

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2206 (Fong) – As Amended April 13, 2026

Policy Committee:	Education	Vote:	9 - 0
	Higher Education		10 - 0

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: No Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill establishes a pilot program authorizing the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2033, to approve a community college to recommend the issuance of a designated subjects career technical education (CTE) credential in a subject aligned to the community college’s approved baccalaureate degree major to a person who has successfully completed the required preparation and met applicable standards.

The bill also requires the Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO), by January 1, 2032, to conduct an interim evaluation of the programs authorized pursuant to this bill.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Ongoing General Fund costs of approximately \$500,000 annually for the CTC to hire additional staff to process and approve community colleges seeking approval for credential issuance and to provide technical assistance and monitor approved colleges.

According to CTC, there are currently 31 baccalaureate degrees in CTE subjects offered across 23 community colleges, all of which align with subject areas for CTE credentials. Therefore, this bill introduces a potential of 23 new institutions that may seek approval through CTC’s Initial Institutional Approval process, a five-stage multi-year process, placing them in CTC’s accreditation system.

The Legislative Analyst’s Office recently warned of General Fund structural deficits of around \$35 billion per year in the 2027-28 fiscal year and ongoing.

COMMENTS:

1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

AB 2206 is a measured approach to expanding teacher preparation programs to the California Community Colleges by allowing colleges with pre-existing baccalaureate degree programs to offer a corresponding career technical education degree. This will allow the community college an opportunity to demonstrate they are able to offer quality post-baccalaureate degree programs and to assist in addressing a critical workforce shortage. Community colleges are meant to serve their community, and this measure expands their

opportunity to meet an unmet workforce need by offering career educational teacher preparation programs.

- 2) **Background.** In 2014 the Legislature authorized the California Community Colleges Board of Governors, in consultation with the California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC), to establish a baccalaureate degree pilot program. The pilot program allowed up to 15 participating community college districts (CCDs) to offer one baccalaureate degree program each to meet local workforce needs provided it was not duplicating a baccalaureate degree program already offered by the CSU or the UC. The LAO conducted interim and final evaluations of the pilot program.

In 2021, the Legislature permanently approved the original pilot programs and allowed authorization for as many as 30 new baccalaureate degrees per year statewide. As of the publication of this analysis there are a total of 47 approved programs across 38 community colleges. Most participating campuses currently offer one program. Current law continues to prohibit any of the CCC baccalaureate degree programs to duplicate any program offered by the CSU or UC, except with regard to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree programs offered by the CCC.

Currently, only two CSU campuses, two UC campuses, and 15 local educational agencies have authorization to offer CTE credentials in California. This bill allows participating community colleges, upon approval by the CTC, to provide teacher preparation programs in designated CTE subjects.

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