

CERTIFICATION ALERT

Connecticut Educator Certification News from
The Connecticut State Department of Education



February 2020

IN-STATE CONNECTICUT EDUCATORS: 2019 LEGISLATION AFFECTING EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

Public Act No. 19-74: An Act Concerning Minority Teacher Recruitment and Retention

- **Cross endorsement in an academic shortage area (Section 3):**
Educators who hold an initial, provisional or professional level certificate in an academic teaching area may add another teaching endorsement (cross-endorsement) to an existing certificate in select designated shortage areas by obtaining a passing score on the appropriate subject area assessment(s). Additional coursework is no longer required. This provision only applies to content area endorsements in the following designated shortage areas: secondary mathematics, secondary sciences, secondary world languages, and technology education (PK–12). It does not apply to bilingual, TESOL, special education, school library media, middle school endorsements, or speech language pathology. Please note: Out-of-state tests cannot be accepted.
- **Advanced Degree in Lieu of Bachelor's Degree (Section 6):**
Effective July 1, 2019, an advanced degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university may be accepted in lieu of a bachelor's degree for candidates who have completed an approved educator preparation program but did not complete a bachelor's degree at an accredited U.S. institution.
- **Subject Area Major (Section 6):**
The subject area major requirement may be met by obtaining a passing score on required subject area assessment(s) OR by having advanced coursework in a relevant subject area. Advanced coursework is defined as more than one course in a related subject area deemed equivalent or higher than a 300/400 level course in the CSCU system. This will impact educators who enroll in a planned program for educator certificate, and those educators applying for certification based on an official transcript evaluation. In addition, educators must still meet general education and professional education coursework requirements.

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- **Reissuance of a Connecticut Certificate (Section 7):**

As of July 1, 2019, educators who have a lapse in certification are no longer required to take current certification assessments, if the educator:

1. Has at least three years of teaching experience in the previous ten years, under a valid certificate; or
2. Holds a master's degree or higher in the subject area of the endorsement; or
3. Previously held a Connecticut certificate and met all testing requirements in place at that time. Please note: If no certification tests were taken for the previous certificate, current tests must be passed to be reissued the certificate.

Public Act No. 19-128: An Act Concerning Computer Science Instruction in Public Schools

- **Cross-Endorsement in Computer Science:**

Effective January 2, 2020, pursuant of subsection (b) of the Section 10-145f of the Connecticut General Statutes, the State Board of Education adopted the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Praxis Test for Computer Science.

- For any person seeking a cross-endorsement in computer science, achieving a passing score on the ETS Praxis II Computer Science test (#5652) will satisfy the requirement to add the endorsement to a valid certificate. Additional coursework in the computers science field is not required, if the Praxis II testing requirement is met.
- For those educators who would like to pursue the #110 Computer Science based on at least 30 semester hours of credit in computer science related coursework, including specific coursework requirements, the Praxis II Computer Science test (#5652) will not be required to add the endorsement. For more information on the specific coursework required to obtain the #110, Computer Science cross-endorsement, please view the [cross-endorsements page](#).

- **Computer Science, K–6 (#110) or Computer Science, 7–12 (#110):**

The Computer Science cross-endorsement will be issued at the elementary and/or secondary level, depending on the grades levels of the educator's original certificate (e.g., original certificate: #029, Mathematics, 7–12, for a cross-endorsement in: #110, Computer Science, 7–12; OR original certificate: #013, Elementary, K-6, for a cross-endorsement in: #110, Computer Science, K–6). Middle School certificate holders (e.g., #229 Mathematics, 4–8) are eligible for either the Computer Science, K–6 or Computer Science, 7–12.

