

Highly Qualified Teachers Meeting Timelines and Guidelines

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No Child Left Behind Winter Conference

January 2006

2001-2002 School Year

January 8, 2002

NCLB goes into effect.

All Teachers: Highly qualified
by end of 05-06 school year

Existing Paraprofessionals: Meet
requirements by January 2006

New Paraprofessionals: Meet
requirements upon being hired

2002-2003 School Year

- Teachers hired for Title I schools must be highly qualified
- Praxis II tests for highly qualified adopted by State Board
- Committee meets to lay foundation for Alaska's HOUSSE

2003-2004 School Year

- Secretary Paige announces flexibility for secondary teachers in rural schools
- Teacher Assistance Corps visit to Alaska
 - Alaska regulations for teachers and paraprofessionals go into effect (includes HOUSSE)

2004-2005 School Year

- Federal reauthorization of IDEA with further clarification of requirements for special education teachers
- May 2005 - Federal monitoring of EED implementation of Title II A
- June 2005 - Paraprofessional qualifications deadline extended to June 2006



Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT) Guidelines

October 21, 2005

In letter to Chief State School Officers,
Secretary Spellings makes assurance
“that States who do not quite reach the
100% goal by the end of the 2005-06
school year will not lose federal funds
if they are implementing the law and
making a good faith effort to reach the
HQT goal in NCLB as soon as possible.”

Who Makes Determination?

“The U.S. Department of Education will determine whether or not a State is implementing the law and making a good-faith effort to reach the HQT goal by examining States' progress in ensuring that all core academic subjects are taught by highly qualified teachers, as well as their efforts to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and improve the quality of the teaching force.”

What Does This Mean for Alaska?

- Definition of Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT)
- Reporting classes taught by highly qualified teachers to parents and the public
- Completeness and accuracy of the Alaska HQT data reported to the USDOE
 - Identifying steps Alaska has taken to ensure that experienced and qualified teachers are equitably distributed

2005-2006 School Year

- Alaska State Board adopts highly qualified requirements for special education teachers
 - EED proposes revisions to highly qualified regulations as result of federal monitoring
 - EED continues to work with USDOE on issues of concern

Where Do We Go From Here?

- Verifying HQT data as reported by districts on certified staff accounting
- Title II professional development plans describe district plans for meeting targets
- Provide technical assistance to help districts to reach HQT targets

For More Information

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