



CSBA ADVISORY

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING ELIMINATES EMERGENCY PERMITS

August 2003

At their August 2003 meeting and in a subsequent memorandum, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) approved many policy and regulatory changes affecting different aspects of current Commission activities, programs and policies that were in conflict with the No Child Left Behind Act requirements and the newly adopted State Board of Education's definition of "highly qualified" teacher. The changes are as follows:

- **EMERGENCY PERMITS:** Teachers serving on emergency permits and credential waivers do not meet the State Board of Education's (SBE) "highly qualified" definition; consequently teachers holding these documents are not NCLB compliant. In order to align their policies with the new SBE definition of "highly qualified" teachers, the Commission will no longer issue Multiple Subject and Single Subject Emergency Permits in the NCLB core areas of arts, English, mathematics, science, foreign language and social science, in Title I classrooms after Oct. 1, 2003 and cease issuing all Emergency Permits after July 1, 2005. The Commission will continue to issue emergency permits in non-core subjects. All permits issued prior to Oct. 1, 2003 will be effective until they expire.
- **CREDENTIAL WAIVERS:** The Commission will no longer issue multiple subjects and single subject credential waivers in NCLB core area Title I classrooms after Oct. 1, 2003 and all credential waivers after September 1, 2005. All waivers issued prior to Oct. 1, 2003 will be effective until they expire.

Special education emergency permits and credential waivers were not included in this action. The Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA) is currently being reauthorized by the U.S. Congress and once it is enacted the Commission will align special education permits and waivers to the "highly qualified" definition included in IDEA.

School districts should begin to encourage their emergency permit and credential waiver teachers to move into approved intern programs or to become certified. Districts can use Title I and Title II funds to move teachers into NCLB compliance. Teachers who need only to prove subject matter knowledge can begin preparations to take a CTC approved subject matter exam. See the additional resources section of this advisory for more information on these exams.



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- **MULTIPLE SUBJECT CREDENTIAL:** All multiple subject credential candidates are now required to pass a subject matter examination certified by the Commission. The subject matter exam currently being administered is the California Standards Examination for Teachers (CSET). Prior to the CSET, the CTC used the Multiple Subject Assessment for Teachers (MSAT). The exam is used to determine subject matter competency for credential candidates who have not taken approved subject matter coursework through an institute of higher education.

CTC staff will submit to the Commission in October a proposal outlining the timeline for the administration of the test. There are many options that can be adopted. Among them: that the exam be a prerequisite for entry into a teacher training program, appear within the program, or simply be a requirement for certification.

- **SUPPLEMENTARY AUTHORIZATIONS:** The Commission has issued supplementary authorizations for single subject credentials since 1979 and multiple subject credentials since 1981. Supplementary authorizations are commonly used at the middle and high schools in a variety of assignments. While holders of multiple subject credentials are currently authorized to teach in a core setting (two or more subjects to the same group of students) at the middle school level, employers use holders of supplementary authorizations to teach additional departmentalized classes outside their core assignment. Holders of single subject teaching credentials with introductory supplementary authorizations are also used to teach at the middle school level in core and departmentalized classes outside the subject of their credential. At the high school level, the specific supplementary authorizations are used to offer additional classes in subjects such as drafting, economics, literature, and psychology. In addition, elementary schools use holders of supplementary authorizations to teach physical education, art, music, and science to students during the self-contained classroom teacher's prep period.

Since supplementary authorizations do not require an individual to hold a degree in the subject area of the supplementary authorization, those supplementary subject areas that fall under the NCLB core academic subject areas will not be NCLB compliant unless the holder qualified by holding a degree in the subject area.

School districts may use the NCLB high, objective, uniform state standard of evaluation (HOUSSE) for "**Not New**" teachers (those hired before July 1, 2002) teaching on a supplemental authorization. The State Board of Education is currently working on the specifics of the HOUSSE evaluation and school districts should be receiving it in fall 2003.



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- For "**new**" teachers, the Commission will develop a new Degree Authorization and issue introductory and specific degree authorizations in the subjects listed below. An introductory degree authorization would authorize service in grades 9 and below and be limited to the broad core academic subject areas. Specific degree authorizations would authorize service in pre-K -12 in the specific subject area.

Subject areas for Introductory Degree Authorization

Art	Music	Social Science
English	Science	Mathematics
Languages other than English		

Requirements for Introductory Degree Authorization

A teaching credential based on bachelor's degree and teacher preparation program including subject matter competence, and one of the following:

- An undergraduate major in the broad subject area or within the broad subject area (Example: for English Degree Authorization, a degree in English, Shakespearean literature, or English composition), **or**
- A minimum of 32 semester units, or equivalent quarter units, including at least 16 upper division units of course work in the broad subject area with a minimum of a three semester unit, or equivalent quarter unit, course in each specific content area as currently required for a supplementary authorization (Example: Social Science would need one course in United States history, California history, world history, geography, and United States government).

Subject areas for Specific Degree Authorization

Civics	Geography	Literature
Dance	Painting and Drawing	History
Drama	Plant Science	Language Arts
Economics	Government	Instrumental Music
English Composition	Graphic Arts	Vocal Music

Requirements for Specific Degree Authorization

A teaching credential based on bachelor's degree and teacher preparation program including subject matter competence, and one of the following:

- An undergraduate major in specific subject area, **or**



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- An undergraduate major in a subject within the broad subject area with a minimum of twenty semester units, or equivalent quarter units, in the specific subject area (Example: major in social science with 20 semester units in geography)
 - A minimum of 32 semester units, or equivalent quarter units, including at least 16 upper division units of course work in the specific subject area.
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- **PRE-INTERNS:** The Commission will continue the Pre-Intern program for the immediate future, but will annually reduce its size until it is discontinued by July 1, 2006. After 2006, the Commission will continue to use the pre-intern program (subject to funding) as a means to accelerate subject matter preparation for prospective teachers.

Additional Resources

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Web Page:

www.ctc.ca.gov/CCTC-NCLB.html

California Commission on Teaching Credentialing Subject Matter Examinations Page:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/profserv/examinfo/examinfo.html>

CSBA Policy Services will revise its sample policies to reflect state and federal law as well as final regulatory actions of the State Board of Education and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. For more information go to www.gamutonline.net or call Martin Gonzalez, Assistant Executive Director, Policy Services @ (800) 266-3382.

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