

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Chairman*

Members

DONNA G. CALLAWAY

DR. AKSHAY DESAI

ROBERTO MARTÍNEZ

PHOEBE RAULERSON

KATHLEEN SHANAHAN

LINDA K. TAYLOR

Jeanine Blomberg
Commissioner of Education



MEMORANDUM

TO: Exceptional Student Education Directors
District Certification Officers

FROM: Bambi J. Lockman, Chief, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

Beverly Gregory, Chief, Bureau of Educator Certification

DATE: August 1, 2007

SUBJECT: NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB) HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER REQUIREMENTS -EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION (ESE) TEACHERS TEACHING ELEMENTARY (K-6) OR ALTERNATE ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS CORE ACADEMIC COURSES

Contact Information:

Name: Lezlie Cline
Phone: (850) 645-7132
E-Mail: Lezlie@fcim.org
Name: Beverly Gregory
Phone: (850) 245-0431
E-Mail: Beverly.Gregory@fldoe.org

K12: 2007-127

The Florida Department of Education has developed an additional way for districts to establish ESE teacher teaching at the elementary level NCLB qualified status when moving to Florida from another state. Attached is an updated chart that includes an additional option (number three on the chart) for highly qualified (HQ) experienced ESE teachers teaching at the elementary level. This chart replaces the December 8, 2005, *ESE Teachers Teaching Elementary Education or Alternate Achievement Standards Courses* chart.

The new option allows school districts, when hiring experienced teachers from another state, to send a verification form developed by the state to another state department of education. By completing the form, the other state department verifies that the veteran teacher met the state's HQT designation by earning a passing score on an appropriate subject content test. This option would then eliminate the requirement that the out-of-state experienced ESE teacher teaching at the elementary level be required to pass the Florida Elementary Education or Prekindergarten-Grade Three subject content test to establish HQT status.

We hope this is helpful to you and will make the process easier. If you have additional questions related to ESE teachers and HQT requirements, contact Lezlie Cline at (850) 645-7132 or electronically at Lezlie@fcim.org. For general questions related to teacher certification, contact Beverly Gregory at (850) 245-0431 or electronically at Beverly.Gregory@fldoe.org.

BJL/BG/cbs

Attachment