

# Understanding the Differences in Minimum Qualifications (MQs) for California Community Colleges Instructors and Career and Technical Education (CTE) Instructors

The academic prerequisites a teacher must satisfy to be eligible to become a California Community Colleges certified dual enrollment instructor are uniquely different from the qualifications needed to teach CTE courses to high school students. These differences in MQs have strong implications on the types of courses local education agencies (LEAs) are actually able to offer to students on their high school campuses and whether or not existing CTE courses can also become dual enrollment eligible courses.

## Minimum Qualifications for Instructors in California Community Colleges

*The MQs cited in the position announcement generally follow the following pattern:*

- Possession of a Master's Degree (or PhD) in the discipline, with those acceptable discipline titles determined by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges; or
- Possession of a Bachelor's Degree in the discipline and a Master's in a related field, again determined by the Senate; or
- Possession of a valid California Community College Teaching Credential appropriate to the discipline; or
- Possession of qualifications different from, but equivalent to, those listed on the discipline list, according to criteria and procedures agreed upon by the governing board (of the institution) and the academic senate.

## Minimum Qualifications for CTE Instructors

*Requirements for the Three-Year Preliminary Credential*

Individuals must satisfy all of the following requirements:

- Three years of work experience directly related to each industry sector to be named on the credential.
- High school diploma requirement by one of the following methods: possess a high school diploma, possess a diploma based on passage of the GED Test, possess the foreign equivalent of a high school diploma
- Verification, signed by the Commission-approved program sponsor, that the applicant has been apprised of the requirements for both the preliminary and clear credentials, including the requirements of the program of personalized preparation.
- Completed application (form 41-4)
- Completed Live Scan receipt (form 41-LS), verifying fingerprints have been taken and fees have been paid, unless fingerprint clearance is already on file with the Commission.
- Application processing fee.
- Recommendation by a Commission-approved CTE program sponsor.

### *Requirements for the Five-Year Clear Credential*

- Individuals must satisfy all of the following requirements:
- Possess a valid California Preliminary CTE Teaching Credential (three-year or five-year).
- Commission-approved program of personalized preparation that includes training in Specially Designed Academic Instruction Delivered in English (SDAIE).

Verify completion of one of the following:

- Two years of successful teaching on the basis of the Preliminary CTE Teaching Credential in the industry sector(s) listed on the credential.
- A Commission-approved program of advanced personalized preparation as determined by the program sponsor agency.

U.S. Constitution requirement by one of the following methods:

- Complete a course (at least two semester units or three quarter units) in the provisions and principles of the U.S. Constitution. Submit a copy of the course description for evaluation purposes.
- Pass an examination in the provisions and principles of the U.S. Constitution, given by a regionally-accredited college or university.
- Health education, including, but not limited to, the study of nutrition; the physiological and sociological effects of abuse of alcohol, narcotics, and drugs, and the use of tobacco. This requirement must also include training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) that covers infant, child, and adult CPR skills.
- Complete study in computer-based technology, including the uses of technology in educational settings.
- Completed application (form 41-4).
- Application processing fee.
- Recommendation by a Commission-approved CTE program sponsor.