

Professional Personnel

Teacher Qualifications

A teacher, as the term is used in this policy, refers to a SASED employee who is required to be certified under State law. The following qualifications apply:

Each teacher must:

- a. have a valid Illinois Professional Educator License issued by the State Superintendent of Education with the required endorsements as provided in the School Code,
- b. provide SASED with a complete official transcript of credits earned in institutions of higher education,
- c. provide SASED with an official transcript of any credits earned since the date last transcript was filed on or before September 1 of each year and
- d. notify the Executive Director of any change in the teacher's transcript.

All teachers with primary responsibility for instructing students in the core academic subject areas (science, the arts, reading or language arts, English, history, civics and government, economics, geography, foreign language, and mathematics) must be *highly qualified* for those assignments as determined by State and federal law.

The Executive Director or designee shall:

1. Monitor compliance with State and federal law requirements that teachers be appropriately licensed and *highly qualified* for their assignments;
2. Through incentives for voluntary transfers, professional development, recruiting programs, or other effective strategies, ensure that minority students and students from low-income families are not taught at higher rates than other students by unqualified, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers; and
3. Ensure parents/guardians of students in schools receiving Title I funds are notified: (a) of their right to request their students' classroom teachers' professional qualifications, and (b) whenever their child is assigned to, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not *highly qualified*.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §6319.
 34 C.F.R §200.55, 56, 57, and 61.
 105 ILCS 5/10-20.15, 5/21-1, 5/21-10, 5/21-11.4, and 5/24-23.
 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.610 et seq., §1.705 et seq., and Part 25.

ADOPTED: February 23, 2011

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