

## FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Instruction****CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY/HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY**Certificate of Proficiency

The County Superintendent or designee shall distribute to each student in grades 11 and 12 an announcement explaining the California Proficiency Program (CPP). Announcements from the California Department of Education (CDE) or its contractor shall be distributed early enough to enable interested students to register for the test to be given in the fall of that year. (5 CCR 11523)

The County Superintendent or designee also shall advise students that the certificate of proficiency awarded upon passing the CPP is equivalent to a high school diploma. However, once the student has taken the CPP, passed the language arts and mathematics subtests and exited high school, they may choose to take the remaining High School Equivalency Test (HiSET)-Equivalency subtests in science and social studies to earn their California High School Equivalency Certificate, which provides more opportunities than the certificate of proficiency does alone.

A student may take the CPP if the student meets one of the following conditions: (Education Code 48412)

1. Is age 16 or older
2. Has been enrolled in the 10th grade for one school year or longer
3. Will complete one school year of enrollment in 10th grade at the end of the semester during which the CPP will be administered

If a student receives the certificate of proficiency, the County Superintendent or designee shall indicate the student's accomplishment and the date of the award on the student's official transcript. (5 CCR 11521)

Any student who has received the certificate of proficiency may be exempted from compulsory school attendance upon the student's request, with verified parent/guardian consent as appropriate. For this purpose, the County Superintendent or designee shall provide a consent form which contains at least the following information: (Education Code 48410; 5 CCR 11522)

1. A general explanation of the student's rights of exemption from compulsory attendance and of re-enrollment in the public schools.
2. The date of issuance of the certificate of proficiency.
3. The signature of the parent/guardian and the date.
4. The signature of the school administrator who has personally confirmed the authenticity of the parent/guardian's signature and the date.

**FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

If a student age 16 or 17 terminates enrollment after receiving the certificate of proficiency may re-enroll without adverse consequences. If the student subsequently terminates enrollment again, the student may be denied re-enrollment until the beginning of the following semester. (Education Code 48414)

**High School Equivalency Certificate**

Obtaining a high school equivalency certificate requires passing a general educational development test designated by the State Board of Education pursuant to Education Code 51420, including the General Educational Development (GED) test or the HiSET.

Anyone taking a test leading to a high school equivalency certificate is required to be a resident of California or a member of the armed forces assigned to duty in California and meet any one of the following criteria: (Education Code 51420)

1. Is 18 years of age or older, or is within 60 days of his/her 18th birthday, regardless of enrollment status.
2. Would have graduated from high school had the person remained in school and followed the usual course of study.
3. Is 17 years of age, has accumulated fewer than 100 units of high school credit, and is confined to a state or county hospital or to an institution maintained by a state or county correctional facility.
4. Is 17 years of age, has accumulated fewer than 100 units of high school credit prior to enrollment in an academic program offered by a dropout recovery high school and has successfully completed the dropout recovery high school's state standards aligned instructional program which offers the opportunity for completion of the requirements for a high school diploma and at least one year of instruction or instruction followed by services related to the academic program.

Adopted: undated

Amended: 04/15/2010, 11/19/2020, 06/15/2023, 03/19/2026