

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

Explanation: Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets to be omitted.

Statutory Authority: NRS 391.019

New endorsement: *QUALIFICATIONS FOR TEACHING PUPILS WHO HAVE MENTAL RETARDATION OR AUTISM*

1. *Before teaching pupils, ages 3 to 21, inclusive, who have mental retardation or autism, a person must hold:*
 - A. *An endorsement issued pursuant to this section; or*
 - B. *A teacher's elementary, secondary, or special license with an endorsement in special education or a bachelor's or master's degree with a major or minor in special education, must have completed 6 semester hours from the courses described below in section 2 E, and must complete a program of preparation leading to licensing in this field within 3 years after beginning to teach such pupils.*
2. *To receive the endorsement, the person must:*
 - A. *Have completed a program of preparation for teaching pupils with multiple disabilities with mental retardation or autism severe for assistance and intervention, which has been approved by the board; or*
 - B. *Hold a current license or certificate, issued by another state, with an endorsement to teach pupils who have mental retardation or autism; or*
 - C. *Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in special education in the area of mental retardation or autism and have completed 8 semester hours of student teaching, equivalent field experience or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience in special education; or*
 - D. *Have met the requirements prescribed in NAC 391.343, 391.350, 391.356 and 391.360 and have 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with pupils who have mental retardation or autism of assistance and intervention in their educational processes, and have completed 18 semester hours of course work described below in E 2, letters e through k, inclusive; or*
 - E. *Hold a bachelor's or master's degree; and*
 1. *Have completed 8 semester hours of student teaching of pupils who have mental retardation or autism, equivalent field experience with such pupils, or 1 year of verifiable teaching experience with such pupils; and*
 2. *Have completed 30 semester hours of course work in the following areas:*
 - a. *Educational psychology or human growth and development;*
 - b. *Introduction to special education or the education of pupils who have disabilities;*
 - c. *Behavior management;*
 - d. *The assessment of pupils who have severe disabilities;*
 - e. *Characteristics of pupils who have severe to intense disabilities;*
 - f. *Curriculum and strategies for teaching pupils who have mental retardation;*
 - g. *Assistive technology or alternative/augmentative communication;*

- h. Communication programming for pupils who have severe to intense disabilities;*
- i. Curriculum and strategies for teaching pupils who have autism;*
- j. Education or planning for the transition of pupils who have disabilities from their current placement to additional educational programs, employment and living as an adult; and*
- k. Parental involvement in programs for pupils with disabilities.*

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.