



EL CAMINO COLLEGE CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHER PIPELINE



Frequently Asked Questions

I am interested in teaching in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) field. What occupations are in CTE?

The CTE field (formerly known as vocational education) is organized by law into 15 broad industry sectors of interrelated occupations. These are Agriculture and Natural Resources; Arts, Media, and Entertainment; Building Trades and Construction; Education, Child Development, and Family Services; Energy and Utilities; Engineering and Design; Fashion and Interior Design; Finance and Business; Health Science and Medical Technology; Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation; Information Technology; Manufacturing and Product Development; Marketing, Sales, and Service; Public Services; and Transportation.

In the 2007/2008 school year, El Camino College was awarded a California Community College Chancellor's office Teacher Preparation Initiative grant to focus on creating a teacher preparation pathway. We are focusing on three careers, they are:

- Family and Consumer Sciences middle or high school teacher, including Child Development and a Child Development permit as part of the pathway, with CSULB;
- Industrial Technology Education Secondary middle or high school teacher with CSULA; and
- Designated Subjects Credential, adult education, ROP or community college teacher, with CSULB.

Where do CTE teachers teach?

The 15 recognized CTE industry fields in California with their 58 identified career pathways are taught in programs in many settings, many of which need teachers! To see the full array of career pathways and the skills taught in each, you can peruse the CTE Model Curriculum Standards at (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/index.asp>). Click on Career Technical Education and then Introduction for a quick overview of all the sectors.

CTE provides career related training and certificates as well as advanced degrees to participants. The venues for CTE instruction in California range from high schools, where single subject credentials are required to teach; to adult schools (noncredit) and Regional Occupational Centers and Programs (ROCP) where CTE related Single Subject (SS) Credentials or Designated Subjects (DS) Career Technical Education Teaching Credentials (formerly called Designated Subjects Vocational Education Credential) are required to teach; to community colleges where minimum qualifications in disciplines are established with some CTE areas requiring the master's degree and some requiring some combination of a bachelor's or associate degree with experience; to private vocational schools that have individualized requirements.

High schools offer many CTE subjects although the amount of CTE courses taught in California's public schools has diminished over the last three decades. Recently, the California Department of Education (CDE) has increased efforts to bring together school administrators and board members to evaluate the importance and value of career and technical education. In the last decade many high schools stopped offering CTE and other elective courses due to an increased focus on the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act as well as California's Academic Performance Index and the California High School Exit Exam. CDE data shows a 32 percent decline in CTE course offerings since the 1987-88 school year, which has resulted in a shortage of qualified workers in CTE industries.

What credentials are needed to teach in CTE career areas?

HIGH SCHOOL SETTINGS

Currently, there are two types of CTE credentials. One encourages working professionals to enter the teaching professions - the Designated Subjects (DS) Career Technical Education Credential; the other requires a bachelor's degree in a specialized subject--the CTE Single Subject Credential.

Single Subjects Teaching Credentials - Because of federal requirements, high school teachers must be deemed qualified and must possess a credential. A Single Subject Credential qualifies you to teach in middle and high schools where students move to different classes during the course of the day. According to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, "Teachers who hold single subject credentials in agriculture, business, health, home economics and industrial and technology education are authorized to teach vocational classes in and related to these subject matter areas without any additional authorization in both regular education classes and career technical education classes." CTE teachers who are teaching academically rigorous CTE courses that count as academic core subjects must meet the "highly qualified" federal teacher requirements. This means that they must have a bachelor's or other advanced degree, pass the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST), verify expertise in the core subject and complete a commission-accredited single subject teacher preparation program. The highly desirable CTE teacher has both a teaching credential and industry experience.

Designated Subjects Career Technical Education Teaching Credentials - In the last decade, of the 28,000 CTE teachers who obtained credentials, 88 percent received the DS credential. While the bachelor's degree is not required for the DS credential, 58 percent of current teachers with this credential have at least a bachelor's degree.

Many high school districts have ROCP programs that operate in the district's regular CTE classrooms or in regional centers. Besides teachers with single subjects credential in agriculture, business, health, home economics and industrial and technology education teaching these courses, teachers for ROCP funded CTE courses can also obtain the Designated Subjects CTE Teaching Credential to teach in these high school classrooms. The Preliminary DS CTE Credential requires five years of work experience, a high school diploma or the equivalent and a general understanding of the U.S. Constitution. Currently, two years of postsecondary vocational training can be substituted for two years of work. Additionally, the prospective teacher also must have recent work experience in the CTE credential area with one year of full-time work within the last three years. This preliminary credential is valid for five years. To be fully credentialed, besides obtaining the preliminary credential, the teacher must successfully teach a minimum of one course for four terms within the five-year period, complete a personalized teacher preparation program and have completed a unit in health education.

