



NCLB REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

REVISED JANUARY 9, 2008

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) requires that all teachers of core academic areas be NCLB qualified. Core academic areas, as defined by NCLB, include: English, Reading and Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Foreign Languages, Civics and Government, Economics, Art, Music, History, and Geography.

The following categories of teachers are exempt from the NCLB requirements to become NCLB qualified because the categories are not considered core academic areas by NCLB statutes:

- Preschool
- Health and Physical Education
- Career Education (Agriculture, Business Education, Cooperative Education, Family and Consumer Sciences, Industrial Technology, Information Technology, Marketing, and Trade and Industrial Education)
- Teachers who work in collaboration with an appropriately endorsed teacher (i.e. special education teachers who modify instruction in collaboration with the general education teacher) and teachers in a facilitative role (for example, monitor instruction delivered via technology) and who are not responsible for teaching AND assigning grades.

Courses that are exempt from NCLB qualified teacher requirements because they do not represent core academic area content and standards include: Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Humanities, Religion, Journalism, Debate, Drama, Theatre, Photography, Radio-TV Production, Coaching and Driver Education.

The U.S. Department of Education has provided flexibility in the determination of NCLB qualified science teachers. Science courses taught by science teachers with any science endorsement at the appropriate level of instruction will be considered NCLB qualified.

Teachers who have an endorsement in Music, Instrumental Music or Vocal Music are considered NCLB qualified for all music courses taught at any level.

Teachers who have the appropriate foreign language endorsement, regardless of the endorsement level, are considered NCLB qualified.

Teachers with a Reading Specialist endorsement at any level are considered NCLB qualified for all reading instruction.

Veteran special education teachers who have both a special education and an elementary education endorsement are considered NCLB qualified for all core academic classes taught at the K-8 level of instruction.

General education teachers with a Position Assignment Code of 1170 (Facilitating) and 1180 (Collaborating) teachers who hold a valid certificate with any endorsement and level appropriate for the level of instruction being provided are considered NCLB qualified. Special education teachers with a Position Assignment Code of 1163 (Collaborating) or 1164 (Facilitating) who hold a special education endorsement are also considered NCLB qualified.

**NCLB QUALIFIED GENERAL EDUCATION TEACHERS**  
**ELEMENTARY TEACHERS:**

Veteran teachers who are teaching grades K-8 in an elementary school and hold an Elementary Education endorsement. (Veteran teachers are defined as those who began teaching prior to 2006-07.)

New to the profession teachers who are teaching K-8 in an elementary school, hold an Elementary Education endorsement, and have successfully passed a statewide assessment/test. New to the profession teachers are those beginning in 2006-07 or after. For 2005-06 Nebraska teacher education graduates, the statewide assessment was administered by their attending institution. For 2006-07 and in subsequent years teacher education graduates, a passing score of 159 on the Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (EECIA) will be required to be considered NCLB qualified or provide documentation of NCLB qualified status if coming from another state.

**MIDDLE GRADES TEACHERS:**

Teachers with a middle grades endorsement.

Teachers with an appropriate 7-12 endorsement and are teaching that content area to grades 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9.

Teachers with a K-12 endorsement in the content area being taught.

Elementary education endorsed teachers who are teaching mathematics, science, social studies, or English/language arts to grades 5, 6, 7, or 8.

**SECONDARY TEACHERS:**

Teachers who are teaching only courses for which they are appropriately endorsed as identified in the Curriculum Report's Appendix D, *Course Codes and Clearing Endorsements*.

Teachers appropriately endorsed for 7-12 instruction in the content area who are teaching the content courses to grades 5 and 6.

**NCLB QUALIFIED SPECIAL EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS**

For purposes of this section, an 'appropriate special education endorsement' means that the teacher holds a valid Nebraska teaching certificate with a special education endorsement. Beginning in 2006-07, new to the profession special education teachers at the elementary education grade levels must meet Nebraska's testing requirements.

**ELEMENTARY**

Elementary special education teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and an elementary education endorsement.

Elementary special education teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and co-teach/collaborate with elementary endorsed teachers.

**MIDDLE GRADES**

Middle grades teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and co-teach/collaborate with appropriate content endorsed middle grade teachers.

Middle grades teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and a middle grades content endorsement.

Middle grades teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and hold an appropriate 7-12 endorsement and are teaching that content area to grades 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9.

Middle grades teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and hold a K-12 endorsement in the content area being taught.

Middle grade teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and hold an elementary education endorsement and are teaching mathematics, science, social studies, or English/language arts to grades 5, 6, 7, or 8.

#### SECONDARY

Secondary teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and co-teach/collaborate with appropriate content endorsed secondary teachers.

Secondary teachers that hold an appropriate special education endorsement and are teaching only courses for which they are appropriately endorsed as identified in the Curriculum Report's Appendix D, Course Codes and Clearing Endorsements.

#### **FLEXIBILITY FOR TEACHERS IN REAP SCHOOLS**

The U.S. Department of Education has provided additional flexibility for schools that are eligible to participate in the Rural Education Achievement Program's (REAP) Small, Rural School Achievement Program (SRSA). Newly hired teachers who are NCLB qualified in at least one subject will have three years to become NCLB qualified in the additional subjects they teach.

#### **FLEXIBILITY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS**

USDE has provided additional flexibility for new to the profession special education teachers who teach multiple core academic subjects and who are NCLB qualified in mathematics, language arts, or science at the time they are hired. These teachers will have two years to become NCLB qualified in the remaining core subjects.

#### **TEACHERS FROM OUT OF STATE**

Teachers who can provide documentation that they are NCLB qualified in another state will be considered as NCLB qualified in Nebraska.

***Please refer to the Federal Programs website for more specific information about Nebraska's NCLB Qualified Teacher requirements:***

***<http://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Title%20II.html>***