
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2206 (Fong) - Teacher credentialing: community college baccalaureate degrees: designated subjects career technical education teaching credential

Version: June 8, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: June 29, 2026

Policy Vote: ED. 7 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: This bill prohibits California Community Colleges (CCCs) from serving as teacher preparation institutions for purposes of recommending candidates for teaching credentials. This bill also establishes a pilot program to authorize CCCs with existing baccalaureate degree programs to offer Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)-approved preparation programs for Designated Subjects Career Technical Education (CTE) credentials.

Fiscal Impact: The CTC estimates ongoing General Fund costs of \$490,000 and 2.0 positions to comply with the bill's requirements. The CTC indicates there are 31 baccalaureate degrees in CTE subjects offered across 23 community colleges which align with subject areas for CTE credentials. Therefore, there could potentially be 23 new institutions that seek approval through the Commission's five-stage multi-year approval process and be placed in its accreditation system. The positions would be responsible for reviewing and confirming alignment to eligibility requirements, common standards, and program standards, providing technical assistance, and responding to questions from institution leadership and program staff.

Background: Existing law establishes the CTC and authorizes the commission to establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits. It authorizes CTC to approve regionally accredited institutions of higher education to recommend candidates for teaching credentials if the institution's preparation program meets commission standards.

Existing law requires applicants for most teaching credentials to possess a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and complete an approved professional preparation program.

Existing law establishes the CCC Baccalaureate Degree Program and authorizes the Board of Governors, in consultation with California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC), to approve up to 30 CCC baccalaureate degree programs annually, provided the programs do not duplicate existing CSU or UC degree programs.

Existing law establishes the Designated Subjects CTE credential and generally requires candidates to demonstrate specified industry experience or a combination of industry experience and education.

Proposed Law: This bill prohibits the CTC from approving community colleges as teacher preparation institutions under the general authority applicable to regionally accredited institutions of higher education.

This bill establishes the CCC Designated Subjects CTE Credential Pilot Program, and authorizes, from January 1, 2027, through January 1, 2033, the CTC to approve certain community colleges to offer preparation programs for Designated Subjects CTE credentials and recommend candidates for those credentials. It limits pilot participation to community colleges that offered a baccalaureate degree prior to January 1, 2026, pursuant to the CCC baccalaureate degree program.

This bill requires credential preparation programs offered under the pilot to align with the community college's approved baccalaureate degree major. It requires the CTC to apply the same standards used for approval of credential preparation programs offered by other institutions of higher education.

This bill requires the CTC to conduct an interim evaluation of the pilot and report specified findings to the Legislature and Governor by January 1, 2032.

This bill prohibits a community college or community college district from offering an integrated teacher preparation program that allows candidates to complete professional preparation concurrently with subject matter preparation while earning a bachelor's degree. It specifies that a baccalaureate degree earned from a community college satisfies credentialing degree requirements only if it includes coursework demonstrating proficiency in basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills.

This bill excludes community college districts from the definition of an "institution of higher education" for purposes of specified credentialing statutes.

Staff Comments: This bill provides that the CCCs are not institutions of higher education for purposes of operating teacher preparation programs. Specifically, it prohibits the CTC from approving CCCs as teacher preparation institutions outside the bill's express authorization and also prohibits CCCs from offering integrated baccalaureate/teacher preparation programs. However, the bill authorizes a limited pilot where CCCs may seek CTC approval to offer programs of personalized preparation for Designated Subjects CTE credentials. 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."

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