Kansas state department of Education

Teacher Education and Licensure
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HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER OVERVIEW 2008-2009

New Elementary, Middle School, and Secondary Teachers

General Information

No Child Left Behind (NCLB), Title II, Part A ensures that all K-12 students have teachers with subject matter knowledge and teaching skills necessary to help all students achieve high academic standards regardless of their individual learning styles or needs.

All public elementary or secondary teachers employed to teach core academic subjects should have been designated "highly qualified" by the end of the 2006-2007 academic year.

All general education core content teachers must be "highly qualified."

Any veteran elementary, middle school, and secondary teacher who is assigned to teach in a core content area they are not "highly qualified" should contact our office immediately.

Core Academic Subjects:

Elementary, English Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, Foreign Language, Fine Arts (music, art and speech/theatre), Economics, Geography, Government, and History.

New Teacher Definition:

- A beginning teacher with less than one year of teaching experience, who is qualified to apply only for an initial teaching license in Kansas

OR

- A veteran teacher adding a new endorsement to a currently valid teaching license who does not have teaching experience in the new endorsement area, but is assigned to teach in the new endorsement area.

Highly Qualified Requirements for *New Elementary Teachers*:

1. Have a minimum of a bachelor's degree
2. Hold a valid license to teach in Kansas. The license must have the appropriate content (elementary education) and grade level endorsement for the teaching assignment and the requirements may not be waived on an emergency, temporary or provisional basis
3. Have demonstrated subject-matter competency in each of the core academic subjects the teacher is assigned to teach by completion of the appropriate Praxis II licensure examination.

Highly Qualified Requirements for *New Middle School Teachers*:

1. Have a minimum of a bachelor's degree
2. Hold a valid license to teach in Kansas. The license must have the appropriate content specific and grade level endorsement for the teaching assignment and the requirements may not be waived on an emergency, temporary or provisional basis
3. Have demonstrated subject-matter competency in each of the core academic subjects the teacher is assigned to teach by completion of the appropriate Praxis II licensure examination.

Highly Qualified Requirements for *New Secondary Teachers:*

1. Have a minimum of a bachelor's degree
2. Hold a valid license to teach in Kansas. The license must have the appropriate content specific and grade level endorsement for the teaching assignment and the requirements may not be waived on an emergency, temporary or provisional basis
3. Have demonstrated subject-matter competency in each of the core academic subjects the teacher is assigned to teach by completion of the appropriate Praxis II licensure examination.