

Louisiana's HIGHLY QUALIFIED Definition For "Not-New" Experienced Teachers

Not-New (Experienced) ELEMENTARY Teacher (Grades 1-5)

- Must hold a valid elementary school education teaching certificate or a special education certificate that includes elementary school grades (with no emergency, temporary, or provisional waivers), and
- Must have accomplished at least one of the following:
 - a. Passed the state elementary education licensing examination; or
 - b. Achieved National Board certification; or
 - c. Completed at least 12 semester hours in each of the four core disciplines; or
 - d. Met the HOUSSE definition [90 Continuing Learning Units (CLUs) by end of SY 2007-2008].

Not-New (Experienced) MIDDLE SCHOOL Teacher (Grades 6-8)

- Must hold a valid teaching certificate appropriate for grades 6-8 (e.g., Elementary Education 1-8, Upper Elementary Education 5-8, Middle School Education, Secondary 6-12) or a special education certificate that includes middle school grades (with no emergency, temporary, or provisional waivers), and
- Must have accomplished at least one of the following:
 - a. Passed the state subject-specific licensing examination for middle school academic content area or for a secondary academic content area for every core academic subject the individual teaches; or
 - b. Achieved National Board certification in the content area of assignment; or
 - c. Completed coursework equivalent to an academic major in a content area for every core academic subject the individual teaches; or
 - d. Earned a master's degree in a content area for every core academic subject the individual teaches; or
 - e. Met the HOUSSE definition [90 Continuing Learning Units (CLUs) by end of SY 2007-2008].

Not-New (Experienced) SECONDARY Teacher (Grades 9-12)

- Must hold a valid secondary education teaching certificate (with no emergency, temporary, or provisional waivers); and
- Must have accomplished at least one of the following:
 - a. Passed the state subject-specific licensing examination for a secondary academic content area for every core academic subject the individual teaches; or
 - b. Achieved National Board certification in the content area of assignment; or
 - c. Completed coursework equivalent to an academic major in a content area for every core academic subject the individual teaches; or
 - d. Earned a master's degree in a content area for every core academic subject the individual teaches; or
 - e. Met the HOUSSE definition [90 Continuing Learning Units (CLUs) by end of SY 2007-2008].

Louisiana's HIGHLY QUALIFIED Definition

Frequently Asked Questions

What does "not-new" teacher mean?

- A not-new, experienced teacher is an individual with one or more years of teaching experience earned while holding a valid teaching certificate. Teaching experience earned while one is on a temporary, provisional, or emergency waiver (e.g., TAT, 665, etc.) does not qualify.

Do teachers holding Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificates, Out of Field Authorization to Teach (OFAT) certificates, or Temporary Employment Permit (TEP) certificates meet the highly qualified requirements of NCLB?

- TATs, OFATs, and TEPs are non-standard, temporary certificates issued in Louisiana. Teachers holding a temporary certificate do not meet the NCLB definition of highly qualified because they do not hold full state certification.

Does a teacher holding a Practitioner License (PL1, PL2, PL3 or PL4) meet the highly qualified requirements of NCLB?

- A Practitioner License (PL) is given to an individual in an alternate certification program who has passed the required content area examination. Consequently, the individual meets the highly qualified definition of NCLB. (If a university grants provisional admission to a candidate without the individual passing the required content examination, then a PL is not issued and the individual does not meet the highly qualified requirements.)

May a teacher who is highly qualified to teach one subject area teach additional subjects, and still be considered highly qualified, if he/she has an emergency certificate or temporary permit to teach those subjects?

- No. The highly qualified definition requires a teacher to demonstrate a high level of competency in each core academic subject he/she teaches. Hence, the teacher described in this question is highly qualified in terms of the first subject but not in terms of the additional subject. The teacher will not be considered highly qualified in the additional subject area until he/she has the appropriate valid teaching certificate for every area he/she teaches.

Does the highly qualified requirement of NCLB apply to all public school teachers?

- The highly qualified requirement applies to teachers of **core academic subjects**. The term "core academic subjects" means English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography. In the area of arts, states may determine which arts courses will be considered core academic subjects.

Does teaching experience factor into a teacher's highly qualified status?

- The HOUSSE option allows for a teacher's previous work experience as a fully certified teacher to be credited as CLUs at the rate of three (3) CLUs for each year of successful experience in the content area, with a maximum of 45 CLUs earned through work experience.



“ I touch the future. I teach. ”

-- Latin Proverb