

Category: 6000 INSTRUCTION	Policy Number: 6443
Policy Title: Highly Qualified Teachers	Effective Date: May 17, 2005

The district expects all of its teachers to meet the requirements of being a “highly qualified” teacher by September of 2006, under the “No Child Left Behind” legislation.

To be highly qualified, NCLB requires all teachers to have these three credentials and to meet the specific requirements as outlined by district procedure and State law:

- A bachelor’s degree;
- Full certification or licensure, which has not been waived on an emergency, temporary, or provisional basis, or participation in an alternate route to certification program.
- Subject matter competence.

Reference: Policy 6446, “Instructional Assistants”
Policy 7101, “Definition of Certificated Teacher”
Policy 7110, “Certification and Certificates”
Procedure, 6443p, “Highly Qualified Teachers”

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The following specifics define a “highly qualified” teacher:

1. Teachers in Idaho who hold endorsements on valid Idaho teaching certificates issued by the State of Idaho are considered highly qualified to teach in those endorsement areas.
2. A new teacher seeking an Idaho certificate to teach in a core academic subject area must meet the definition of a NCLB Highly Qualified Teacher. All teachers must have a bachelor’s degree.
3. The core academic subjects are English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history and geography.
4. New teachers must complete a state-approved teacher preparation program or an Idaho state-approved alternative certification program.
5. A new elementary teacher must pass the Idaho state-approved assessment in elementary curriculum and the Idaho state-approved assessment in pedagogy.
6. New middle school or secondary academic core teachers must meet one of the following:
 - a. Earn a major in the subject area they are to teach, or
 - b. Earn credits equal to a major in the subject area, or
 - c. Earn an advanced degree in the subject area, or
 - d. Earn an advanced certificate in the subject area, and
 - e. Pass the Idaho state-approved subject area test.
7. New Special Education teachers must pass two Idaho state-approved assessments in Special Education and may have to meet content knowledge requirements for middle or secondary school certification.
8. New teachers seeking a certificate in Blended Early Childhood/Early Childhood Special Education must pass two Idaho state-approved assessments.
9. Under the highly qualified teacher definition NCLB, no certificate in the core academic subjects will be issued on an emergency, temporary, or provisional basis.
10. All teachers in the core academic subject areas must be “highly qualified” by the end of the 2005-2006 school year. The district will implement a plan to hire highly qualified teachers, and will notify the parents of children who have teachers that have not met the highly qualified standard.