



UC MERCED EXTENSION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA MERCED  
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July 19, 2021

Dear UC Merced Teacher Preparation Program Prospective Candidates,

We are happy to announce that Governor Newsom has signed a trailer bill that includes the following provisions for CBEST and CSET assessments. Since these new options came into effect July 9, 2021 we are working to implement these changes for each candidate that applies to UCM Teacher Preparation Program (TPP). The new legislative language is as follows:

**Changes to Options to Meet the Basic Skills Requirement Signed into Law**

On July 9, 2021, Governor Newsom signed budget Trailer Bill AB 130. One key provision of this law is a new coursework option for prospective educators to use to demonstrate basic skills proficiency. This new provision allows the Commission and its approved educator preparation programs to verify that a candidate has demonstrated basic skills proficiency by accepting qualifying college level coursework from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Please see [Leaflet CL-667](#) for more information.

**Changes to Options to Meet Subject Matter Requirement Signed into Law**

On July 9, 2021, Governor Newsom signed [Assembly Bill 130 \(Chap. 44, Stats. 2021\)](#) which included significant changes in the options for candidates to demonstrate subject matter competence. The new law would allow a new coursework option, the use of certain majors, and a combination of coursework and passage of applicable examination subtests. Although this law takes effect immediately, Commission staff will be seeking approval of emergency regulations to fully implement this law. In addition, staff is working on developing guidance documents, FAQs and technical assistance for program sponsors as quickly as possible.

**Subject Matter Requirements:** All multiple subject, single subject, and education specialist teacher candidates are required to demonstrate competency in the subject matter they will teach before completing preparation and earning a credential. Until now, a candidate could meet this requirement either by taking and passing all the appropriate CSET examination or by completing a commission approved Subject Matter Program.

The approved measure expands the options available to aspiring teachers by allowing the approved preparation program to accept subject-relevant coursework that meets or exceeds the Commission's subject matter requirements.

The measure additionally allows incoming teachers to meet the requirement if they have completed an academic major in the subject they will teach.



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- For Single Subject credentials, the major must be in one of the subjects of single subject credential defined in statute.
- For Multiple Subject credentials, the major must be in liberal studies or an interdisciplinary major that addresses all the content areas of the Multiple Subject credential.
- For Education Specialists the major must meet the Multiple Subject requirements or be in a subject aligned to authorized CSET examination content areas used for an Education Specialist credential.

Aspiring teachers will be able to demonstrate competency using all available options or a combination of options, for example passing two of three CSET subtests and using prior coursework to meet the requirement.

We will work closely with CTC to implement these new legislative changes. In addition, we will work with each individual prospective candidate on how these changes specifically effect your specific Teacher Preparation Program application.

In Education,

*Marianna Y. Harris*

Marianna Y. Harris, Ed.D.