

Rule 6A-1.0503 is amended to read:

6A-1.0503 Definition of Qualified Instructional Personnel. A qualified instructional person is defined as an instructional staff member who meets one (1) of the following conditions:

(1) Holds a valid Florida educator's certificate with the appropriate coverage as provided for in the Course Code

Directory as adopted by reference in Rule 6A-1.09441, FAC., or

(2) Is a selected noncertificated person employed under the provisions of Rule 6A-1.0502, FAC., or

(3) Holds a valid Florida educator's certificate with coverage other than that deemed appropriate by subsection (1) and has been approved by the school board or charter school governing board to teach out-of-field after determination that a teacher with appropriate certification coverage is not available. All evidence of such qualifications and approval must be reflected in the individual's official personnel record; provided, however, that such approval may be granted by the school board or charter school governing board only under one (1) of the following conditions:

(a) The individual is in the first year of employment in the out-of-field assignment and has not been granted, during any preceding year in the district or charter school, approval by either the school board or the charter school governing board

~~the Department~~ to be employed out-of-field in an area for which specific certification is otherwise required, or

(b) The individual has earned the following college credit or in-service training in an approved district add-on program or district approved subject content professional development program:

1. Out-of-field assignment other than ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages). A teacher out of field in a subject other than ESOL shall complete at least six (6) semester hours of college credit or the equivalent in-service toward the appropriate certification required in subsection (1) within one (1) calendar year from date of initial appointment to the out-of-field assignment and each calendar year thereafter until all ~~course~~ requirements are completed for the appropriate subject certification;

2. Out-of-field assignment in only ESOL. A teacher out of field in only ESOL shall complete at least three (3) semester hours of college credit or the equivalent in-service toward the ESOL requirements within the first two (2) calendar years from date of initial assignment to a class with limited English proficient (LEP) students and three (3) semester hours or the equivalent in-service during each calendar year thereafter until all ~~course~~ requirements for certification in ESOL are completed; or

3. Out-of-field assignment in ESOL and another subject. A teacher out of field in ESOL and another subject shall complete at least six (6) semester hours of college credit or the equivalent inservice toward the appropriate certification required by subsection (1) within one (1) calendar year from date of initial appointment to the out-of-field assignment and each calendar year thereafter until all ~~course~~ requirements are completed for the appropriate subject certification. The training shall be completed in the following manner: During the first two years, at least three (3) of the required twelve (12) semester hours or the equivalent inservice shall be completed in ESOL strategies. Beginning with the third year and each year thereafter, at least three (3) semester hours or the equivalent inservice shall be completed in ESOL strategies and at least three (3) semester hours in the other out-of-field subject requirements. When either all ESOL or all other out-of-field subject requirements are completed, a teacher shall comply with the schedule specified in subparagraph (3)(b)1. or 2. of this rule as appropriate until all requirements are completed for both ESOL and the other out-of-field subject.

4. Waivers of college credit or inservice training in an approved district add-on or subject content professional development program may be obtained by one of the following provisions:

a. In lieu of college credit or the equivalent inservice specified in subparagraph (3)(b)1., 2., or 3. of this rule, an individual shall provide a doctor's statement certifying to medical inability to earn such credit during the prescribed time;

b. In lieu of college credit or the equivalent inservice specified in subparagraph (3)(b)1. of this rule, the district superintendent or charter school chief administrator shall provide a statement certifying to extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the teacher to earn such credit during the prescribed time; or

c. In lieu of college credit or the equivalent inservice specified in subparagraph (3)(b)1. or the criteria in paragraph (3)(a) of this rule, the Commissioner of Education may grant to the district, or individual school sites, or a charter school a waiver of the requirements for a period of one (1) year on a one-time basis. The district superintendent or charter school chief administrator shall, pursuant to school board or charter school governing board approval for such waiver, show extenuating circumstances that create a hardship for the district or teachers in meeting the specified requirements, or

(4) Is a nondegreed teacher of vocational education employed under the provisions of Section 1012.39, ~~231.1725~~ Florida Statutes. The requirements in Section ~~231.1725~~

1012.39(1)(c)2.a. and b., Florida Statutes, must be satisfied prior to initial appointment to the position. Specific Authority 1002.33(12), 1012.32, 1012.55(1), 1012.56(6) ~~229.053(1), 231.15(1), 231.17(1)~~ FS. Law Implemented 1002.33, 1012.32, 1012.55, 1012.56 ~~229.053, 231.145, 231.15, 231.17~~ FS. History - New 4-19-74, Repromulgated 12-5-74, Amended 9-8-76, Formerly 6A-1.503, Amended 10-30-90, 10-3-91, 2-18-93,