

SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFF

Qualifications/Assignment of Special Education Teachers

Any teacher assigned to serve students with disabilities shall possess an appropriate credential or other authorization issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) that specifically authorizes him/her to teach students with the primary disability within the program placement recommended in the students' individualized education program (IEP). (5 CCR 80046.1-80048.9.4)

The county office may employ a person with an appropriate district intern credential to provide classroom instruction to students with disabilities, provided he/she has met the subject matter requirement specified in Education Code 44325 and receives guidance, supervision, and professional development through an established district intern program. (Education Code 44325, 44326, 44830.3)

The Deputy Superintendent or designee may request that the CTC issue a special education limited assignment teaching permit which authorizes a qualified special education teacher, with his/her written consent, to serve outside the specialty area of his/her credential. If the teacher has not yet obtained permanent status, the Deputy Superintendent or designee shall assign one or more experienced educators in the special education subject area(s) of the permit, who have at least three years of full-time teaching experience in each of the subject area(s) of the permit, to provide guidance and assistance to the permit holder. (5 CCR 80026, 80027.1)

As needed, the district may apply to the CTC for an emergency permit for resource specialist services pursuant to 5 CCR 80023.2 and 80024.3.1.

If there is a need to immediately fill a classroom vacancy or a suitable credentialed teacher cannot be found after a diligent search, the Deputy Superintendent or designee may, as appropriate, apply to the CTC for a short-term staff permit pursuant to 5 CCR 80021, a provisional internship permit pursuant to 5 CCR 80021.1, or, as a last resort, a credential waiver.

Individuals providing related services to students with disabilities, including developmental, corrective, and other supportive and related services, shall meet the applicable qualifications specified in 5 CCR 3051-3051.24. (5 CCR 3051; 34 CFR 300.34, 300.156)

The Deputy Superintendent or designee shall provide ongoing professional development as needed to assist special education staff in updating and improving their knowledge and skills.

Whenever a candidate for a clear education specialist credential is employed by the district, the Superintendent or designee shall, within 60 days of employment, collaborate with the candidate and, as applicable, with the college or university to develop an individualized induction plan including supported induction and job-related course of advanced preparation. (5 CCR 80048.8.1)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that caseloads for special education teachers are within the maximum caseloads established by law, the collective bargaining agreement, and/or the comprehensive plan of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) in which the district participates.

LEGAL REFERENCE

EDUCATION CODE

8264.8 Staffing ratios
44250-44279 Credentials, especially:
44256 Credential types, specialist instruction
44258.9 Assignment monitoring
44265-44265.9 Special education credential
44325-44328 District interns
44830.3 District interns, supervision and professional development
56000-56865 Special education, especially:
56195.8 Adoption of policies
56361 Program options
56362-56362.5 Resource specialist program
56363.3 Maximum caseload; language, speech, and hearing specialists
56440-56441.7 Programs for individuals between the ages of three and five years; caseloads

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3051.1-3051.24 Staff qualifications to provide related services to students with disabilities
3100 Waivers of maximum caseload for resource specialists
80021 Short-term staff permit
80021.1 Provisional internship permit
80023.2 Emergency permits
80025.4 Substitute teaching, special education
80026 Declaration of need for fully qualified educators
80027.1 Special education limited assignment teaching permit
80046.1 Adapted physical education specialist
80046.5 Credential holders authorized to serve students with disabilities
80047-80047.9 Credentials to provide instructional services to students with disabilities
80048-80048.9.4 Credential requirements and authorizations
80070.1-80070.6 Resource specialists

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

300.8 Definition of autism

300.34 Related services

300.156 Special education personnel requirements

MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS

Special Education Teaching and Services Credentials, Added Authorizations in Special Education, and Limited Assignment Permits for California Prepared Teachers: Frequently Asked Questions, May 26, 2014

Education Specialist Teaching and Other Related Services Credential Program Standards, 2012

WEB SITES

California Association of Resource Specialists and Special Education Teachers:

<http://www.carsplus.org>

California Department of Education, Special Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se>

California Speech-Language-Hearing Association: <http://www.csha.org>

Commission on Teacher Credentialing: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov>

National Association of Special Education Teachers: <http://www.naset.org>