

Highly Qualified Teachers Update  
NCLB Winter Conference  
January 18-20, 2006

### Special Education Teachers

- All special education teachers must have at least a baccalaureate degree, full state certification, and be endorsed in special education.
- Special education waivers are still available.
- If the teacher is teaching to the alternate achievement standards, the teacher may take either of the elementary Praxis II tests in regulation.
- Secondary teachers:
  - If already highly qualified at time of hire in one content area, have up to two additional years to become highly qualified in all areas taught.
  - Have the option of a multiple subject HOUSSE.

### Multi-subject HOUSSE for Secondary Special Education Teachers

- For each content area, teacher must earn 50 points. Only 25 points may be earned for teaching experience.
- Of the 50 points must have earned at least 5 points in the content area under heading of college level coursework. Teachers may not use EDU prefix course to earn the 5 points.
- Form is available on the web  
[www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/highlyqualified/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/highlyqualified/)

### Elementary National Board Certified Teachers

- Following the federal monitoring visit, Alaska was informed that its current policy of allowing elementary NBCTs to be considered highly qualified based solely on National Board Certification was not allowable.
- Elementary National Board Certified Teachers are still considered highly qualified but must now fill out a HOUSSE form.
- The amended regulation will likely be adopted at the State Board meeting in March.

### Using Alaska Teacher Performance Review for HOUSSE

- Teachers wishing to use HOUSSE as one way to earn 100 points under the HOUSSE may now do so.
- Alaska Teacher Performance Review Handbook September 2005 has the information on requirements of performance review and can be found at [www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/highlyqualified/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/highlyqualified/)
- In order to receive points under HOUSSE must score at proficient level with total score of 16 and no score on an individual performance below at 2 on both Performance Reviews.

### Increased Flexibility???

- Announced flexibility for states to meet deadline announced in October
- Determination will be made based upon what states have done to this point
- Alaska is responding to federal monitoring from May '05
- Alaska is one of several states with concerns regarding the federal interpretation of highly qualified for social studies.

### Technical Assistance

- Will host audio/videoconferences for technical assistance. Dates will be announced in advance.
- Will provide individual assistance as needed/requested.

### More Information

- Contact Cyndy Curran: [cynthia\\_curran@eed.state.ak.us](mailto:cynthia_curran@eed.state.ak.us) phone: (907) 465-2857