

CSHA BOARD REPORT CAPITOL UPDATE

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www.leginfo.ca.gov

CTC Credential Reforms

New Communication Development Specialist?

CTC staff has held two workgroup meetings (mostly discussing pre-referral language/literacy and social communication interventions for struggling students as well as some special ed students, including collaboration with SLPs). Workgroups were told that the credential name was off-limits and solely up to the CTC Commissioners! CTC staff with Design Teams (varying membership) will draft authorizations, training, and scope of services (see CTC's Mike McKibbin's info below).

CTC July 16th Sacramento Public Forum and August 13th LA Public Forums – details not yet announced! CSHA will issue an email alert as soon as possible.

See draft CSHA statement attached.

The CTC staff proposals are scheduled to be discussed at CTC Commission meeting Nov. 6th prior to CTC Commission approval Dec 11/12. This to be followed by CTC formal regulation process in 2009, which requires formal public hearings and is expected to take 6-12 months. Expedited pilot training program projects may approved prior to CTC credentialing regulations and/or training program authorizations. See CTC web info below.

Revised Credential Authorizations, Competencies, & Training Program Accreditation

Terry Saenz (CSU Fullerton) and Dee Parker (CSU DH) have been drafting suggestions for revised SLP credential authorizations, competencies and training program accreditation standards. Note previous accreditation concept called "ASHA Plus" (*for ASHA Council on Academic Accreditation*) plus additional CTC standards – now appears not to be endorsed by CTC staff. CTC staff notes that ASHA's CAA training program standards do not mention children, schools, autism, IEPs, etc. -- and thus totally CA separate CTC standards will need delineation.

CA university graduate training programs for SLPs are extremely stressed over time, paperwork and staffing required for multiple accreditation surveys and visits required by CAA, CTC, NCATE, etc. Additionally, proposals for revised CTC accreditation standards will not be effective until adoption of 2009 CTC regulations. Existing CTC standards are based upon old ASHA standards, which were substantially altered and are effective this year. Thus currently, training programs must draft accreditation visit reviews for old CTC standards with the old ASHA plus CTC standards, as well as new ASHA CAA standards.

CTC web info:

[*Changes in Credentials to Provide Services to California Students with Speech-Language Needs*](#)

CTC 6/5/0 update: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2008-06/2008-06-3F.pdf>

CTC's Michael McKibbin, Administrator Teacher Development at CTC made a presentation at the CSHA Convention April 11, 2008. See power point presentation.

[Special Ed Design Team - Standards Subcommittee Meeting](#) [MS Word]

[Special Ed Design Team - Agenda \(Tentative\)](#) [MS Word]

[Special Ed Design Team - Calendar](#) [MS Word]

[Special Ed Design Team Roster](#) [MS Word]

ASHA Statement on Lowering Personnel Standards

www.asha.org/about/legislation-advocacy/state/LowStandTalkingPts.htm

(Draft) CSHA Statement on New Communication Development Credential?

See accompanying draft statement

Credentialing side issues to watch:

Pending AB 2226 flexibility or comparability of coursework for special ed credentialing;

Pending AB 2517 Local alternative training

CBEST Credentialing - Exemptions?

Previously an agreement had been reached to exempt from the CTC credentialing Basic English & math test, to those with a masters degree. CTA and CFT opposed such exemptions. Thus pending SB 1186 will exempt CBEST from those with passing scores on College Board SAT Reasoning Test; the ACT English & math tests; or the CA State University Early Assessment Program.

SB 1186 would if passed, exempt those licensed SLPs in schools that employ or contract "licensed" (versus credentialed) SLPs. Thus those schools licensed SLPs would not have to take the CBEST exam.

Schools could hire credentialed personnel who have not had a chance to take the CBEST exam (*currently schools must obtain a waiver while an employee waits for the CBEST EXAM*).

LICENSING

SLPAB licensing policy board - Sunset?

As you recall, there was a snafu in the early morning hours of the final day of last legislative session resulting in the failure of legislation to extend the "sunset" (i.e., termination) dates of several licensing policy boards. When follow-up legislation was discussed, there was an issue with extending the termination of government entities by urgency legislation, meaning such legislation could not become effective until the following January.

The solution has resulted in two measures: one an urgency measure with the immediate creation of an advisory policy committee. Another bill will recreate the existing policy board on 1/1/09. See AB 1545 and SB 797 now on the Governor's desk.

New RPE Supervisor Requirement of 6 hours before starting supervision

(Regulation still pending but expected to be effective sometime in July 2009)

Originally the licensing board proposed a regulation to eliminate the requirement that a RPE supervisor have a CCC. Instead these supervisors for RPEs would have a license. This proposal was sponsored by audiologists. Subsequently, this proposal also added a requirement for six hours of supervisor training for RPE supervisors. At the April 2008 CSHA Board meeting, many were caught off-guard by this added supervisor course requirement and expressed concerns over an additional hurdle in RPEs finding supervisors.