We provide this link to the current requirements (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets.html>). Click on CL-880, Designated Subjects Career Technical Education Teaching Credential. The candidate can apply through the employer or through one of the Local Education Agencies listed. El Camino College works closely with the CSULB Department of Professional Studies for the Designated Subject Credential program (<http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/prof/programs/>).

It is important for you to know the trends in preparation so you can plan accordingly. The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing is currently in the midst of revamping the CTE credential process to make it easier for working professionals and the coming wave of retirees, to enter the teacher workforce.

Here are the proposed changes in draft form showing the reduction in years of work experience required and in the recency of that work, the options for advanced industry certifications counting towards work experience, and the expanded options for moving to the clear credential. These changes will probably be implemented by 2009.

PRELIMINARY DESIGNATED SUBJECT CREDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Recommended	Current
Preliminary credential valid for 3 years	preliminary credential valid for 5 years
High school diploma/equivalent	High school diploma/equivalent
Recommendation from an approved program sponsor	Recommendation from an approved program sponsor or the employer
Three years work experience or equivalent, including certifications or licenses	Five years work experience or equivalent
One year recent work experience in the last five years or two years work experience in the last ten years	One year recent work experience in the last three years
Advanced Industry Certification would qualify as work experience, thereby reducing the number of years required	Advanced industry certification does not qualify as work experience
Moved to clear credential requirement	College-level course work or examination on U.S. Constitution

CLEAR DESIGNATED SUBJECT CREDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Recommended	Current
Possession of a valid preliminary Credential	Possession of a valid preliminary Credential
Four successful teaching terms or two successful terms of teaching and an advanced preparation program or the equivalent	Four successful teaching terms
Completion of the preliminary CTE teacher preparation program	Completion of Level I and II teacher preparation (a total of 180 hours or 12 semester units)
Expand the options for completing the Level II preparation to include National Board Certification, district sponsored teacher development programs, induction, mentoring, or documentation of successful teaching	Total of 180 or 12 semester units is the only option allowable to earn the clear credential
Health education would continue to be a part of the clear credential program	One unit of health education
College-level course work or examination on U.S. Constitution	

ADULT EDUCATION SETTINGS

Adult education courses can be taught in the high schools and in the community colleges in some districts in California. While the settings vary, the credential requirements are the same.

- The Preliminary, Clear, or Professional Clear FULL-TIME ADULT EDUCATION TEACHING CREDENTIAL (AETC) authorizes the holder to teach the subjects named on the credential in courses organized primarily for adults. These credentials are issued to individuals who meet the requirements detailed in leaflet CL-697A available from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/CREDS/adult-voc-ed.html>. In general, for the preliminary credential one would need:
 - Verified five years of experience and/or education in the specific subject listed on the credential in one of five larger non-academic categories of Adults with Disabilities, Health and Safety, Home Economics, Older Adults, Parent Education, or Vocational Education.
 - One must possess either a high school diploma based on attendance or passage of the GED test, or possess the foreign equivalent of a high school diploma.
 - Pass the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST). For information contact the CBEST program at 916-928-4001, or www.cbest.nesinc.com/.
 - Either complete a course or pass an exam in the provisions and principles of the U.S. Constitution given by a regionally-accredited junior or community college or university.

(Note: There are increased requirements of a bachelor's degree to teach the following academic subject categories within adult education - English as a Second Language, Elementary and Secondary Basic Skills, and the Individual Subjects of English, Foreign Language, Fine Arts, Life Science, Mathematics, Physical Science, General Science, Social Sciences.)

For the clear credential one must:

- Possess a valid preliminary full-time AETC
- Obtain verification by the Employing School District (ESD) of successful teaching of a minimum of one course in each of four terms within five years of obtaining the preliminary AETC.
- Obtain verification by a Local Education Agency (LEA) that Level I and Level II personalized preparation have been completed. This includes training in the use of computers in an instructional setting. The closest LEA is www.vcoe.org/tss where you would click on Teacher Support Programs, then Designated Subjects Credential Program and follow the link to Adult Education Level I brochure. You may also take this training at CSU, San Bernardino at <http://ve.csusb.edu>.
- Complete a unit requirement in health education.

The PART-TIME ADULT EDUCATION TEACHING CREDENTIAL allows the holder to teach not more than half-time in the subject named on the credential in courses organized primarily for adults. Most of the requirements are the same except that the applicant need only complete the Level I requirements of a personalized preparation program.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

There are no longer any California Community College Teaching Credentials being issued. If you received one of these prior to 1990, you may teach in any subject matter area covered by your credential in the year you received it.

