

DENTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Division of Human Resources

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act requires that all academic classroom teachers* must be Highly Qualified in the areas they are assigned to teach. In general, under the No Child Left Behind Act, the Highly Qualified teacher must possess the following:

- Bachelor's Degree
- Full State Certification
- Demonstrated competency in the core academic subject taught
(passing of the appropriate content area test)

With the implementation of the NCLB Act, Texas certification requirements and Highly Qualified teacher requirements are not in alignment. There are instances whereby a classroom teacher may be properly certified but is not Highly Qualified or vice versa.

For the 2011-2012 school year, Denton ISD is reporting 100% of its teachers being Highly Qualified under the NCLB requirements. The attached spreadsheet gives an analysis of all new hires as of December 1, 2011 with the employment of 92 classroom teachers. This number reflects 25% of our normal annual employment. Once again, districts are hiring fewer teachers and college/university teacher certification programs and Alternative Certification Programs are assuring that their teacher interns meet both the certification and Highly Qualified requirements.

Due to the availability of certifiable and Highly Qualified teacher candidates, the District experienced little difficulty to fill elementary bilingual positions. However, there were some challenges to fill Speech Pathologist and Psychologist positions.

Submitted by Dennis Stephens
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*Core Academic Areas:
English Language Arts
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies
Foreign Languages
The Arts