

# Subject Matter Requirement/CSET

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The [Subject Matter Requirement](#) (SMR) is required by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) for anyone seeking a teaching credential in California. By meeting the SMR, you demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter area of their intended credential.

## When do I need to meet the Subject Matter Requirement?

It varies based on your credential program and school employer. Some teaching credential programs require the SMR prior to program enrollment. You should contact the teaching credential program you're considering to see what their deadline is. The SMR may also be required as a condition of employment. You should contact the school district you're considering for more information.

## How can I meet the Subject Matter Requirement?

You must satisfy one of the following options:

1. [MOST COMMON OPTION] Pass the appropriate [CSET](#) with a minimum score of 220 on each subtest. For example, if you are working towards a Multiple Subjects Credential, you need to pass the CSET: Multiple Subjects. [Click here](#) to learn about Study.com's CSET test prep materials.
2. Earn a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally-accredited university in the subject sought on the credential (NOT APPLICABLE TO RIVET SCHOOL GRADUATES BECAUSE OF OUR DEGREE OPTIONS)

Multiple Subjects	Single Subject	Education Specialist (SPED)
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Multiple Subjects	Single Subject	Education Specialist (SPED)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liberal Studies</li> <li>• Liberal Arts with coursework in all of the following content areas: Language Studies, Literature, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, History, The Arts, Physical Education, and Human Development</li> </ul> <p><i>Liberal Studies degrees with any focus or concentration is acceptable (i.e. Liberal Studies: Urban Education)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Art</li> <li>• Business</li> <li>• Dance</li> <li>• English</li> <li>• World Language</li> <li>• Health Science</li> <li>• Home Economics</li> <li>• Industrial and Technology</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Mathematics</li> <li>• Music</li> <li>• Physical Education</li> <li>• Science (includes Biology, Chemistry, Geoscience or Earth and Space Science, Physics)</li> <li>• Social Science</li> <li>• Theater</li> </ul> <p><i>“Applied” majors listed above are acceptable (i.e. Applied Mathematics)</i></p> <p><i>Additional modifiers to majors listed above are acceptable (i.e. Biology: Environmental Biology)</i></p>	<p>Any degree that meets the SMR requirement for Multiple Subjects or Single Subject is acceptable.</p>

3. Complete a subject matter program approved by the commission (NOT APPLICABLE TO RIVET SCHOOL GRADUATES BECAUSE SNHU IS NOT A COMMISSION-APPROVED SUBJECT MATTER PROGRAM)