June 2013

NEW TESTING REQUIREMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND READING ENDORSEMENTS

Effective September 1, 2013, under Public Act 12-116, as amended by Public Act 13-245, any applicant for an endorsement in one of the three areas below will be required to pass the Foundations of Reading Test or a comparable test, as adopted by the State Board of Education:

• Comprehensive Special Education (endorsement #165);
• Remedial Reading and Remedial Language Arts (endorsement #102); or
• Reading and Language Arts Consultant (endorsement #097).

This will apply to anyone seeking a first time endorsement (pre-service teachers), those seeking a cross-endorsement, educators with a lapsed certificate in any of these areas, and those educators from out of state seeking certification in Connecticut.

Certified teachers who hold an active certificate with any one of these three endorsements prior to September 1, 2013, will not have to meet this new requirement unless they seek to add a NEW endorsement in one of the three areas.

Durational Shortage Area Permits (DSAPs) are also affected by this legislation:

1. Current DSAP Holders:
   a. Do NOT need to pass the Foundations of Reading test to receive a renewal of their DSAP;
   b. Must pass the Foundations of Reading test prior to becoming eligible to receive a certificate with an endorsement in any of these three areas, unless they apply and become eligible for the endorsement prior to September 1, 2013.

2. New DSAP Applications received on or after September 1, 2013:
   a. All new DSAP applications received on or after September 1, 2013, will require that the applicant pass the Foundations of Reading test PRIOR to being issued the DSAP.

If you have questions regarding your specific circumstances, you may email teacher.cert@ct.gov.