ABOUT THE CTEL/BCLAD EXAMINATIONS PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

About the Testing Program

California Education Code Sections 44253.3 and 44253.4 require the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) to issue certificates that authorize the holder to provide specialized instruction to English Learners (EL). These certificates are the Crosscultural, Language and Academic Development (CLAD®) Certificate and the Bilingual, Crosscultural, Language and Academic Development (BCLAD®) Certificate. Section 44253.5 requires the CCTC to develop and administer examinations on which a teacher can demonstrate competence in the knowledge and skill areas necessary for effective teaching of EL. With expert advice from its Bilingual Crosscultural Advisory Panel, its BCLAD Language Subpanels, the English Learner Instruction Design Team (ELIDT), and others, the CCTC has developed the Bilingual, Crosscultural, Language and Academic Development (BCLAD) and California Teacher of English Learners (CTEL™) Examinations for this purpose. The CCTC has contracted with National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES®), to administer the exams.

About the Tests

The BCLAD and CTEL Examinations are criterion referenced. A criterion-referenced test is designed to measure an examinee’s knowledge and skills in relation to an established standard rather than in relation to the performance of other examinees. The purpose of these tests is to help identify candidates for certification who have demonstrated the level of knowledge and skills required to effectively teach EL.

Each test in the program is designed to measure a specific set of knowledge and skills. All of the knowledge and skills were defined for the BCLAD and CTEL Examinations in conjunction with the committees of California educators noted above. Test materials matched to the knowledge and skills were developed using, in part, textbooks, California curriculum frameworks, and CCTC program standards. The materials were developed through consultation with California teachers, teacher educators, and other content and assessment specialists.

Refer to the following tables for a description of each of the tests. The specific knowledge and skills assessed on each test are available on the CTEL/BCLAD Examinations Web site, www.ctel.nesinc.com, by selecting “Study Guides.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subtest</th>
<th>Subtest Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CTEL 1: Language and Language Development</td>
<td>This subtest covers language structure and use and first- and second-language development and their relationship to academic achievement. This subtest is in English and consists of 50 multiple-choice questions and one essay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTEL 2: Assessment and Instruction</td>
<td>This subtest covers the assessment of EL, the foundations of English language and literacy development and content instruction, and approaches and methods for English language development and content instruction. This subtest is in English and consists of 60 multiple-choice questions and two essays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTEL 3: Culture and Inclusion</td>
<td>This subtest covers culture and cultural diversity and their relationship to academic achievement and culturally inclusive instruction. This subtest is in English, does not focus on any specific cultural group, and consists of 40 multiple-choice questions and one essay.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>Test Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test 4: Methodology for Primary-Language Instruction</td>
<td>This test covers instructional delivery and assessment in a bilingual classroom and the evaluation and use of primary-language materials. This test is in English, does not focus on any specific language, and consists of 40 multiple-choice questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 5: The Culture of Emphasis</td>
<td>There are multiple versions of Test 5, each focusing on a specific culture. See “Test Selection” for more information. This test covers the origins and characteristics of the culture of emphasis, that is, the commonalities of the culture of emphasis in its home country or countries. The test also covers the experiences in the United States and California of the people of the culture of emphasis. Each version of Test 5 is in English and consists of 50 multiple-choice questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 6: The Language of Emphasis</td>
<td>There are multiple versions of Test 6, each focusing on a specific language. See “Test Selection” for more information. There are four separate components of this test: A Listening Component, in which examinees listen to oral language samples in the language of emphasis and answer 21 multiple-choice questions in the language of emphasis; A Reading Component, in which examinees read passages written in the language of emphasis and answer 26 multiple-choice questions in the language of emphasis; A Speaking Component, in which examinees respond orally in the language of emphasis to three speaking assignments presented in English and then read aloud two passages in the language of emphasis; A Writing Component, in which examinees write an essay in the language of emphasis in response to a writing assignment presented in English and then translate a passage from English into the language of emphasis.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tests may include some questions that will not count toward an examinee’s score. These questions are placed on the test in order to collect information about how they will perform under actual testing conditions.

Program Transition

CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1, 2, and 3 of the former CLAD/BCLAD Examinations have been replaced by the CTEL Examination. However, candidates who have passed CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1, 2, and 3 may still use their passing scores on these tests to satisfy the examination requirement for a CLAD or BCLAD Certificate. Candidates using passing scores on CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1, 2, and 3 to obtain a CLAD Certificate must use each passing score within five years of the date it was earned. Candidates using passing scores on CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1, 2, and 3 to qualify for a BCLAD Certificate must have earned each passing score within seven years prior to the issuance of the BCLAD Certificate. CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1, 2, and 3 cannot be combined with the CTEL Examination subtests to satisfy the examination requirement.

