1. The credentials are organized according to teaching areas. The following groups are presented:

   1.1. Group A. This group of requirements shall be used for instructors teaching credit courses in the following areas: humanities/fine arts; social/behavioral sciences; natural sciences/mathematics; and in professional, occupational, and technical areas that are components of associate degree programs designed for college transfer. This group of requirements shall also be used for librarians and counselors.

   1.2. Group B. This group of requirements shall be used for instructors teaching credit courses in professional, occupational, and technical areas that are components of associate degree programs not usually resulting in college transfer to senior institutions.

   1.3. Group C. This group of requirements shall be used for instructors teaching credit courses in diploma or certificate occupational programs. The associate degree program may be authorized, but is not usually required. A doctoral degree is not available in these teaching areas or related areas.

2. All instructors will be "grandfathered" in their current rank or level placements. For salary purposes, Ranks I/B, I/A, II, III, and IV shall be equivalent to Levels O, I, II, III, and IV, respectively.

   2.1. Level IV-Group A

   2.1.1. Degree Requirement: Earned Doctorate

   2.1.2. In-field Requirement:

      Option (a) Earned doctorate in-field

      Option (b) Fifty-four (54) graduate semester hours of coursework in the teaching field.

      Option (c) (Accepted only when fifty-four (54) graduate semester hours of coursework in the teaching field is unavailable at any accredited institution of higher education.) Fifty-four (54) graduate semester hours of coursework in a combination of teaching field, related field, and/or education.
Option (d)  (Acceptable only when an instructor has two teaching assignments.)

Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a major teaching field with eighteen (18) hours in a second teaching area.

2.2.  Level IV-Group B

2.2.1.  Degree Requirement:

Option (a)  Specialist degree (minimum thirty (30) graduate semester hours beyond the master's degree in a planned program) plus thirty (30) additional graduate semester hours.

Option (b)  Specialist degree (minimum of thirty (30) graduate semester hours beyond the master's degree in a planned program) plus the equivalent of thirty (30) additional graduate semester hours as stipulated in 2.2.2.(c) below.

2.2.2.  In-field Requirement:

Option (a)  Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in teaching field.

Option (b)  (Acceptable only when thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in the teaching field in unavailable at an accredited institution of higher education.) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours is a combination of the teaching field and/or related field; or, if unavailable, thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field, related field, or education.

Option (c)  Twenty-four (24) graduate semester hours in accordance with Option (a) or (b) above plus the equivalent of thirty (30) graduate semester hours of corporate or other external formal training as determined below:

The (30) graduate semester hours equivalent will be determined for each program area by a program standards committee appointed by the Chancellor and composed of two technical Deans of Instruction and two instructors in each program area. The standards committee will revise the equivalent experience criteria on a three-year cycle.

2.2.3.  Work Requirement:

Three years of successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the vocational field and successful completion of an approved occupational examination (e.g., NOCTI) within the first year of employment.
2.3. Level IV-Group C

2.3.1. Degree Requirement:

Specialist degree (minimum of thirty (30) graduate semester hours beyond the master's degree in a planned program.)

2.3.2. In-field Requirement:

Option (a) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in teaching field.

Option (b) (Acceptable only when thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in the teaching field are unavailable at any accredited institution of higher education.) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field and/or related field; or, if unavailable, thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field, related field, and/or education.

Option (c) Six (6) graduate semester hours in accordance with Options (a) or (b) above plus the equivalent of thirty (30) graduate semester hours of corporate or other external formal training as determined below:

The thirty (30) graduate semester hours equivalent will be determined for each program area by a program standards committee appointed by the Chancellor. The standards committee will revise the equivalent experience criteria on a three-year cycle or as needed.

2.3.3. Work Requirement:

Six (6) years of successful full-time experience as a master craftsman/journeyman in the vocational field with competency demonstrated through successful completion of an approved occupational examination (e.g., NOCTI) within the first year of employment.

2.4 Level III-Group A

2.4.1. Degree Requirement:

Specialist degree (minimum of thirty (30) graduate semester hours beyond the master's degree in a planned program) plus thirty (30) additional graduate semester hours.

2.4.2. In-field Requirement:

Option (a) Fifty-four (54) graduate semester hours in the teaching field.
Option (b) (Acceptable only when fifty-four (54) graduate semester hours in
the teaching field is unavailable at any accredited institution of
higher education.) Fifty-four (54) graduate semester hours in a
combination of the teaching field and/or related field; or, if
unavailable, thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a
combination of teaching field, related field, and/or education.

Option (c) (Acceptable only when an instructor has two teaching
assignments.) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a major
teaching field with eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a
second teaching area.

2.5. Level III-Group B

2.5.1 Degree Requirement:

Option (a) Specialist degree (minimum of thirty (30) graduate semester
hours beyond the master's degree in a planned program).

Option (b) Master's degree plus the equivalent of thirty (30) graduate
semester hours equivalent as stipulated in 2.5.2.(c) below.

2.5.2 In-field Requirements:

Option (a) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in teaching field.

Option (b) (Acceptable only when thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in
the teaching field is unavailable at an accredited institution of
higher education.) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a
combination of the teaching field and/or related field; or, if
unavailable, thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a
combination of teaching field, related field, or education.

Option (c) Fifteen (15) graduate semester hours in accordance with Options
(a) or (b) above plus the equivalent of fifteen (15) graduate hours
of corporate or other external formal training as determined
below:

The fifteen (15) graduate semester hours equivalent will be
determined for each program area by a program standards
committee appointed by the Chancellor. The standards
committee will revise the equivalent experience criteria on a
three-year cycle.

