

Special Education Highly Qualified Requirements At a Glance

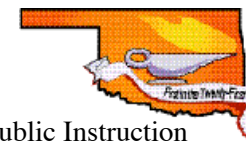
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Form HQR



According to the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, teachers of early childhood education, elementary education and core academic subjects (English, reading, language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, the arts [art and music], history, and geography) must be highly qualified by June 30, 2006.

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Highly Qualified Requirements for Special Education Teachers who are Providing Direct Instruction and are the Teacher of Record for Core Academic Subjects

What does it take for a Special Education teacher to be highly qualified?

Special Education - Grades PK -12

Veteran teachers in the Profession PRIOR TO December 3, 2004, are required to have

Certificate in Special Education **PLUS**

Build HOUSSE* *single* core subject areas **OR** pass appropriate test - specific subject area. Middle level or secondary teachers have additional options below.

Special Education - Grades PK -12

New teachers to the Profession AFTER December 3, 2004, are required to have

Special Education Certificate **AND** appropriate certificate in Early Childhood **OR** Elementary Education **OR** Middle or Secondary Education in Math **OR** Science **OR** Language Arts certificate **PLUS**

In order to teach all other core academic subjects and be the teacher of record, these teachers will have two years from date of employment to become highly qualified in each core academic subject taught. They may build a HOUSSE* in *single* core subject areas **or** pass appropriate test-specific subject area. Middle level or secondary teachers have additional options below.

Special Education teachers who are not teacher of record may utilize the collaborative/co-teaching model.

Special Education teachers and core academic teachers are encouraged to consider the collaborative/co-teaching model as a service delivery option. Co-teaching will allow more individualized instruction in the general classroom, increase access to the general education curriculum for special education students, and decrease the stigma for students with special needs. Teachers can benefit from the professional support exchange of teaching practices as they work collaboratively together.

Additional Options to be Highly Qualified for Middle Level or Secondary: (Not an option for PK-5 early childhood/elementary education or 6-8 elementary education self contained classes.)

- Complete an undergraduate major or coursework equivalent to undergraduate major (24 semester hours) in academic subject taught (Does not include elementary education coursework or special education coursework) **OR**
- Hold a Graduate Degree in subject area taught (Does not include elementary education graduate degree or special education graduate degree) **OR**
- Hold certification through National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in subject taught.

July 2006