Preliminary Education Specialist Program-Specific Preconditions Evidence Guide

The four program-specific preconditions below require specific evidence to demonstrate compliance. This document includes the required evidence to demonstrate compliance with these Preconditions. Please note that the Commission accepts authentic program documentation that demonstrates the equivalent to the evidence required.

(1) English Language Skills.

In each program of professional preparation, the college or university or school district requires candidates to demonstrate knowledge of effective methods of developing English language skills, including reading, among all pupils, including those for whom English is a second language, in accordance with the Commission's standards.

Reference: Education Code Sections 44227, 44253.1, and 44283.

The University of La Verne LaFetra College of Education requires all teacher preparation candidates to demonstrate knowledge of alternative methods of developing English language skills, including reading, among all their students. Each teacher education candidate has the opportunity to understand programs for English Learners and how to assess and place students in appropriate programs. In addition, they design lessons using state adopted ELD and content standards. Strategies that are effective with the English learner are explicitly taught throughout the program, with special emphasis in the following courses

- 1) Education 425 Language and Literacy
- 2) Education 426 Introductory Teaching Practices Education
- 5) SPED 409 Directed Teaching

All candidates are provided explicit instruction in the theories of first and second language acquisition and the connection between language development and literacy development. They also have numerous opportunities in classes and fieldwork to understand and correctly implement appropriate classroom management, alternative groupings, and inclusion. The education specialist program curriculum is described in the University Catalog: https://education.laverne.edu/teaching/master-of-arts-in-teaching-inclusive-education/

(2) Assessing Candidates for Subject Matter Competence.

The program sponsor has a timely and systematic process for evaluating and notifying candidates of their standing in relation to the subject matter competence requirement. This process includes:

• Providing candidates with clear and accurate information in all advising and application materials about all options available to demonstrate subject matter competence, pursuant to Education Code Section 44259(b)(5)(a).

• Within the first 60 days of the candidate's admission, the institution must complete an assessment of each candidate's standing in relation to demonstration of the subject matter competence requirement, including whether a coursework evaluation will be needed, and notify candidates of that standing.

The Subject Matter requirement is listed on Admission Requirements website under Program Requirements:

Program Requirements: optional, if available at the time of admissions.

The following items are program requirements and may be submitted at the time of admission:

- 1. CSET or proof of completion of Subject Matter Requirement (required prior to student teaching)
- 2. RICA (multiple subject) (Required for Preliminary credential)

Candidates meet with faculty members to verify subject matter competence during the admission process and advise them of their options:

- The candidate provides evidence of having passed the Commission-approved basic skills exam or CL-667 equivalent;
 Multiple Subject matter examination; or pass a Commission-approved subject matter examination in Art, English,
 Mathematics, including foundational-level Mathematics, Music, Social Science or Science, including foundational-level General Science; or Complete a Commission-approved subject matter program in Art, Elementary, English,
 Mathematics including foundational-level Mathematics, Music, Social Science or Science, including foundational-level
 General Science.
- The candidate provides evidence of having attempted the appropriate subject matter examinations(s).
- The candidate provides evidence of registration for the next scheduled examination.
- The candidate provides evidence of having completed an appropriate Commission approved subject matter preparation program.
- The candidate provides evidence of continuous progress toward meeting the subject matter requirement.
- The candidate provides evidence of enrollment in an organized subject matter examination preparation program.
- Candidates may submit transcripts and course descriptions for an evaluation under AB 130 to see if their courses match the subject matter domains.

If the requirement was not met at time of admission, it is listed in the Student Teaching prerequisites (form) and application.

(3) Demonstration of Subject Matter Competence

The approved preliminary teacher preparation program sponsor determines that each candidate meets the subject matter requirement prior to being given daily whole class instructional responsibilities in a TK-12 school.

- A) For Education Specialist programs, the candidate provides evidence of having demonstrated subject matter competence through one of the following methods:
 - 1. Completion of a subject matter program approved by the Commission on the basis of standards of program quality and effectiveness. Reference: Education Code 44259(b)(5)(A)(i).
 - 2. Passage of a Commission-approved subject matter examination. Reference: Education Code 44259 (b)(5)(A)(ii).
 - 3. Successful completion of coursework at one or more regionally accredited institution of higher education that addresses each of the domains of the subject matter requirements adopted by the Commission in the content area of the credential pursuant to Section 44282, as verified by a Commission-approved program of professional preparation. Coursework completed at a community or junior college that is regionally accredited by an accrediting agency listed in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (g) of Section 44203 or by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges may count for purposes of this clause. Reference: Education Code 44259 (b)(5)(A)(iii).
 - 4. Successful completion of a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education with either a major in one of the subject areas in which the Commission credentials candidates or a liberal studies or other major that includes coursework in the content areas pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 44282.
 - 5. A combination of the methods described in 1, 2, or 3 above that, together, demonstrate that the candidate has met or exceeded the domains of the subject matter requirements adopted by the Commission. Education Code 44259 (b)(5)(A)(v), 44282 (b).
- B) For integrated undergraduate programs only, the candidate must be monitored by the program for subject matter competency prior to beginning early field experiences and throughout the program until such time as it has been determined that the candidate has satisfied subject matter competence. Each candidate in an integrated undergraduate program must have satisfied subject matter competence, or at a minimum completed four-fifths of the Commission-approved subject matter preparation program, prior to beginning daily whole class instruction.

NOTES:

• Proposed Title 5 regulations are under review with the Office of Administrative Law. These proposed regulations would provide additional information on meeting the subject matter competence requirement by degree major and/or completed coursework. Commission staff will update the relevant preconditions and evidence guidance documents and remove this note, if and when, the

Title 5 regulations take effect, in accordance with direction from the Commission.

• Verification of subject-matter competence is not required for the area of Early Childhood Special Education.

The University of La Verne LaFetra College of Education verifies that each education specialist candidate has met the appropriate the subject matter requirement prior to directed teaching (SPED 497/498E), or, for intern candidates, before being given daily whole class instructional responsibilities in a K-12 school or before becoming the teacher of record in a K-12 school. Prerequisites (<u>form</u>) and <u>application</u>.

(4) Completion of Requirements.

A college or university or school district that operates a program for the Education Specialist teaching credential shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the credential, that the candidate meets all legal requirements for the credential, including but not limited to: Reference: Education Code Sections 44225(a), 44227, and 44283.2(a).

- Possession of a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Satisfaction of the Basic Skills Requirement
- Completion of an accredited professional preparation program
- Completion of the subject matter requirement
- Demonstration of knowledge of the principles and provisions of the Constitution of the United States
- Passage of the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA)
- Passage of a Commission-approved Teaching Performance Assessment (for candidates enrolling after July 1, 2022)

The University of La Verne LaFetra College of Education has developed a system using trained credential analysts to verify that ESN credential candidates meet all legal requirements prior to receiving a recommendation for the credential.

Link to handbook (pg 18): The University of La Verne uses the program MyDegree Tracker as a form of tracking degree requirements, course sequencing, and student information. The link to this can be found in each students' La Verne Portal under quick links. Only the student and their designated faculty advisors have access to MyDegree Tracker.



