

Date of Hearing: March 20, 2024

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Al Muratsuchi, Chair
AB 2345 (Jim Patterson) – As Introduced February 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Short-term staff permits: provisional intern permits: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification

SUMMARY: Prohibits the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) from issuing a new short-term staff permit (STSP) or provisional internship permit (PIP) to a person unless that person has a certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) that meets the standards established by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross.

EXISTING LAW requires a program of professional preparation for multiple subject, single subject, and education specialist teaching credentials to provide experience that addresses CPR. Requires training in CPR to meet the standards established by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. (Education Code 44259)

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown

COMMENTS:

What does this bill do? This bill requires new applicants for the PIP and STSP to complete CPR certification prior to the CTC issuing a permit.

Need for the bill. According to the author, “This bill addresses a crucial gap in our existing framework by requiring CPR certification, meeting specified standards, for individuals applying for short-term staff permits or provisional internship permits issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). By advocating for this legislation, we will be contributing to a safer educational environment, ensuring that even in temporary roles, educators are adequately trained to provide life-saving assistance during emergencies.”

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). According to the American Heart Association:

CPR is an emergency lifesaving procedure performed when the heart stops beating. Immediate CPR can double or triple chances of survival after cardiac arrest. Keeping the blood flow active – even partially – extends the opportunity for a successful resuscitation once trained medical staff arrive on site.

In one year alone, 475,000 Americans die from a cardiac arrest. Globally, cardiac arrest claims more lives than colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, influenza, pneumonia, auto accidents, HIV, firearms, and house fires combined. More than 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of the hospital each year. In 2015, any-mention sudden cardiac arrest mortality in the US was 366,807. About 90 percent of people who experience an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest die.

The American Heart Association and American Red Cross establish standards for CPR that are regularly updated. Most CPR certification courses are valid for two years.

CPR certificates for teaching and services credential holders. In order to apply for a valid clear multiple subject, single subject, or education specialist teaching credential in California, an applicant must have completed a course in CPR that meets or exceeds the standards established by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. Upon credential renewal, credential holders are not required to renew their CPR course completion.

Credential requirements. According to the CTC, a few categories of credentials and permits do not currently require CPR certification. The following permits and credentials do not require CPR certification:

- Provisional Intern Permit (PIP)
- Short Term Staff Permit (STSP)
- Career Technical Education (CTE) credential
- Teaching Permit for Statutory Leave (TPSL)
- Child Development Permit
- Substitute Permit

Given this information, the ***Committee may wish to consider*** whether there is a policy rationale to extend the requirement for CPR certification to all preschool through grade twelve instructors, and not just PIPs and STSPs.

Existing law requires family childcare providers to have CPR certification as part of their licensure. Further, state regulations require that at least one staff member at childcare centers, who is present when children are at the childcare center, to have CPR certification. With this in mind, it may not be necessary to require all preschool staff, or child development permit holders, to be CPR trained.

PIPs, STSPs, CTE teachers, and TPSLs are long-term teachers in the classrooms they are assigned. Substitute teachers are by law required to teach for less than 30 days in a single classroom. Further, substitute teachers are not required to have any specialized content knowledge like the other credential areas listed. Given the existing shortage of substitute teachers and the reality that they don't typically teach in a building by themselves, it may not be necessary to require substitute teachers to be CPR certified.

Arguments in support. Clovis Unified School District states, "Requiring CPR credentialing for these roles would not only add a layer of protection for our students and staff, but it would also better prepare those holding short-term/provisional internship roles for a career as fully credentialed educators. As Superintendent of a large school system, where on any given day we have dozens of individuals serving in temporary, short-term roles, I see the value in closing this gap and encourage you to support AB 2345."

Recommended Committee Amendments. ***Staff recommends the bill be amended*** to require PIP, STSP, TPSL, and CTE credential holders to complete CPR training as a condition of certification beginning January 1, 2026.

Related legislation. AB 1214 (Melendez) of the 2019-20 Session would have required a local educational agency (LEA) to offer a course in CPR for school staff. This bill was vetoed by the Governor with the following message:

This bill requires Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) that offer an interscholastic athletic program to have staff with a valid cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification to be present for the athletic program's on-campus activities and events at all times. This bill also requires LEAs to make a course in CPR available to all school staff.

While I support efforts to ensure the safety of students involved in local activities, the requirements of this bill exceed that goal and create new, potentially significant costs for LEAs by requiring them to make CPR training available to all school staff rather than only the staff involved with the interscholastic athletic programs.

AB 1766 (Maienschein) Chapter 270, Statutes of 2018, requires public swimming pools, as defined, that are required to provide lifeguard services and that charge a direct fee to additionally provide an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) during pool operations. This measure requires the California Department of Education (CDE), in consultation with the California Department of Public Health, to issue best practices guidelines related to pool safety at K–12 schools.

AB 2009 (Maienschein) Chapter 646, Statutes of 2018, requires school districts or charter schools that choose to offer any interscholastic athletic program, to ensure that there is a written emergency action plan in place that describes the location and procedures to be followed in the event of sudden cardiac arrest and other medical emergencies related to the athletic program's activities or events. The written emergency action plan must be posted in compliance with the most recent pertinent guidelines of the National Federation of State High School Associations. Further requires the school districts or charter schools to acquire at least one AED for each school within the school district or the charter school.

AB 1719 (Rodriguez) Chapter 556, Statutes of 2016, requires school districts and charter schools that require a course in health education for graduation from high school to include instruction in performing compression-only CPR. Requires the CDE to provide guidance on how to implement these provisions, including, but not limited to, who may provide instruction. Provides that a local agency, entity of state or local government, or other public or private organization that sponsors, authorizes, supports, finances, or supervises, and a public employee who provides or facilitates, the instruction of pupils in compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation or the use of an AED will not be liable for any civil damages alleged to result from the acts or omissions of an individual who received such instruction.

SB 658 (Hill) Chapter 264, Statutes of 2015, requires, when an AED is placed in a public or private K–12 school, the principal to ensure that the school administrators and staff annually receive information that describes sudden cardiac arrest, the school's emergency response plan, and the proper use of an AED. Further requires the principal to also ensure that instructions, in no less than 14-point type, on how to use the AED are posted next to every AED. Requires the principal to, at least annually, notify school employees as to the location of all AED units on the campus.

AB 1867 (Karnette) from the 2005-06 Session would have required a school district to make basic first aid and CPR training available to all employees of the district and required that not

less than 80% of staff employed by the district during regular school hours must complete CPR training by July 1, 2008, including renewing the training every five years. This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

Clovis Unified School District

Opposition

None on file

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