



UC MERCED EXTENSION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA MERCED  
5200 N. LAKE ROAD | MERCED, CA 95343  
TEL: 209-228-8639 | FAX: 209-228-4060

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Dear Prospective Credential Candidates,

Thank you for your interest in our Teacher Preparation Program at the University of California, Merced Extension. The information below is provided to inform you about the flexibilities that authorize our program to extend time for you to meet the required assessments in order to obtain a preliminary single subject or multiple subject credentials. Please read this information and email [teacherprep@ucmerced.edu](mailto:teacherprep@ucmerced.edu) if you have further questions.

### **PSA 21-05 Preliminary Multiple Subject and Single Subject Program Flexibilities Extended into 2021-2022 due to the Continued Impact of COVID-19**

[PSA 21-05](#) provides information on action taken by the Commission to extend Preliminary Multiple Subject and Single Subject Program Flexibilities into 2021-2022 due to the continued impact of COVID-19. In August 2020, the Commission approved specific flexibilities related to the implementation of the preliminary multiple subject and single subject credential program standards for the 2020- 2021 academic year. At the Commission's June 2021 meeting, the Commission approved the continuation of these flexibilities through the academic year 2021-2022 when warranted due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As in-person instruction is expected to resume more fully during the 2021-22 academic year, the Commission expects programs to use these flexibilities on a more limited basis, as appropriate, for situations in which a candidate's progress continues to be impacted by the pandemic.

### **Changes to Examinations: CBEST, RICA, and CSET**

#### **CBEST**

The single administration model for the computer-based option of the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) was retired on June 1, 2021. There are no changes to the paper-based option of the CBEST until the *California Code of Regulations* are updated.

Effective June 7, 2021, the computer-based option of the CBEST is being administered as three separate sections. Registration is now available for test appointments under this model. Please visit the [CBEST test landing page](#) for more information regarding this new administration model for CBEST. Note that the content specifications covered by each section is not changing.



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## RICA

The current single administration model of the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) Written examination will be retired as of July 25, 2021.

Effective July 26, 2021, candidates will have the option to take the RICA-Written as three separate subtests. Beginning July 20, 2021, candidates can register for test appointments on or after July 26, 2021. For more information regarding the new subtest structure of the RICA, including what content specification domains will be covered by each subtest can be found on the [RICA test landing page](#).

## CSET

The CSET: English (Subtests I, II, III, and IV) and CSET: Multiple Subjects (Subtest I and Subtest III) assessments are now available for online proctoring. Online proctoring allows examinees to test securely from one's home, school, or business. With just a simple check-in process—involving ID verification, face-matching technology, and a live greeter—examinees can test without having to travel to a test center.

Please see the [California Educator Credentialing Assessments](#) website for additional information about examinations.

Thanks again for your interest in our Teacher Preparation Program and we look forward to working with you to reach your educational goals.

In Education,

*Marianna Y. Harris*

Marianna Y. Harris, Ed.D.  
Director of Education Programs  
University of California, Merced Extension