

MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendents and Principals

From: Dr. Andrew Melin, Chief Innovation Officer
Ms. Risa Regnier, Director of Educator Licensing

Date: May 24, 2019

Re: Senate Enrolled Act 438 - Career Specialist Permit Changes (2 of 3)

Background:

A Career Specialist Permit (CSP) is a two-year renewable teaching credential available in a secondary content area. Eligibility for a CSP requires non-teaching occupational work hours related to the specific content area the candidate desires to teach in combination with a higher education degree with a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and/or passage of the content area licensure test. A CSP can be issued in an academic content area or in a traditional CTE licensure content area. SEA 438 reduces the number of occupational work hours required for the three (3) eligibility options for an initial CSP.

Guidance:

This legislative language makes changes in the three CSP eligibility options found in statute at IC 20-28-5-21 and in State Board of Education licensing rules at 511 IAC 16-4-6.

The first CSP eligibility option currently requires a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education in the subject area to be taught, an overall GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, passage of the licensure test in the content area to be taught, and 6,000 clock hours of occupational work experience within the past five years in the content area to be taught. As of July 1, 2019, the number of required occupational work hours within the last five (5) years will be reduced to 4,000.

The second CSP eligibility option currently requires a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education in the subject area to be taught, an overall GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and 10,000 clock hours of occupational work experience within the last seven years. As of July 1, 2019, the number of required occupational work hours within the last seven years will be reduced to 5,000.

The third CSP eligibility option currently requires passage of the licensure test in the content area to be taught and 10,000 clock hours of occupational work experience within the past seven years. As of July 1, 2019, the number of required occupational work hours within the past seven years will be reduced to 5,000.

In accordance with State Board of Education, licensure rules the demonstration of proficiency in pedagogy for CSP holders takes place following the issuance of the first CSP. Permit holders must complete a program of pedagogy during the first two-year permit period in order to be eligible to continue to hold the permit. Currently the CSP pedagogy component is available online state-wide through Ivy Tech-Columbus. The requirements for CSP maintenance and renewal every two years found at 511 IAC 16-4-6 remain in effect and unchanged. Those requirements are also explained on IDOE's website [here](#).

Here is the specific CSP language from SEA 438 for reference:

IC 20-28-5-21, AS ADDED BY P.L.170-2018, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 21. To be eligible for a career specialist permit to teach in a secondary school, an applicant must meet one (1) of the following:

(1) The applicant:

- (A) has a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent if another grading scale is used) in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;
- (B) has passed the approved content area examination in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;
- (C) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and
- (D) has, within the immediately preceding five years, at least four thousand (4,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

(2) The applicant:

- (A) meets the requirements under subdivision (1) (A) or (1) (B);
- (B) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and
- (C) has, within the immediately preceding seven years, at least five thousand (5,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

If you have any questions, please contact Risa Regnier at (317) 232-0501 or e-mail her at regnier@doe.in.gov.

This bill was authored by Senator Andy Zay and full bill text can be found [here](#). Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found [here](#).