

Date of Hearing: April 10, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
Patrick O'Donnell, Chair  
AB 1214 (Melendez) – As Introduced February 21, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Teacher credentialing: renewal: cardiopulmonary resuscitation

**SUMMARY:** Requires a school district, in their program of professional growth for teachers, to include a basic course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) at least once every two years.

Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Requires a school district to offer a program of professional growth for teachers, including a basic course in CPR at least once every two years.
- 2) The basic course in CPR shall include training in the subdiaphragmatic abdominal thrust (also known as the “Heimlich maneuver”) and meets or exceeds the standards established by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross for courses in that subject or minimum standards for training programs established by the Emergency Medical Services Authority.
- 3) Requires a valid clear teaching credential and clear services credential to meet professional requirements, including the completion of, or enrollment in a basic course in CPR.
- 4) Prohibits the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) from renewing a teaching or services credential unless the applicant has completed, or is currently enrolled in, a basic course in CPR.

**EXISTING LAW:**

- 1) Requires that the minimum requirements for the clear multiple or single subject teaching credential include health education, including study of nutrition, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the physiological and sociological effects of abuse of alcohol, narcotics, and drugs and the use of tobacco. Training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation shall also meet the standards established by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. (Education Code Section 44259 (c)(4)(A))
- 2) Permits, for a clear teaching credential and for a clear services credential, for the life of the holder, a valid credential if the holder submits an application and fee for renewal every five years and meets all professional fitness requirements. (Education Code Section 44251)
- 3) Encourages teachers to engage in an individual program of professional growth, and for school districts to establish professional growth programs that give individual teachers a wide range of options to pursue as well as significant roles in determining the course of their professional growth. (Education Code Section 44277)
  - a) Individual programs of professional growth may include:

- i) Activities that are aligned with the California Standards for the Teaching Profession that contribute to competence, performance, or effectiveness in the profession of education and the classroom assignments of the teacher
  - ii) A basic course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which includes training in the subdiaphragmatic abdominal thrust (also known as the “Heimlich maneuver”) and meets or exceeds the standards established by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross for courses in that subject or minimum standards for training programs established by the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA). An individual program of professional growth may also include a course in first aid that meets or exceeds the standards established by the American Red Cross for courses in that subject or minimum standards for training programs established by the EMSA.
- b) If an LEA offers a program of professional growth for teachers, administrators, paraprofessional educators, or other classified employees involved in the direct instruction of pupils, the local educational agency is required to evaluate professional learning based on all of the following criteria, and the local educational agency is encouraged to choose professional learning that meets any of the following criteria:
- i) Helps attract, grow, and retain effective educators
  - ii) Is a part of every educator’s experience in order to accelerate instructional improvement and support pupil learning
  - iii) Is based on a needs assessment of educators and tied to supporting pupil learning
  - iv) Emphasizes the importance of meeting the needs of all pupils
  - v) Is grounded in a description of effective practice, as articulated in the California Standards for the Teaching Profession
  - vi) Affords educators opportunities to engage with others to develop their craft, including, but not limited to, opportunities to increase their content knowledge
  - vii) Ensures educators have adequate time to learn about, practice, reflect, adjust, critique, and share what educators need to ensure that all pupils, especially high-needs pupils, develop knowledge and lifelong learning skills that will help the pupils to be successful.
  - viii) Recognizes and uses expert teaching and leadership skills
  - ix) Attends to collective growth needs as well as educators’ individual growth needs
  - x) Contributes to a positive, collaborative, and supportive adult learning environment
  - xi) Contributes to cycles of inquiry and improvement

- xii) Is not limited to a single instance, but supports educators through multiple iterations or engagements
  - xiii) Is based on a coherent and focused plan.
- c) Professional learning activities may also include collaboration time for teachers to develop new instructional lessons, to select or develop common formative assessments, to analyze pupil data, for mentoring projects for new teachers, or for extra support for teachers to improve practice. Appropriate professional learning may be part of a coherent plan that combines school activities within the school, including, but not limited to, lesson study or co-teaching, and external learning opportunities that meet all of the following criteria:
- i) Are related to the academic subjects taught
  - ii) Provide time to meet and work with other teachers
  - iii) Support instruction and pupil learning to improve instruction in a manner that is consistent with academic content standards

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Unknown

**COMMENTS:**

***Need for the bill.*** According to the author, “On June 3, 2016, a 13-year old boy by the name of Alex Pierce was at a school-sponsored end of the year pool party at Vista Murrieta High School. The boy was underwater for approximately two minutes according to court documents and no one administered CPR on him before paramedics arrived. The wrongful death lawsuit between the Murrieta Valley Unified School District and the family was eventually settled.

This measure is aimed at ensuring that all credentialed teachers and administrators are able to perform CPR during the entirety of their careers and not just at the beginning of it. Current law does not require a credentialed teacher, at the time they renew their credential, to be proficient or show proof to the CTC that they have a valid CPR certification.”

***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 teaching or services 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. This bill adds a requirement that upon the renewal of a teaching or services credential, the applicant must have completed, or be currently enrolled in, a basic course in CPR. ***The Committee may wish to consider*** that in most cases, a CPR course certification is valid for two years, but a teaching and services credential is renewed for 5 years.

***The Committee may wish to consider*** that, as drafted, this bill requires a program for professional growth at least once every two years, which is optional under current law. A program for professional growth may include activities that are aligned with the California Standards for the Teaching Profession that contribute to competence, performance, or effectiveness in the profession of education and the classroom assignments of the teacher. ***Staff recommends the bill be amended to*** return the program for professional growth to an optional requirement, and add a requirement for LEAs, including school districts, county offices of education and charter schools, to provide a course in CPR for school staff to meet proposed credentialing requirements. Further, staff recommends the bill be amended to permit the Commission on Teacher Credentialing flexibility with how they collect CPR certification information from credential renewal applicants.

***Prior legislation.*** 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. Also 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 pursuant to the bill 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. The principal must, at least annually, notify school employees as to the location of all AED units on the campus.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

American Academy Of Pediatrics, California  
California Association For Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance  
Consumer Attorneys Of California

**Opposition**

None on file.

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