

**Utah Special Education Teachers  
Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements (R277-510)  
NCLB & IDEA 2004**

**All Special Education Teachers working in Utah Public Schools:**

1. Must have a current special education K-12 license, or be working toward licensure through an USOE-approved alternative teacher preparation program for their assignment; (teachers hired after July 1, 2005 must also pass a Board-approved test to complete licensing requirements, R277-503).

**AND**

2. Hold at least a bachelor's degree.

You are a "Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT)" in Special Education to provide consultative services. Consultative services can be described as "adjustments to the learning environment, modifications of instructional methods, adaptation of curricula, the use of positive behavioral supports and interventions or the use of appropriate accommodations to meet the needs of individual children."

Special education teachers providing instruction to students with disabilities in core content areas of English, Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science, Foreign Language, Civics and Government, Economics, Arts, History, or Geography must also meet the same standards for content knowledge as general education teachers. An elementary or middle/secondary special education teacher who teaches multiple core academic subjects, in addition to holding proper licensure for special education, must meet the NCLB/IDEA highly qualified teacher requirements in each core academic subject taught.

All (special education) teachers providing primary instruction in NCLB-defined core academic subjects must meet the NCLB requirements to be "highly qualified by **September 30, 2007**". To see if you are highly qualified for your assignment, please review typical special education assignments listed here.

***NEW Teachers.*** *If you are a "new" licensed special education teacher (hired on or after July 1, 2005) and assigned as the classroom teacher of record for special education students in:*

- *K-8 Core Academic Subjects, or*
- *K-12 Core Academic Subjects exclusively for students who are assessed through alternate achievement standards (UAA)*

*And your Utah licensure is one of the following:*

- *Special Education K-12, Mild Moderate Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Hearing Impaired Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Visually Impaired Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Severe Endorsement*

*You will meet NCLB requirements as a "highly qualified" teacher in Utah (R277-510-4)*

**TEST:** Receive a passing score from **ONE** of following content tests:

- ETS Content test #0014 (Elementary Education Content Area Exercises). **OR**
- ETS Content test #0012 (Elementary Education Content Area Exercises).

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**Veteran Teachers**

*If you are a “veteran” licensed special education teacher (hired before July 1, 2005 at a Level 1, 2, or 3) and assigned as the classroom teacher of record for special education students in:*

- *K-8 Core Academic Subjects, or*
- *K-12 Core Academic Subjects exclusively for students who are assessed through alternate achievement standards (UAA)*

*And your Utah licensure is one of the following:*

- *Special Education K-12, Mild Moderate Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Hearing Impaired Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Visually Impaired Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Severe Endorsement*

*You will meet NCLB requirements as a “highly qualified” teacher in Utah (R277-510-4)*

**MAJOR:** Elementary Education Major or Equivalent

**OR**

**TRANSCRIPT REVIEW:** totaling **36 semester hours** from an accredited college/university, or professional development as approved by the USOE in the following Core Academic Subject\* areas:

- **Science** or equivalent: **6** semester credit hours
- **Mathematics** or equivalent: **9** semester credit hours
- **Reading and Language Arts** or equivalent: **9** semester credit hours
- **Social Studies** or equivalent: **9** semester credit hours minimum
- **Arts** or equivalent: **3** semester credit hours

**OR**

**TEST:** Receive a passing score from **ONE** of following content tests:

- ETS Content test **#0014** (Elementary Education Content Area Exercises). **OR**
- ETS Content test **#0012** (Elementary Education Content Area Exercises).

**\*Core Academic Subjects:** “Core academic subjects” means English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004) & the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)

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**II. Special Educators Teaching at a Secondary Level**

If you are a new or veteran licensed special education teacher and assigned as the classroom teacher of record for special education students in:

- *Grades 9-12 Core Academic Subjects*
- *Grades K-8 Core Academic Subjects (see also previous K-8 option)*

*And your Utah licensure is one of the following*

- *Special Education K-12, Mild Moderate Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Hearing Impaired Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Visually Impaired Endorsement*
- *Special Education K-12, Severe Endorsement*

You will meet NCLB requirements as a “highly qualified” teacher for each Core Academic Area Assignment in Utah (R277-510-3)

**A. General and Special Education Options for Core Area HQT**

1. University major degree, masters degree, doctoral degree or National Board Certification in NCLB-defined core academic subject (science, language arts [English and Reading], math, or social studies) for each NCLB Core academic subject teaching assignment  
**OR**
2. Receive a passing score(s), at a level designated by the USOE, on USOE-approved secondary subject area test(s) for teaching assignment  
**OR**
3. Major equivalent (30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours) in NCLB Core academic subject(s) for teaching assignment(s)  
**OR**
4. Current endorsement in subject area + 200 professional development points accrued after the endorsement in a NCLB-defined Core academic subject (science, language arts [English and Reading], math, or social studies) for teaching assignment

**OR**

**B. Special Education Option for Core Area HQT**

5. Restricted Endorsement (R277-510-1K) or its equivalent consisting of 9 semester hours of USOE-approved university level courses in the academic areas of math, or language arts [English and Reading], or science **AND** passing the appropriate USOE-approved test for the academic area, which include (ETS test #0069--Middle School Math or ETS test #0049--Middle School Language Arts)

**Multiple subject teaching assignment:** *Those educators who are “highly qualified” in one core academic subject may have two additional years beyond the special educator’s date of hire or June 30, 2006, to become “highly qualified” in other NCLB subjects.*

To become highly qualified in the additional content areas, pass an USOE-approved multiple subject test (**ETS test #0511—Fundamental Subjects**) with a passing score at the state-designated passing score with and subtest scores(s) in the average range or higher.