As of 1990, there are minimum qualifications by discipline within the community college setting. Teachers of academic courses need a master's of arts or sciences in addition to a B.A. or B.S. in their subjects of instruction. Different degrees (subject matter areas) can qualify for the minimum qualifications for the "disciplines" and below is a link to the list of disciplines requiring the master's degree and the degree areas that qualify one to teach in each discipline-

<http://www.avc.edu/departments/hr/documents/CCCMinimumQualifications-January2006.pdf>

The California Community Colleges (CCC) have a job registry at www.ccregistry.org that has a wealth of information about jobs available throughout the system and the qualifications for each. John Madden, a former dean in the CCC Chancellor's office, has

written a great short paper on understanding the minimum qualifications and it is available at <http://www.cccregistry.org/news/MQs.pdf>.

Teachers in some Career Technical Education pathways teach in disciplines in which a master's degree is not generally expected or available and these disciplines are also available at <http://www.avc.edu/departments/hr/documents/CCCMMinimumQualifications-January2006.pdf>. El Camino College has a list of disciplines in which a master's degree is not required at <http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/ccc/notreqdegree.asp>. Community college teachers for these subjects need an A.S. degree and six years of full-time professional experience directly related to the teaching assignment or a B.S. degree and 2 years of such experience. An example of these disciplines would be Automotive Technology, Coaching, Carpentry, Culinary Arts, Fashion Technologies, Hotel and Motel Services, Interior Design, Industrial Technology, Ornamental Horticulture, and Restaurant Management. The instructor would also need to clear various related requirements including a TB test, fingerprinting clearance, and a criminal background check. Many teachers in these subjects hold more advanced degrees, but all would need some training in how to teach adults also. Many community colleges have strong staff development programs and mentors to new faculty to help new instructors gain these skills.

Can I get a credential at El Camino College?

El Camino College doesn't offer a bachelor's degree or a teaching credential in any of the career technical areas. There are courses you can take that will transfer into a bachelor's degree program and then you may subsequently enroll in the single subject credential program. If you already have a bachelor's degree and are missing subject matter lower division courses, you can take them here before entering a credential program.

Family and Consumer Sciences Single Subject Teacher Certification

Within the next decade, 60 percent of the high school Home Economics Careers and Technology instructors will retire. Our grant has partnered with CSU, Long Beach, to provide a clear pathway from El Camino College's Teacher Preparation Program to CSULB's Family and Consumer Sciences program.

El Camino College works with CSULB for this program.

CSU, Long Beach- www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/fcs/programs/ Click on the FCS Education link for the requirements for the BA and then go to <http://www.ced.csulb.edu/single-subject/program/fcs/index.cfm> to see what it takes to achieve the Home Economics teaching credential.

It is advisable that Family and Consumer Sciences teacher candidates choose one subject matter area within the high school curriculum in which to take their elective courses and to obtain industry experience. This allows the future teacher to teach in a breadth program as well as provide capstone ROCP courses in specific career pathways. In the high schools, the career pathways within HECT are careers in:

Child Development; Education; Consumer Services; Family and Human Services; Food Science, Dietetics and Nutrition; Food Service and Hospitality; Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation; Fashion Design, Manufacturing and Merchandising; and Interior Design, Furnishings and Maintenance.

Industrial Technology Education Single Subject Teacher Certification

El Camino College has partnered with CSULA for the Industrial Technology Education, also known as "Industrial Arts", Single Subjects teacher certification.

CSU Los Angeles' web site is <http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/ecst/tech/index.htm>. They offer single subject credentials in construction technology, design drafting/CAD, electronics technology, graphic arts, manufacturing, and power/transportation/automotive technology.

How Can I Prepare at El Camino College?

Please call the CTE Teacher Pipeline office and we can set you up with support including counselors, information, help getting into classes, and other resources on campus such as the Teacher Preparation Program (TEP). Call us at 310-660-3589 or visit us at:

<http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/tep/ctetp.asp>

Where can I get general information and help?

Commission on Teacher Credentialing <http://www.ctc.ca.gov> click on Becoming a Teacher and then “I want to teach high school.”

CalTeach 1-800-CALTEACH <http://www.calteach.com/> click on “Deciding if teaching is for you” and “Understanding the requirements” where you can find both the requirements for the single subject credential. You may also click on “Make and follow your plan” and then choose Changing careers if you are interested in leaving industry to teach in a career technical area.

Where can I find CTE specific resources and information?

Department of Administration, Rehabilitation, and Postsecondary Education http://interwork.sdsu.edu/arpe/web_education/bve2.html
Provides Level I and Level II training for the CTE Designated Subjects professional competencies for the preliminary credential. Courses are online and in the classroom in San Diego.

CSU San Bernardino <http://ve.csusb.edu/index.html> provides online CTE Designated Subjects adult and vocational education teaching credential as well as a Bachelor of Vocational Education.

California Department of Education/Career Technical Instruction <http://www.cde.ca.gov> click on curriculum and instruction and then on Career Technical.

US Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/index.html?scr=mr>

The El Camino Community College District is committed to providing equal opportunity in which no person is subjected to discrimination on the basis of ethnic group identification, national origin, religion, age, sex, race, color, ancestry, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability or retaliation.

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