

# DRAFT UPDATE

## Professional Personnel

### Teacher Qualifications

A teacher, as the term is used in this policy, refers to a District 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 District Office with a complete official transcript of credits earned in institutions of higher education,
  - c. On or before September 1 of each year, unless otherwise provided in an applicable collective bargaining agreement, provide the District Office with an official transcript of any credits earned since the date the last transcript was filed, and
  - d. Notify the Superintendent of any change in the teacher's transcript.
2. All teachers 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.

The Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Monitor compliance with State and federal law requirements that teachers be appropriately ~~certified-licensed~~ and *highly qualified* for their assignments;
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; and
3. Ensure parents/guardians of students in schools receiving Title I funds are notified: (a) of their right to request their students' classroom teachers' professional qualifications, and (b) whenever their child is assigned to, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not *highly qualified*.

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, ~~5/21-11.4~~, 5/21B-20, and 5/24-23.  
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.610 ~~et seq.~~, §1.705 ~~et seq.~~, and Part 25.

CROSS REF.: 6:170 (Title I Programs)

ADOPTED: ~~March 19, 2013~~

**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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