

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING
AB 2206 (Fong)
As Amended April 13, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Establishes the California Community College designated subjects CTE credential pilot program.

Major Provisions

- 1) Authorizes California Community Colleges that offered a baccalaureate degree in career technical education fields prior to January 1, 2026, to offer a corresponding program of personalized preparation and recommend the issuance of designated subjects teacher credentials in the career technical education (CTE) field associated with the baccalaureate degree, until January 1, 2033.
- 2) Requires the CTC to apply the same standards for approval of a program of professional preparation offered by a regionally accredited institution of higher education to a program for personalized preparation for designated subjects CTE credentials offered by a community college.
- 3) Requires the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), by January 1, 2032, to conduct an interim statewide evaluation of the programs for personalized preparation for designated subjects CTE credentials accredited by the CTC and report to the Legislature and the Governor.
- 4) Authorizes the issuance of a three-year preliminary designated subjects CTE teaching credential with a baccalaureate degree in the industry sector or subject named on the credential from a community or junior college that confers baccalaureate degrees or a regionally accredited institution of higher education, instead of three years of industry experience.
- 5) Deletes community colleges from the definition of regionally accredited, and instead states, for purposes of the baccalaureate degree requirement for teacher credentialing purposes, a baccalaureate degree from a community or junior college that is regionally accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges satisfies the baccalaureate degree requirement only if the baccalaureate degree includes coursework in basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills in the English language.

COMMENTS

What does this bill do? The pilot program proposed by this bill would authorize the California Community Colleges (CCC) that offered baccalaureate degrees in CTE fields, prior to January 1, 2026, to offer a corresponding teacher preparation program and recommend the issuance of designated subjects teacher credentials in the CTE field associated with the baccalaureate degree. This bill would further authorize the issuance of a preliminary designated subjects credential with a baccalaureate degree instead of 3,000 hours of professional experience. It is the intent of the Legislature to create a pilot program for community colleges to be authorized to offer

programs of personalized preparation for designated subjects credentials in career and technical education, and not teacher preparation programs for other teaching credentials.

Do CCC faculty have the same qualifications as CSU and UC faculty? Faculty at the CSU and the UC are required to have doctoral degrees. According to the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 53410, in order to teach upper division courses at the California Community College, a faculty member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- 1) Master's degree in the discipline of the faculty member's assignment;
- 2) Master's degree in a discipline reasonably related to the faculty member's assignment and possession of a bachelor's degree in the discipline of the faculty member's assignment;
- 3) If a master's degree is not generally expected or available in the discipline of the faculty member's assignment – then the faculty member is to either have a master's degree in a discipline related to the teaching assignment and two years of professional experience or a bachelor's degree related to the teaching assignment and six years of professional experience; or,
- 4) If a master's degree in the discipline is not generally expected or available and where a related master's or bachelor's degree is not generally expected or available; possession of either is acceptable:
 - a) Any master's degree and two years of professional experience; or
 - b) Any bachelor's degree and six years of professional experience.

The designated subjects CTE credential is unique in that it does not require a baccalaureate degree. With this in mind, a community college faculty member with a baccalaureate degree and professional experience or a master's degree may be appropriate to teach coursework leading to a preliminary or clear CTE designated subjects teaching credential. *The Assembly may wish to consider* whether it would be appropriate for community college faculty with a baccalaureate degree or master's degree to teach coursework in teacher preparation that would lead to the issuance of other teaching credentials, including multiple subject and single subject credentials, which are currently taught by doctoral level faculty at the CSU, UC and private colleges.

Current credential requirements for the designated subjects CTE credential. The chart below delineates the requirements for the preliminary and clear designated subjects CTE credential.

Designated Subjects CTE Credential

Preliminary Credential Requirements

- 1) 3 years of work experience in the CTE industry sector (or alternative training/education)
- 2) High School Diploma (No Bachelor's degree required)

Clear Credential Requirements

- 1) 9-unit (or 135-hour PD) CTE program course of study covering CTE standards 8-16
- 2) 2 years of successful CTE teaching with program support and supervision.

Candidates not required to pass for either credential: Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA), Reading Instruction exam (RICA), Subject Matter Competence, or Basic Skills Assessment

According to the Author

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 CTE 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."

Arguments in Support

The California Federation of Teachers states, "The CFT — A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO, supports AB 2206 (Fong) as it establishes a pilot program that permits a limited number of community colleges to offer a postbaccalaureate teacher preparation program for career technical credentials."

Arguments in Opposition

None

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, 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.

VOTES

ASM EDUCATION: 9-0-0

YES: Patel, Hoover, Alvarez, Bonta, Castillo, Garcia, Lowenthal, Pellerin, Zbur

ASM HIGHER EDUCATION: 10-0-0

YES: Fong, DeMaio, Boerner, Macedo, Jackson, Muratsuchi, Patel, Ramos, Sharp-Collins, Tangipa

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0

YES: Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

UPDATED

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