Please note that the authorizations will not change for the CLAD Certificate, Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credentials with a CLAD Emphasis, Ryan Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credentials with an English learner authorization based on AB 1059, and SB 2042 Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credentials. The CLAD Certificate will continue to be issued for candidates who successfully complete CLAD certification requirements, including candidates who meet these requirements by passing the CTEL Examination.

For more information about current certification requirements, please see “CLAD Certification Requirements” and “BCLAD Certification Requirements.”
### INSTRUCTION AUTHORIZED BY CLAD AND BCLAD CERTIFICATES

The following tables describe the types of instruction of EL authorized by the CLAD and BCLAD Certificates and the grade-level authorizations of each instruction type.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Instruction</th>
<th>Certification Authorizing Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instruction for English Language Development (ELD)</td>
<td>CLAD, BCLAD</td>
<td>Instruction designed specifically for EL to develop their listening, reading, and writing skills in English. This type of instruction is also known as “English as a second language (ESL)” or “teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL).”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specially designed academic instruction in English (SDAIE)</td>
<td>CLAD, BCLAD</td>
<td>Instruction in a subject area, delivered in English, that is specially designed to provide EL with access to the curriculum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction for primary-language development</td>
<td>BCLAD</td>
<td>Instruction designed for EL to develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in their primary language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content instruction delivered in the primary language</td>
<td>BCLAD</td>
<td>Instruction in a subject area delivered in the primary language of EL.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Type of Instruction</th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instruction for English Language Development (ELD)</td>
<td>Preschool, K–12, and adults, with the following exceptions: a prerequisite children’s center instructional or supervision permit or a child development permit limits instruction for ELD to the programs authorized by the permit; a prerequisite designated-subjects teaching credential in adult education limits instruction for ELD to classes organized primarily for adults.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specially designed academic instruction in English (SDAIE)</td>
<td>In subjects and grade levels authorized by the prerequisite credential or permit.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content instruction delivered in the primary language and instruction for primary-language development</td>
<td>Content instruction delivered in the primary language in subjects and grade levels authorized by the prerequisite teaching credential or permit. Instruction for primary-language development for preschool, K–12, and adults, with the following exceptions: a children’s center instructional or supervision permit or a child development permit limits instruction for primary-language development to the programs authorized by the permit; a designated-subjects teaching credential in adult education limits instruction for primary-language development to classes organized primarily for adults.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CLAD CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To earn a CLAD Certificate, you must meet the following three requirements:

1. Possession of an appropriate credential or permit
2. Satisfaction of the CLAD second-language requirement
3. One of the following:
   - Passing scores on all three CTEL Examination subtests
   - Passing scores on CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1, 2, and 3 (These tests are no longer given.)
   - Completion of 12 upper division or graduate semester units or 18 upper division or graduate quarter units of appropriate CLAD coursework

**CLAD coursework transition.** The CLAD coursework option will be phased out when new CCTC-approved programs become available. A timeline for phasing out the CLAD coursework option is expected to be determined in 2007, when the new approved program standards are expected to be finalized.

These three requirements can be satisfied in any order. Each is described more fully in the CCTC’s Web site at [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov) and more information about the examination options follows.
Earning a CLAD Certificate Through State Examinations

If you choose the examination route for earning a CLAD Certificate, you must pass all three subtests of the CTEL Examination. Each passing score on a CTEL Examination subtest must be used to obtain a CLAD Certificate within five years of the date it was earned.

If you have already passed Tests 1, 2, and 3 of the former CLAD/BCLAD Examinations, you may be able to use those passing scores to satisfy the examination requirement for a CLAD Certificate. See the program transition information at the end of ‘‘Program Overview’’ for more information.

BCLAD CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for a BCLAD Certificate include an appropriate prerequisite credential or permit and passage of all three subtests of the CTEL Examination and BCLAD Tests 4–6 or completion of the CLAD certification requirements plus passage of BCLAD Tests 4–6. BCLAD Certificates (available only through examination) are available for the following languages:

- Armenian
- Cantonese
- Filipino
- Hmong
- Khmer
- Korean
- Mandarin
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Spanish
- Vietnamese

State Examinations

To earn a BCLAD Certificate, you must meet one of the following requirements:

- Passing scores on each of the three CTEL Examination subtests and BCLAD Tests 4–6
- Passing scores on CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1–6 (CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1–3 are no longer given.)
- Passing scores on BCLAD Tests 4–6 if you hold an LDS Certificate or if you hold or verify eligibility for a CLAD Emphasis Credential, a CLAD Certificate, a Multiple Subject or Single Subject Teaching Credential with an English learner authorization based on AB 1059, or an SB 2042 Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential

The following sections include more specific information about these options.

