State Of California
Commission On Teacher Credentialing
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SINGLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIAL

Requirements for Teachers Prepared in California

The Single Subject Teaching Credential authorizes the holder to teach the specific subject(s) named on the credential in departmentalized classes such as those in most middle schools and high schools. However, a teacher authorized for single subject 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 statutory subjects available for Single Subject Teaching Credentials 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 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 renewed.

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

1. Complete a baccalaureate or higher degree, except in professional education, 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 Commission-approved teacher preparation program including successful student teaching and teaching performance assessment, 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 three methods:
   a. Achieve a passing score on the appropriate subject-matter examination(s). Information, including passing scores and registration, can be found in Commission leaflet CL-674S entitled *Verifying Subject-Matter Competence by Examination for Single Subject Teaching Credentials*.

b. Complete a Commission-approved 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 approved program

c. For Specialized Science subjects only, individuals may take and pass the appropriate subject matter examinations or obtain verification of completion of subject-matter course work from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Requirements and procedures may be found in Coded Correspondence 03-0010.

5. 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

6. 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

7. Complete foundational computer technology course work that includes general and specialized skills in the use of computers in educational settings

Note: *Since the Ryan program completion dates have passed, including reasonable time for those who were granted extensions to complete the programs, the final issuance date for an initial Ryan Preliminary Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential for California prepared teachers will be* ***January 1, 2012****. The sunset date includes all routes for an extension by appeal.*

Requirements for the Clear Credential

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

Option 1

Complete a Commission-approved General Education Induction Program through an approved school district, county office of education, college or university, consortium, or private school. The induction program includes the advanced study of health education, special populations, computer technology, and teaching English learners.

Individuals applying for the clear credential under Option 1 must submit their application through their approved induction program sponsor.

Holders of SB 2042 preliminary credentials issued on or after August 30, 2004 must complete Option 1. Holders of SB 2042 preliminary credentials issued prior to August 30, 2004 may complete either Option 1 or Option 2.

Option 2

Complete a General Education Clear credential program at a California college or university with a Commission-approved teacher preparation program, securing that institution's formal recommendation for the clear credential. The following must also be verified with the application for the clear credential:

- advanced course work in health education that includes, but is not limited to, nutrition; the physiological and sociological effects of alcohol, narcotics, and drug abuse; and the use of tobacco

- advanced course work in the laws, methods, and requirements for providing educational opportunities to special populations in the regular classroom
- advanced course work in computer technology including the use of computers in educational settings
- advanced course work in teaching English learners (effective July 1, 2005)

Option 2 is only available to holders of SB 2042 preliminary credentials issued prior to August 30, 2004. Holders of SB 2042 preliminary credentials issued on or after August 30, 2004 must complete Option 1.

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 will be* ***January 1, 2018****. Applications from individuals who do not obtain Ryan clear teaching credentials by January 1, 2018 will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis under the program standards, statute, and regulations in effect at the time. See Coded Correspondence 11-02 for more information.*

Option 3

Teachers who are certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards will be issued a Clear Teaching Credential in the subject area in which they have received national certification. (See Table 1) National board Certification must be in the subject area listed on the preliminary credential.

Individuals applying for the clear credential under Option 3 may apply directly to the Commission for a clear teaching credential by using the Online Direct Application process, or by submitting an application by mail including all of the following:

1. Photocopy of National Board Certification
2. Completed application (form 41-4), and, if not previously submitted to the Commission, a completed LiveScan receipt (form 41-LS). Out-of-state residents have the option of submitting two fingerprint cards (FD-258) in lieu of a LiveScan receipt. If submitting fingerprint cards, current fingerprint processing fees must accompany the application packet.
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 titled *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, 44257, 44259, 44280, 44281, 44283, 44310, and 44335; and Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Sections 80413 and 80424

TABLE 1
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification

National Board Certification	National Board Certification
Early and Middle Childhood Certificate in Art, or Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Art	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Art
Early Adolescence Certificate in English Language Arts, or Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in English Language Arts	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in English
Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Career and Technical Education	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Industrial and Technology Education
Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in World Languages Other Than English	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Languages Other Than English (specify language)
Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood in Health	Single Subject Teaching Credential in Health Science
Early Adolescence Certificate in Mathematics, or Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in Mathematics	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Mathematics
Early and Middle Childhood Certificate in Music, or Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Music	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Music
Early and Middle Childhood Certificate in Physical Education, or Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood Certificate in Physical Education	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Physical Education
Early Adolescence Certificate in Science, or Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in Science	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential* Science: Biological Sciences Science: Chemistry Science: Geosciences Science: Physics
Early Adolescence Certificate in Social Studies-History, or Adolescence and Young Adulthood Certificate in Social Science-History	Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential in Social Science

** Teachers holding National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification in the area of Science will be issued the specific California science authorization based upon an out-of-state credential or official transcripts from a regionally-accredited college or university*