

CertAlert

# CERTIFICATION ALERT

Connecticut Educator Certification News from  
The Connecticut State Department of Education



Updated February 2015

## IMPORTANT UPDATE: MASTER'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT

In 2012, the Connecticut General Assembly passed new legislation requiring a master's degree to advance most provisional level educator certificates to the professional level.

Public Act 12-166, Section 36(g), now codified as Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), Section 10-145b (g), states that “on or after July 1, 2016, to qualify for a professional educator certificate, a person who holds or has held a provisional educator certificate... shall hold a master's degree in an appropriate subject matter area, as determined by the State Board of Education, related to such teacher's certification endorsement area.”

Additional guidance is being developed regarding what should be considered an “appropriate subject matter area” for the master's degree. Once approved by the State Board of Education (SBOE), these guidelines will be published. In the meantime, to assist educators who are hoping to enroll in master's degree programs now to advance their provisional educator certificates expiring after the 2016 date, the SBOE recently approved the following grandfathering language:

*Any person who is issued a Connecticut educator certificate for the first time on or after July 1, 2016, will be required to complete a master's degree in an appropriate subject matter area in order to advance their provisional educator certificate to the professional educator certificate.*

Educators who already hold a Connecticut educator certificate PRIOR to July 1, 2016, will not be impacted by the new master's degree requirement for that certificate, provided no lapse in certification occurs. As of July 1, 2016, educators who already hold a Connecticut educator certificate will be required to document award of at least 30 semester hours of GRADUATE credit to maintain certification and advance to the professional level.

If you have any questions about maintaining your Connecticut educator certificate, you should email them to [teacher.cert@ct.gov](mailto:teacher.cert@ct.gov).



Connecticut  
State  
Department  
of Education