CTEL and BCLAD Examinations. BCLAD Test 4 and the three CTEL Examination subtests are not language specific; that is, regardless of the language in which you are seeking a BCLAD Certificate, you will take the three CTEL Examination subtests and BCLAD Test 4, as do all other teachers seeking BCLAD Certificates. There are, however, multiple versions of BCLAD Test 5 and BCLAD Test 6, each focusing on a specific culture and language, respectively. To earn a BCLAD Certificate for a particular language, you must take the version of BCLAD Test 5 that focuses on the culture associated with that language and the version of BCLAD Test 6 that focuses on that language. For example, the versions of BCLAD Tests 5 and 6 needed to earn a BCLAD Certificate in Armenian are Test 5 for Armenian culture and Test 6 for Armenian.

If you hold a valid, non-emergency California Single Subject or Standard Secondary Teaching Credential with a major in the language authorized by the BCLAD Certificate you are seeking, passing BCLAD Test 6 is not required to earn a BCLAD Certificate in that language. The same is true if you hold a three-year or higher degree from a foreign institution in which all instruction is delivered in the language authorized by the BCLAD Certificate you are seeking and that is equivalent in status to a regionally accredited institution of higher education in the United States.

Examination scores applicable to a BCLAD Certificate must be used within a specific period. Each CTEL Examination subtest passing score used to qualify for a BCLAD Certificate must have been earned within five years prior to the date of issuance of the BCLAD Certificate. Each BCLAD Examinations passing score used to qualify for a BCLAD Certificate must have been earned within seven years prior to the date of issuance of the
BCLAD Certificate. (If you hold an LDS or CLAD Certificate when you apply for a BCLAD Certificate, the age of any test score used to obtain the LDS or CLAD Certificate is irrelevant, and you will not need to submit LDS Examination scores, CLAD/BCLAD Tests 1–3 scores, or CTEL Examination subtest scores.)

If you have already passed Tests 1, 2, and 3 of the former CLAD/BCLAD Examinations, you may use those passing scores to satisfy part of the examination requirement for a BCLAD Certificate. See the program transition information at the end of “Program Overview” for more information.

**BCLAD Certificate in Portuguese.** To earn a BCLAD Certificate in Portuguese, you must meet the requirements described, with the following difference: In place of BCLAD Tests 5 and 6, you must pass the Portuguese culture and language tests that are administered by the Merced County Office of Education. For information about test dates and registration for these two tests, contact:

Merced County Office of Education  
Department of Instructional Services  
632 West 13th Street  
Merced, CA 95340  
(209) 381-6649

**CTEL/BCLAD EXAMINATIONS PASSING REQUIREMENTS**

The minimum passing score for each test, as well as the minimum allowable score and the weight for each test section, is established by the CCTC based on recommendations from California educators.

### CTEL Examination Passing Requirements

CTEL Examination passing standards have been established by the CCTC. Each CTEL Examination subtest score will be reported on a scale of 100 to 300 with 220 as the minimum passing score.

To pass the CTEL Examination, an examinee must pass all three subtests. Each subtest consists of multiple-choice questions and essay assignments. Detailed information about score scales and passing scores for the CTEL Examination subtests will be available with examinee score reports.

There are no requirements that you take or pass one particular subtest before taking or passing another subtest. Once you pass a subtest, you need not retake that subtest unless your score becomes too old for use in applying for a certificate. Refer to “CLAD Certification Requirements” for information about how long passing scores remain valid.

### BCLAD Examinations Passing Requirements

BCLAD Tests 4 and 5 consist entirely of multiple-choice questions and are scored on a scale from 20 to 80. A score of 60 or above represents a passing score.

BCLAD Test 6 Speaking consists of a section of speaking assignments and a section of oral reading assignments. Examinee performance on each section of the test will be reported over a range of one to four pluses (+). To pass this test, examinees must achieve at least three pluses on each section of the test or four pluses on the speaking assignments and two pluses on the oral reading assignments.

BCLAD Test 6 Writing consists of a writing assignment and a translation assignment. Examinee performance on each section of the test will be reported over a range of one to four pluses (+). To pass this test, examinees must achieve at least three pluses on each section of the test or four pluses on the writing assignment and two pluses on the translation assignment.

There are no requirements that you take or pass one particular test before taking or passing another test. Once you pass a test, you need not retake that test, unless your passing score becomes too old for use in applying for a certificate. Refer to “CLAD Certification Requirements” and “BCLAD Certification Requirements” for information about how long passing scores remain valid.
Retaking the CTEL/BCLAD Examinations

The tests and subtests can be retaken as many times as necessary to achieve a passing score. However, a passing score for an individual test or subtest must be achieved on a single day. Performance on sections of a test or subtest cannot be combined across test administrations. Each time you wish to retake a test or subtest, you must register for and take that entire test or subtest again.

PREPARING FOR THE TESTS

Additional information about the CTEL/BCLAD Examinations is provided in the study guides. Study guides outline the knowledge and skills assessed on the tests, and they include suggestions for test preparation and sample test questions and assignments with sample responses and explanations.

The study guides for all tests, except the Portuguese culture and language tests that are administered by the Merced County Office of Education, are available online from the CTEL/BCLAD Examinations Web site at www.ctel.nesinc.com by selecting “Study Guides.”