the Preliminary Single Subject Teaching Credential
Individuals must satisfy all of the following requirements:

1. Possession a valid VFP

2. Verification of two years of recent evaluations from a California public school employer covering employment based on the VFP on which the individual received ratings of satisfactory or better

3. Verification of a three semester unit (or four quarter unit) course in departmentalized methodology offered by a California college or university with a Commission-approved professional preparation program, unless previously met


5. Completed application (form 41-4), submitted to the Commission by the employing agency. Individuals may not apply directly to the Commission for this credential.

6. Application processing fees

Note: Verification of basic skills is not a requirement for the preliminary credential via this route.
Requirements for the Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential

Individuals must satisfy all of the following requirements:

1. Possession of a valid Preliminary Single Subject Teaching Credential, issued based on experience earned while holding a VFP

2. Completion of one of the following:
   a. Individualized professional development plan tailored to the needs of the individual teacher and the district that includes the mentoring, support, and assistance provided by a credentialed, experienced teacher who teaches the same subject as the applicant, verified by the employing agency on form CL-882
   b. Commission-approved professional General Education Induction program (see Terms and Definitions)

3. Completed application (form 41-4), submitted to the Commission by the employing agency. Individuals may not apply directly to the Commission for this credential.

4. Application processing fees

Terms and Definitions

Full-time Teaching Experience

Full-time teaching experience at the college or university level is determined by the college or university. Any equivalency based on number of hours or other factors will also be determined by the college or university. The letter of experience from the college or university will need to state that the experience is full-time. If it does not, it will be returned for clarification.

Professional General Education Induction Program

A Commission-approved professional general education induction program is a two-year program of situated learning for the preliminary credentialed teacher. A Verification of Induction Program Completion Form must be signed by the induction program director or designee. Individuals should contact their employing agency concerning enrollment in an induction program.

Closely Related Subjects

The following are the master’s degree majors considered “closely related” to the available statutory subject areas required for the issuance of the initial Visiting Faculty Permit:

**Agriculture:** agribusiness, animal science, agriculture mechanics, agriculture science, forestry, plant science, landscaping, crop science, dairy science, natural resources management, horticulture, or soil science

**Art:** art history, art appreciation, or studio art

**Business:** accounting, business management, economics (business), business administration, finance or marketing

**English:** composition, drama, journalism, speech, theatre arts, debate, forensics, or literature

**Health Science:** child development, nutrition, foods, health science, human sexuality, or public health

**Home Economics:** child development, foods, nutrition, interior design or clothing
**Industrial and Technology Education:** photography, radio and television, industrial technology, computer education/science or industrial design

**Language Other than English:** French, German, Spanish, or any language other than English including American Sign Language

**Mathematics:** algebra, calculus, statistics, probability, or mathematics

**Music:** instrumental or vocal music

**Physical Education:** dance, kinesiology or physical education

**Science: Biological Sciences:** biology, marine biology, anatomy, ecology, environmental science, genetics, zoology, physiology, life science or botany

**Science: Chemistry:** chemistry or biochemistry

**Science: Geoscience:** astronomy, earth science, ecology, oceanography, meteorology, or geology

**Science: Physics:** physics or thermodynamics

**Social Science:** anthropology, economics (social science), psychology, sociology, geography, government, political science, or history

*Reference: Education Code sections 44253.3, 44253.4, 44274.3, 44274.4, and 44300.1*