



## Teacher Certification Policy

Blue Ridge Academy is committed to providing a high-quality educational program is dependent upon the employment of certificated staff who are adequately prepared and have demonstrated proficiency in basic skills and in the subject matter to be taught. The Executive Director designee shall ensure that persons employed to fill positions requiring certification qualifications possess the appropriate credential, permit, or other certification document from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and fulfill any additional state, federal, or the Charter School requirements for the position.

The purpose of the Blue Ridge Academy Governing Board approving this Teacher Certification Policy is to accomplish the following:

1. Establish the Support to Teachers Holding Preliminary Credentials
  2. Identify the Procedures for Hiring Based on Unavailability of Credentialed Teacher
  3. Outline the Declaration of Need Requirements
  4. Establish the Procedures for Employing Non-Credentialed Teachers
- 1. Support for Teachers Holding Preliminary Credentials:** The Executive Director or designee shall provide assistance and support to teachers holding preliminary credentials to enable them to meet the qualifications required for the clear credential.
- 2. Hiring Based on Unavailability of Credentialed Teacher:** The Executive Director or designee shall make reasonable efforts to recruit a fully prepared teacher for each assignment. Whenever a teacher with a clear or preliminary credential is not available, the Executive Director or designee shall make reasonable efforts to recruit an individual for the assignment in the following order: (Education Code 44225.7)
1. A candidate who enrolls in an approved intern program in the region of the Charter School and possesses an intern credential
  2. A candidate who is scheduled to complete preliminary credential requirements within six months and who holds a provisional internship permit (PIP) or short-term staff permit issued by the CTC
  3. The Board shall approve, as an action item at a public Board meeting, a notice of its intent to employ a PIP applicant for a specific position. (5 CCR 80021.1)
  4. An individual who holds an emergency permit or for whom a credential waiver has been granted by the CTC

Prior to requesting that the CTC issue an emergency permit pursuant to item #3 above or a limited assignment permit which allows a fully credentialed teacher to teach outside of his/her area of certification while working toward an added or supplementary authorization, the Board shall annually approve a Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators. The Declaration of Need shall be approved by the Board as an action item at a regularly scheduled public Board

meeting, with the entire Declaration of Need being included in the Board agenda. (Education Code 44225, 44225.7; 5 CCR 80023.2, 80026, 80027, 80027.1)

- 3. The Declaration of Need:** The Declaration of Need shall certify that there is an insufficient number of certificated persons who meet the Charter School's specified employment criteria for the position(s) and that the Charter School has made reasonable efforts to recruit individuals who meet the qualifications specified in items #1-2 above. The Declaration of Need shall also indicate the number and type of emergency permits that the Charter School estimates it will need during the valid period of the Declaration of Need, based on the previous year's actual needs and projections of enrollment. Whenever the actual number of permits needed exceeds the estimate by 10 percent, the Board shall revise and resubmit the Declaration of Need. (5 CCR 80026)
- 4. Non-Credentialed Teachers:** Whenever it is necessary to employ non-credentialed teachers to fill a position requiring certification qualifications, the Executive Director or designee shall provide support and guidance in accordance with law to ensure the quality of the instructional programs.