

DRAFT UPDATE

Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative

5:190

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Professional Personnel

Certified Staff Qualifications

A certified staff member, as the term is used in this policy, refers to a Cooperative employee who is required to be ~~certified-licensed~~ under State law. The following qualifications apply:

1. Each teacher must:
 - a. Have a valid Illinois ~~certificate that legally qualifies~~ Professional Educator License issued by the teacher for State Superintendent of Education with the duties for which required endorsements as provided in the teacher is employed-School Code.
 - b. Provide the Cooperative Office with a complete official transcript of credits earned in institutions of higher education.
 - c. On or before November 15 and March 15 of each year, provide the Cooperative Office with an official transcript of any credits earned since the date the last transcript was filed.
2. All certified staff members with primary responsibility for instructing students in the core academic subject areas (science, the arts, reading or language arts, English, history, civics and government, economics, geography, foreign language, and mathematics) must be *highly qualified* for those assignments as determined by State and federal law.

Comment [AP1]: We edited policy language in response to amendments that the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) made to 23 Ill. Admin. Code Part 25. Part 25 continues to incorporate P.A. 97-607, which changed teacher certification to educator licensure as of July 1, 2013.

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The Executive Director or designee shall:

1. Monitor compliance with State and federal law requirements that ~~certified-licensed~~ staff members be appropriately certified and *highly qualified* for their assignments when required, and
2. Through incentives for voluntary transfers, professional development, recruiting programs, or other effective strategies, ensure that minority students and students from low-income families are not taught at higher rates than other students by unqualified, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §6319.
34 C.F.R. §200.55, 56, 57, and 61.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.15, 5/21-40, 5/24-11.4, 5/21B-20, and 5/24-23.
23 Ill. Admin. Code §1.610 et seq., §1.705 et seq., and Part 25.

ADOPTED: June 7, 2012