

## CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

CSA1 Bill Id:AB 1009 Author:(Blanca Rubio)

As Amended Ver:September 4, 2025

Majority vote

**SUMMARY**

Authorizes occupational therapists (OTs) and physical therapists (PTs) to be eligible for a preliminary administrative services credential.

**Senate Amendments**

- 1) Modify the proposed qualifications for OTs and PTs to meet the minimum requirements for a preliminary administrative services credential, as specified.
- 2) Increase the minimum experience requirement from three years to five years.
- 3) Authorize a waiver of up to two years of the minimum experience requirement.
- 4) Specify that a preliminary administrative services credential does not authorize the supervision or evaluation of teachers unless the employing local educational agency (LEA) determines that the individual possesses additional educational or job experience, leadership training, or an advanced degree that qualifies the individual for the responsibilities of a school administrator.
- 5) Incorporate additional changes proposed by AB 959 (Hadwick) of this Session to be operative only if this bill and AB 959 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

**COMMENTS**

*OTs and PTs do not currently have the opportunity to earn an administrative credential.* This bill would authorize OTs and PTs to be eligible for a preliminary services credential in administrative services based upon their licensure to practice occupational therapy or physical therapy.

In a report to the CTC for its February 2022 meeting, staff noted that the CTC has been asked by many in the OT and PT sector to consider the development of a credential for individuals who serve as OTs and PTs. Requests for a credential are based on a desire for individuals serving as OTs or PTs to advance in their careers, enter the certificated employee salary scale, and hold Administrative Services positions.

Currently, there is no credential requirement for OTs and PTs to serve in California's public schools. There is also no avenue for such individuals to obtain an Administrative Services Credential, as the statutory requirements for the credential require possession of a teaching or services credential issued by the CTC. The lack of a pathway for OTs and PTs who provide special education related services in public schools prevents these educators from being able to take on certificated leadership roles, as a basic credential is required for OTs and PTs to gain access to an administrative credential under current law.

**According to the Author**

"Occupational Therapists (OTs) and Physical Therapists (PTs) have been providing related services to students in public schools since the 1970s and are the only Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) mandated professionals not included in a credential opportunity afforded to teachers and all other related services providers. This is based on a statute that was written at a time prior to IDEA and districts' employment of OTs and PTs. Currently, OTs and PTs working in school systems are not authorized to obtain a base credential, thereby rendering them ineligible to pursue an administrative services credential or participate in many higher-level positions. Creating a pathway for OTs and PTs who desire to obtain an administrative services credential will allow qualified personnel an opportunity to move into administrative roles and share their unique expertise at a leadership level."

**Arguments in Support**

The Occupational Therapy Association of California and the California Physical Therapy Association write, "OTs and PTs have been providing educationally related services to students in public schools since the 1970s and are the only Individual with Disabilities Education Act mandated professionals who are not included in a credential opportunity afforded to teachers and other related services providers. Currently, OTs and PTs working in the school systems are not authorized to obtain a base credential, thereby rendering them ineligible to pursue an administrative service credential. This measure would allow OTs and PTs to pursue administrative and leadership positions. Their unique training and expertise can contribute meaningfully at a systems level to support access and inclusion of all students."

AB 1009 modifies current law to increase professional equity for OTs and PTs by allowing them to qualify to obtain an administrative services credential. Passage of AB 1009 is a crucial step in supporting children and families by providing a pathway for OTs and PTs to advance within the educational system."

**Arguments in Opposition**

None on file

**FISCAL COMMENTS**

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, "The CTC estimates General Fund costs of \$127,000 each year for 1.0 position to create resources, provide technical assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and the public, and process additional applications."

**VOTES:****ASM EDUCATION: 9-0-0**

**YES:** Muratsuchi, Hoover, Addis, Alvarez, Bonta, Castillo, Garcia, Lowenthal, Patel

**ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 14-0-1**

**YES:** Wicks, Sanchez, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Solache, Ta, Alanis

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Pellerin

**ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0-10**

**YES:** Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio,

Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas  
**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Arambula, Boerner, Carrillo, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Irwin, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Wallis

**UPDATED**

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