

**Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board
Hartford, CT**

To: Connecticut Educator Preparation and Certification Board
From: Kristen Basiaga, CEPCB
Date: July 19, 2026
Subject: Establishing Bilingual Education Initial Certification Endorsements

Establishing Bilingual Education Initial Certification Endorsements

Introduction:

Currently, the State of Connecticut only allows for cross-endorsement into bilingual education; there are no laws or regulations that allows initial certification in bilingual education. The prevailing sentiment in the field is that the State of Connecticut should enable in-state pathways to initial certification in bilingual education, so that the state could cultivate its own high quality bilingual educators.

The proposal recommends the establishment three of bilingual education initial certification endorsements: an initial bilingual elementary (grades preK-6) certification, an initial bilingual secondary STEM (grades 4-12) certification, and an initial bilingual secondary humanities (grades 4-12) certification.

Rationale for Adopting this Proposal:

- This proposal seeks to establish a legal basis for educator preparation programs leading to initial certification in bilingual education in the State of Connecticut, enabling the state to cultivate and train its own high-quality bilingual educators moving forward. In turn, this will help address educator workforce shortages in the field in the State of Connecticut.
- This proposal will also provide an opportunity to align bilingual preparation standards in the State of Connecticut with the National Dual Language Education Teacher Preparation (EMMA) Standards.
- Having three separate bilingual endorsements reflects the specialized training needed for each of these concentrations.

Conclusion:

To enable in-state pathways to initial certification in bilingual education, this proposal recommends that the State of Connecticut establish an initial bilingual elementary (grades preK-6) certification, an initial bilingual secondary STEM (grades 4-12) certification, and an initial bilingual secondary humanities (grades 4-12) certification.

Prepared by: Kristen Basiaga
CEPCB