RPE Supervisor 6 hour training requirement status?

Expected to be effective sometime in July. SLPAB FAQs available on SLPAB and CSHA web sites. RPE applications approved prior to the effective date of the regulation do not require supervisor coursework. Note all 6 hours can be taken on-line or with several scheduled courses (see CSHA web calendar of events).

While supervisor coursework can be utilized for licensing CE requirements, note the four hours CE limit for "self-study" (i.e., on-line coursework). Note also that SLPAB does not have a required supervisor curriculum or course standards other than number of hours.

Licensing of Foreign Trained SLPs

Previous entities evaluating foreign university transcripts (i.e., from the Philippines, India, etc.) were deemed inconsistent and unreliable. Additionally there is a question as to English competencies of

foreign-trained SLP's. See SLPAB 5/23/08 meeting discussions as well as CSHA Commissioner on Professional Services Board Report.

Note there have been several foreign trained SLPs from the UK, Australia, and other European countries who because their university programs are not comparable to the U.S. masters' degree, have been unable to obtain a CA SLP license. These SLPs have obtained their CCCs by way of ASHA's International Agreements but the SLPAB licensing office does not recognize those CCCs. Some of these SLPs mentioned above have been able to obtain a credential by way CTC waivers (VTW - Variable Term Waivers) and enrolling in a masters degree program (including distance learning programs).

It has been reported that previously, CTC was issuing VTWs (waivers) to Philippine SLPs with questionable university programs but it is my understanding that since CSHA sponsored legislation placed new SLP credentialing standards in the Ed Code (including that accreditation must include ASHA CAA as well as CTC standards), some schools have had to terminate the use of some of these foreign-trained personnel (i.e., East Palo Alto's Ravenswood City Schools).

CTC Variable Term Waivers Issued year-to-date (new & renewed): www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/waivers.html

Next SLPAB licensing board meeting August 21/22 San Diego: www.slpab.ca.gov

School Retirees Returning to Work?

After many workgroup discussions, it appears that pending legislation will not substantially ease the complicated Ed Code provisions for the Post-Retirement Income CAP of approximately \$27,500 and exemptions for special ed personnel (wait one year). AB 2390 is expected to simply extend the current laws for another year. See Ed Code 24214 as well as 24216.5 (a)(2)(E) which list "*instruction and pupil services provided to pupils enrolled in special education programs*".

State Budget

This week the Senate announced their budget proposal, which would prevent cuts to vital services totaling \$11.5 billion. Assembly and Senate conferees are meeting NOW to develop a joint budget proposal that would protect California's children, families, and communities. Republicans claim the economy and the public so not allow for new taxes.

Legislative budget conferees: Senator Denise Ducheny (D-SD), chair; Assemblyman John Laird (D-Santa Cruz), vice-chair; Senator Bob Dutton (R-Inland Empire), Senator Michael Machado (D-Stockton); Assemblyman Roger Niello (R-Sacramento), and Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco).

The State Assembly is recommending an increase in funding for K-14 education above the level provided by the Governor in his May Revision. Specifically:

No more cuts to the current year budget beyond the February actions.

K-14 education will get \$2.3 billion more in funding for 2008-09 than the Governor's May Revision. The Assembly budget proposal would **fully fund the Prop 98 guarantee**. The Assembly Speaker indicated that funding sources would be disclosed and discussed in the final negotiations.

Provides a partial **COLA at 1.6%** for Revenue Limits (general-purpose funding) and Categorical. (Because the statutory COLA is 5.66%, there will still be a deficit factor of about 3.626%).

Restores cuts to categorical programs made the Governor in the May Revision.

Restores cuts to Special Education (and not at the expense of Deferred Maintenance).

Provides **\$75 Million for the California Community College** to backfill the property tax drop.

Protects child care with new on-going funds that were one-time funds last year.

Oppose Medi-Cal optional service cuts (*including speech therapy, audiology, dentistry, etc. for adults not in nursing homes*).

Medi-Cal rate cuts implemented July 1st. The Assembly recommends cuts be reduced to a 5% cut will depend court challenges (legal challenge is based upon the federal requirement that there is adequate access to services). Case has recently been moved to the federal courts.

CSHA PAC

CSHA PAC funds of approximately \$12,500 have been saved for a few general election candidates as well as building new relationships in 2009. In the recent general election, the CSHA PAC supported Larry Dick from Orange County (married to a SLP) for the Assembly but Larry candidacy failed.

Capitol Calendar

June 30 2008-09 State Budget deadline

July 3 Summer Recess

Aug. 4 Legislature reconvenes

Aug. 31 Last day for any bill to be passed. *Second year of a 2 yr session adjourns.*