2.5.3. Work Requirement:

Three years of successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the vocational
field and successful completion of an approved occupational examination (e.g.,
NOCTI) within the first year of employment.
2.6. Level III-Group C

2.6.1. Degree Requirement:

Option (a) Master's Degree

Option (b) Baccalaureate degree plus the equivalent of thirty (30) additional graduate semester hours as stipulated in 2.6.2.(c) below.

2.6.2. In-field Requirement:

Option (a) Eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in teaching field.

Option (b) (Acceptable only when eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the teaching field are unavailable at an accredited institution of higher education.) Eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field and/or related field; or, if unavailable, eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field, related field, and/or education.

Option (c) The equivalent of thirty (30) graduate semester hours of corporate or other external formal training will be determined for each program area by a program standards committee appointed by the Chancellor. The standards committee will revise the equivalent experience criteria on a three-year cycle.

2.6.3. Work Requirement:

Six (6) years of successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the vocational field and successful completion of an approved occupational examination (e.g., NOCTI) within the first year of employment.

2.7. Level II-Group A

2.7.1. Degree Requirement:

Specialist degree (minimum of a master's degree plus thirty (30) additional graduate semester hours in a planned program.

2.7.2 In-field Requirement:

Option (a) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in the teaching field.

Option (b) (Acceptable only when thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in the teaching field is unavailable at any accredited institution of higher education.) Thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field and/or related field; or, if unavailable, thirty-six (36) graduate semester hours in a
combination of teaching field, related field, or education.

Option (c) (Acceptable only when an instructor has two teaching assignments.) Eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a major teaching field with eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a second teaching area.

2.8. Level II-Group B

2.8.1. Degree Requirement:

Option (a) Master's Degree

Option (b) Baccalaureate degree plus the equivalent of thirty (30) graduate semester hours as stipulated in 2.8.2.(c) below.

2.8.2. In-field Requirement:

Option (a) Eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the teaching field.

Option (b) (Acceptable only when eighteen (18) semester hours in the teaching field is unavailable at an accredited institution of higher education.) Eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field and/or related field; or, if unavailable, eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field, related field, or education.

Option (c) The equivalent of thirty (30) graduate semester hours of corporate or other external formal training will be determined for each program area by a program standards committee appointed by the Chancellor. The standards committee will revise the equivalent experience criteria on a three-year cycle.

2.8.3. Work Requirement:

Three (3) years of successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the vocational field with competency demonstrated through successful completion of an approved occupational examination (e.g., NOCTI) within the first year of employment.

2.9. Level II-Group C

2.9.1. Degree Requirement:

Baccalaureate Degree

2.9.2. In-field Requirement:
Twenty-seven (27) semester hours in the teaching field or related field.

2.9.3. Work Requirement:

Six (6) years of successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the vocational field with competency demonstrated through successful completion of an approved occupational examination (e.g., NOCTI) within the first year of employment.

2.10. Level I-Group A

2.10.1. Degree Requirement:

Option (a) Master's Degree

Option (b) (Acceptable only for creative and applied arts and occupational programs.) Baccalaureate degree plus in-field requirements in 2.10.2.(c) below.

2.10.2. In-field Requirement:

Option (a) Eighteen graduate semester hours in the teaching field.

Option (b) (Acceptable only when eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in the teaching field is unavailable at any accredited institution of higher education.) Eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field and/or related field; or, if unavailable, eighteen (18) graduate semester hours in a combination of teaching field, related field, or education.

Option (c) (Acceptable only for 1(b) above.) Bachelor's degree with twenty-seven (27) semester hours in the teaching field, documented professional competency, and three (3) years full-time experience in the occupational area.

2.11. Level I-Group B

2.11.1. Degree Requirement:

Bachelor's Degree

2.11.2. In-field Requirement:

Option (a) Twenty-seven (27) semester hours in the teaching field.
Option (b) Specialized coursework equivalent to the community or technical college program.

2.11.3. Work Requirement:

Three years of successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the occupational, technical, or vocational field.

2.12. Level I-Group C

2.12.1. Degree Requirement:

Associate degree or equivalent (at least sixty (60) semester hours in a planned program including associate degree core).

2.12.2. In-field Requirement:

Specialized coursework equivalent to the community or technical college program.

2.12.3. Work Requirement:

Six (6) years of successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the vocational field with competency demonstrated through successful completion of an approved occupational examination (e.g., NOCTI) within the first two years of employment.

2.13. Level 0-Group A

(Instructors using these minimum requirements may only teach basic computation and communication skills in diploma or certificate programs or remedial courses.)

2.13.1. Degree Requirement:

Bachelor's Degree

2.13.2. In-field Requirement:

Twenty-seven (27) semester hours in the teaching field.

2.14. Level 0-Group B

2.14.1. Degree Requirement:

Associate Degree
2.14.2. In-field Requirement:

Major in assigned teaching area.

2.14.3. Work Requirement:

Three (3) years successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the occupational or technical field.

2.15. Level 0-Group C

2.15.1. Degree Requirement:

Associate degree or equivalent (at least sixty (60) semester hours in a planned program including associate degree core.)

2.15.2. In-field Requirement:

Specialized coursework equivalent to the community or technical college program.

2.15.3. Work Requirement:

Three (3) years successful full-time experience as a practitioner in the occupational or technical field.