

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN
EDUCATION**

LCB File No. R044-26

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1 and 2, NRS 391.019.

A REGULATION relating to educational personnel; providing for the issuance of an endorsement to teach certain pupils with autism spectrum disorder in a program of early childhood education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel. (NRS 391.019) Existing regulations: (1) require a person to obtain certain endorsements to teach pupils with autism spectrum disorder or pupils with disabilities and who are under 8 years of age in a program of early childhood special education; and (2) prescribe the requirements a person must satisfy to receive such endorsements. (NAC 391.363, 391.378) **Section 1** of this regulation provides for the issuance of an endorsement to teach pupils with autism spectrum disorder and who are under 8 years of age in a program of early childhood education. **Section 1** additionally requires a person seeking such an endorsement to: (1) hold an endorsement to teach pupils with autism spectrum disorder; or (2) hold an endorsement to teach certain pupils with disabilities in a program of early childhood special education and complete 12 hours of course work in certain subjects. **Section 2** of this regulation exempts a person who is issued an endorsement pursuant to **section 1** from the requirement to receive an endorsement pursuant to existing regulations to teach pupils with autism spectrum disorder and who are ages 3 to 21, inclusive.

Section 1. Chapter 391 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Except as otherwise provided in section 1 of LCB File No. R011-24, before teaching pupils with autism spectrum disorder and who are under 8 years of age in a program of early childhood education, a person must hold an endorsement issued pursuant to this section.

2. To receive an endorsement issued pursuant to this section, a person must:

(a) Hold an endorsement issued pursuant to NAC 391.378; or

(b) Hold an endorsement to teach pupils with disabilities and who are under 8 years of age in a program of early childhood special education issued pursuant to NAC 391.363 and have completed 12 semester hours of course work provided by a regionally accredited college or university, including, without limitation, course work in:

(1) Speech and language development;

(2) Assistive technology, or alternative or augmented communication;

(3) Characteristics of pupils with autism spectrum disorder; and

(4) Curriculum development or methods and strategies for teaching pupils with autism spectrum disorder.

Sec. 2. NAC 391.378 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.378 1. Except as otherwise provided in section 1 of LCB File No. R011-24 *and section 1 of this regulation*, before teaching pupils, ages 3 to 21, inclusive, with autism spectrum disorder, a person must hold an endorsement issued pursuant to this section.

2. To receive the endorsement, the person must:

(a) Have completed a program of preparation for teaching pupils with autism spectrum disorder, which has been approved by the Department;

(b) Hold a license or certificate, issued by another state, with an endorsement to teach pupils with autism spectrum disorder;

(c) Hold a bachelor's or a more advanced degree in the education of pupils with autism spectrum disorder and have completed 8 semester hours of student teaching, equivalent field experience or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience in special education;

(d) Hold a license to teach special education with an endorsement to perform the duties of a generalist in special education issued pursuant to NAC 391.343 and have completed 12 semester hours of course work through a regionally accredited college or university, including course work in each of the following areas:

- (1) Speech and language development;
- (2) Assistive technology, or alternative or augmentative communication;
- (3) Characteristics of pupils with autism spectrum disorder; and
- (4) Curriculum development or methods and strategies for teaching pupils with autism spectrum disorder; or

(e) Hold a bachelor's or a more advanced degree and have completed:

(1) Eight semester hours of student teaching with pupils with autism spectrum disorder, equivalent field experience with such pupils or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with such pupils; and

(2) Thirty semester hours of course work, including course work in the following areas:

- (I) Behavior management;
- (II) Speech and language development;
- (III) Assistive technology, or alternative or augmentative communication;
- (IV) Characteristics of pupils with autism spectrum disorder;
- (V) Curriculum development or methods and strategies for teaching pupils with autism spectrum disorder;
- (VI) Introduction to special education or the education of pupils who have disabilities;
- (VII) The assessment of pupils who have disabilities;
- (VIII) Parental involvement in programs for pupils who have disabilities;

(IX) Education or planning for the transition of pupils who have disabilities from their current placement to placement in additional educational programs, employment and living independently as an adult;

(X) Methods of teaching mathematics; and

(XI) Methods of teaching literacy.

↪ The requirement for course work in two of these areas may be satisfied by completing one course, of at least 3 semester hours, that encompasses both subject matters.