



Definition of Qualified Instructional Personnel



Agenda

- Background information including the reason for the rule change
- Review changes under consideration to Rule 6A-1.0503, F.A.C., Definition of Qualified Instructional Personnel
- Review of proposed changes to qualifications for specialized instructional personnel in the Course Code Directory (CCD)

Difference between certified and “in-field”

- Certification establishes what someone is eligible to teach.
- “In-field” refers to the match between what someone is eligible to teach and that person’s actual instructional assignment.

From NCLB to ESSA

- NCLB (2001) established a requirement, known as “highly qualified,” for teachers of core academic subject areas.
- ESSA (2015) replaces “highly qualified” with a requirement that all instructional personnel meet state certification/licensure requirements.
 - Florida state certification is holding a valid Temporary or Professional Certificate in the subject(s) indicated in the Course Code Directory (CCD) for the teaching assignment(s).
 - Florida Statute also allows districts to establish qualifications for teachers in fields of their specialty, i.e. “local certificates.”

Changes to Rule 6A-1.0503, F.A.C., under consideration

- Removes HOUSSE option
- Makes the rule consistent with existing statutory language regarding teachers who are “in-field” for K-12 instructional assignments.
- Allows districts to adopt comparable methods for an otherwise certified teacher to demonstrate subject area competence.

Changes to Rule 6A-1.0503, F.A.C., under consideration; “in-field” teachers have:

- Completed minor field of study in the subject of the instructional assignment OR
- Demonstrated subject matter expertise through passage of a standardized examination or a comparable method for attainment of essential competencies in the subject area to be taught OR
- Been determined as qualified as a part-time “adjunct instructor” according to district policy and passing a subject area examination OR
- (if a prekindergarten teacher) Been qualified to teach VPK classes according to 1002.55, F. S.

Qualifications for Specialized Personnel

- Dropout Prevention, Teenage Parent, or Dept of Juvenile Justice teachers must be certified in the core academic subjects taught as per the CCD (Course Code Directory).
- ESE teachers must be certified in applicable content coverage **and** appropriate ESE area for the course assignment (Access courses – CCD Section 4).
- ESE teachers of general education courses must be certified in **both** ESE and the applicable content coverage for the course (CCD Narrative).

Rule Development Process

- March 13 – Department hosted workshop to share proposed rule changes and solicit public input
 - Document comments and address questions
 - Revise draft language for proposal to SBE
- March 22 – Presentation to SBE
- April/May – Proposed rulemaking for CCD and Definitions of Qualified Instructional Personnel
- Rules adopted effective for 2017-18 school year