

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS – Special Education

No Child Left Behind – addressed teachers of core content subjects

Highly Qualified:

- applies to any public elementary school or secondary school teacher
- Teacher holds a bachelor's degree, AND
 - Has obtained full state certification, AND
 - Demonstrates competence in all academic subjects in which the teacher teaches
 - Competence can be shown through test (i.e., Praxis) or
 - Through HOUSSE standard (generally, a points system where credit is given for a variety of content-specific activities and education/professional development)
- If a HOUSSE standard is used, it only applies to teachers currently teaching -- teachers new to the profession must show they are highly qualified when they are initially certified.

Core Content subjects:

- English, reading or language arts,
- Mathematics,
- Science,
- Foreign languages,
- Civics and government,
- Economics,
- Arts,
- History and geography.

IDEA 04 – Applies NCLB HQT standards to special educators

* All teachers must meet NCLB HQT standards by first day of 2006-07 school year (September 1, 2006)

Types of Special Educators:

- Special Education Teachers **Not Required** to meet HQT-Sped:
 - Those who provide ONLY specially designed instruction
 - Supplemental instruction or re-teaching, where content instruction is provided by another teacher who is highly qualified in that content area;
 - Direct instruction in non-core academic subjects (e.g., study skills, community-based instruction);

- Consultation to HQT of core academic subjects (e.g., adapting curricula, using behavioral support and interventions, selecting appropriate accommodations)
 - CWC: The special education teacher works within the general education setting wherein NCLB highly qualified general education teachers provide instruction to the class on core academic subjects. The special education teacher provides direct assistance to students with disabilities (e.g., via individualized and/or small group instruction) as a support to the NCLB highly qualified teacher's instruction.
- Special Education Teachers **Required** to meet HQT-Sped
 - Those who teach ONLY students participating in the MAP-A:
 - Can meet the HQT-Sped requirements for either new or veteran Elementary teachers, in addition to the appropriate special education certification.
 - Core Academic Teacher / Teacher-of-Record:
 - The special education teacher is the primary teacher providing instruction to the student in a core academic subject.
 - Co-Teacher:
 - The special education teacher works in the regular education class alongside a NCLB HQT of core academic subjects. The special and general education teacher share responsibilities for the design and delivery of instruction, as well as the evaluation of student performance.
 - If elementary grades, must show highly qualified in elementary education;
 - If middle/high school grades, must show highly qualified in the core content area in which they are teaching