

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

LCB File No. R106-18

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

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 391.019 and 391.032.

A REGULATION relating to education; revising certain qualifications for teaching pupils who have autism; 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 prescribe the qualifications for teaching pupils who have autism which include, in part: (1) holding a certain license; or (2) holding an endorsement to teach pupils who have autism. Existing regulations prescribe the qualifications to obtain such an endorsement which include, in part, holding a certain license or degree. (NAC 391.378) This regulation revises the qualifications to teach pupils who have autism to include, as an alternative to the qualifications prescribed by existing regulations, holding a special education license with an endorsement to perform the duties of a generalist in special education and completing certain coursework.

Section 1. NAC 391.378 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.378 1. Before teaching pupils, ages 3 to 21, inclusive, who have autism, a person must:

- (a) Hold an endorsement issued pursuant to this section; or
- (b) Hold a teacher’s elementary or secondary license, a license to teach special education, a license to teach middle school or junior high school education, or a bachelor’s or ~~master’s~~ *more advanced* degree with a major or minor in special education, must have completed 6 semester hours from course work prescribed in subparagraph (2) of paragraph ~~(d)~~ (e) of

subsection 2 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 who have autism, which has been approved by the ~~Board;~~ *Department;*

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

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

(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 who have autism; and

(4) Curriculum development or methods and strategies for teaching pupils who have autism; or

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

(1) Eight semester hours of student teaching with pupils who have autism, 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 who have autism;

(V) Curriculum development or methods and strategies for teaching pupils who have autism;

(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.