

QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Re: Amended QS for Special Science Teacher I Position, Senior High School; Department of Education

Number: <u>1800246</u>

Promulgated: 06 MAR 2018

RESOLUTION

The Department of Education (DepEd), in a letter¹, submitted to the Commission for approval the proposed qualification standards for the Special Science Teacher I (SST) position in the Senior High School (SHS), as follows:

Position Title	SG	Education	Experience	Training	Eligibility
SSTI	13	Bachelor's degree in a specialized field in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, or other applied courses as identified and approved by DOST as priority S&T courses	None required	None required	RA 1080 (Teacher) Secondary; If not RA 1080 eligible, applicant must pass the LET within five (5) years after the date of first hiring

In the same letter, it was stated that:

"Under Chapter III (Return of Service Conditions and Incentives) of the said Act (R.A. No. 10612), scholar-graduates must teach full-time high school subject(s) in the Academic and Technical-Vocational Livelihood tracks in the secondary education curriculum, for a minimum of two (2) years, in a public or private high school. In addition, the scholar-graduates are entitled, among others, to the following incentives:

- "1. A starting salary grade equivalent to that of a Special Science Teacher (SST) I in the Philippine Science High School (PSHS) system;
- "2. Priority for job placement in any high school, public or private, of their choice within the country, with first priority in their home province; and
- "3. Teaching opportunity for non-Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) passers, provided they pass the LET within five (5) years from the date of hiring."

Likewise, in the same letter, the DepEd represented that it is confronted with numerous disapproved/invalidated appointments from DepEd Regions III and V involving DOST-SEI scholar-graduates appointed to the SST I positions due to the absence of a CSC-approved QS for the subject position.

¹Undersecretary Jesus L. R. Mateo's letter request dated August 16, 2017 received by the HRPSO on August 25, 2017 Bawat Kawani, Lingkod Bayani

Hence, to address the matter, the DepEd requested that the existing QS for SST I position in the Philippine Science High School (PSHS) System be adopted by the DepEd until such time that the CSC approves the proposed QS for the subject position.

In support of the request, the DepEd submitted the DBM letter dated June 10, 2016 approving the creation of 311 SHS SST I positions and the DBM letter dated August 01, 2017 approving the creation of 811 SHS SST I positions.

A review of the submitted documents shows that the DBM approved the creation of SST I positions in the SHS along with Teacher I positions in the Kinder/Elementary, Junior and Senior High School.

In the 1997 Revised Qualification Standards Manual, the approved QS for the SST I position are, as follows:

Position Title	SG	Education	Experience	Training	Eligibility
SSTI	13	Bachelor's degree in education or its equivalent with a major and minor, or Bachelor's degree in Arts and Sciences with at least ten (10) units in professional education	None required	None required	PBET/Teacher/ RA 1080 (Teacher) None required (Those covered by RA 3661)

The abovementioned QS for SST I position applies to both the DepEd and PSHS. However, the PSHS submitted its proposed amended QS which was approved by the Commission through Resolution No. 1600838 promulgated on 26 July 2016.

The DepEd clarified in the email dated 23 November 2017, that the proposed QS for the subject position which they submitted seeks to amend the approved QS in the 1997 Revised QS Manual.

Relevant to the DepEd request is the objective of R.A. No. 10612, which is known as "Fast-Tracked S&T Scholarship Act of 2013" enacted on September 7, 2013, to provide quality science and mathematics teachers at the secondary level, which would encourage more students to pursue careers in science and technology.

The law further states that: "xxx the State shall provide for scholarships to deserving science students and other specially-gifted citizens to enable them to pursue higher education or training in the areas of science, technology and engineering, and to provide incentives for them to become secondary school teachers, especially in their home regions." (underscoring supplied)

Chapter V of the same law reflects the significant roles of both the Department of Science and Technology-Science Education Institute (DOST-SEI) and the Department of Education (DepEd) in implementing the provisions of the said law.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds merit to the DepEd's request to establish the QS for the subject position. The Commission also recognizes that the DOST-SEI Scholarship program complements the Commission's program in providing the bureaucracy with highly qualified and competent workforce. Hence, based on the facts gathered as evidenced by the disapproved/invalidated appointments, the retroactive application of the amended QS to the issued appointment may be considered and given a

curative effect harmonizing the DepEd's requirement for the SHS SST I teaching position and the objectives of R.A. No. 10612.

Section 22, Chapter 5, Title I-A, Book V of Executive Order No. 292 provides that:

"(2) The <u>establishment</u>, <u>administration</u> and <u>maintenance</u> of <u>qualification</u> standards shall be the responsibility of the department or agency, with the assistance and approval of the Civil Service Commission</u> and in consultation with the Wage and Position Classification Office." (Underscoring supplied)

Paragraph 3, Policy No. 2, Part I (General Policies) of CSC Resolution No. 030962 (Revised Policies on Qualification Standards), dated 12 September 2003 states that:

"Agencies are encouraged to set specific or higher standards for their positions. These standards shall be submitted to the Commission for approval, and once approved, they shall be adopted by the Commission as qualification standards in the attestation of appointments of the agency concerned."

An evaluation of the proposed QS shows that the education requirement is more specific and focused on Science and Technology priority courses identified by the DOST. Moreover, the proposed eligibility requirement provides for appointees who are not R.A. 1080 eligible to pass the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) within five (5) years after the date of first hiring. Further, the proposed qualification standards show that it is compliant with the existing rules and policies on the establishment of qualification standards for positions in government.

WHEREFORE, the Commission RESOLVES to APPROVE the amended qualification standards for the SST I position in the SHS of the DepEd as follows:

Position Title	SG	Education	Experience	Training	Eligibility
SSTI	13	Bachelor's degree in a specialized field in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, or other applied courses as identified and approved by DOST as priority S&T courses	None required	None required	RA 1080 (Teacher) Secondary; If not RA 1080 eligible ² , they must pass the LET within (5) years after the date of first hiring

² They shall be issued provisional appointments which shall be effective not beyond the school year during which the appointments were issued. The appointment shall be subject to reappointment (renewal).

The Commission **FURTHER RESOLVES** to apply the approved QS to appointments issued for the subject position during SY 2016-2017 which have been pending with the Commission. The DepEd is not precluded from filing a Motion for Reconsideration or Appeal with the concerned CSCRO or to the Commission Proper on the appointments to subject position which had been disapproved/invalidated prior to the approval of these QS.

The Commission **FURTHERMORE RESOLVES** that the abovementioned amended qualification standards shall be the bases of the Civil Service Commission in attesting appointments and in evaluating other human resource actions for the subject position in the Department of Education.

Copies of this resolution shall be disseminated to all Civil Service Commission Regional and Field Offices.

Quezon City.

ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA

Chairperson

LEOPOLDO ROBERTO W. VALDEROSA, JR.

Commissioner

VACANT Commissioner

Attested By:

DOLORES B. BONIFACIO

Director IV

Commission Secretariat and Liaison Office