

NCLB Highly Qualified Teacher
COMMON SPECIAL EDUCATION HQT SCENARIOS

Under NCLB, all teachers who teach a core subject were required to be highly qualified (HQ) by June 30, 2006. This includes Special Education (SPED) teachers providing instruction in core academic areas, even to alternate achievement standards.

SPED Multiple Subjects HOUSSE

For Middle School (MS) and High School (HS) SPED Teachers Only

Rather than attaining separate HQ designations in each of the content areas being taught, the MS or HS SPED teacher of multiple subjects may be eligible to use the SPED Multiple Subjects HOUSSE.

By federal law, only those employed as a teacher prior to July 1, 2002 are eligible for HOUSSE (High Objective Uniform Standard of Evaluation) consideration.

- The only exception to this is for the SPED teacher who, at the time of hire, is already HQ in one of three core areas. The three core content areas are: English/Language Arts, Math, or Science. The teacher fitting this scenario has an additional two years from the date of hire to apply for HQ status using SPED Multiple Subjects HOUSSE.

To submit a SPED Multiple Subjects HOUSSE: Login to your MyLearningPlan.com account and click the MY SPED HQT button.

For more information, go to www.asdk12.org/NCLB/teachers/housse_sped.asp

In order to meet federal and state HQT requirements, a MS or HS SPED teacher of multiple subjects that is not eligible for the SPED Multi-Subjects HOUSSE (as described above) would need to be HQT in each core content area being taught.

Elementary SPED Teachers

Under NCLB, a SPED teacher providing instruction to students in the elementary grades, even to alternate achievement standards, must acquire an Elementary HQT designation.

To submit an Elementary HQT request: Login to your MyLearningPlan.com account and click the MY HQT button.

Using the MY HQT form, those employed as a teacher prior to July 1, 2002 are eligible for HOUSSE consideration. Elementary HQT designations can also be acquired through Praxis II (see www.asdk12.org/NCLB/teachers/Praxis.pdf for more information), state reciprocity, or National Board Certification.

No degree in education can be used for acquiring an Elementary HQT designation. (This includes: Bachelor degrees; advanced degrees; and degrees in elementary, secondary, special, gifted, etc.)

For more information, go to www.asdk12.org/NCLB/teachers/

MS/HS SPED Teaching to Alternate Learning Standards

Secondary SPED teachers whose students are assessed against alternate learning standards (i.e. those students on the alternate assessment) can take one of the approved elementary level Praxis II exams to be designated HQ.

Consultative SPED Teachers

SPED teachers who do not teach the core content areas will be considered HQ if they have an endorsement in special education, a valid teaching certificate, and a bachelor's degree.

For more information about consultative versus core content SPED teachers, see the SPED HQT Basics handout.