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Did You Know?

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT)

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) requires that all public elementary and secondary special education teachers be "highly qualified" as special education teachers. The definition of "highly qualified special education teachers" in the IDEA [20 U.S.C. 1401(10)] is aligned with No Child Left Behind's highly qualified requirements under that statute at section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) [20 U.S.C. 7801(23)] and the implementing regulations at 34 CFR §200.56. Section 300.18(g)(1) of the IDEA regulations states that a teacher who is highly qualified under section 602(10) [20 U.S.C. 1401(10)] of IDEA shall be considered highly qualified for purposes of the ESEA. Section 300.18 of the IDEA regulations establishes requirements for special education teachers in general, as well as those teaching core academic and multiple subjects and those not teaching core academic subjects. In addition, it establishes requirements for special education teachers teaching to alternate achievement standards and describes alternative routes to certification. The regulations also clarify what it means to be a "new" special education teacher and that the highly qualified teacher requirements do not apply to teachers hired by private elementary schools and secondary schools. Section 300.156 of the IDEA regulations requires that each SEA establish and maintain personnel qualifications.

There are a series of documents, prepared by the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) in the U.S. Department of Education that cover a variety of high-interest topics and bring together the regulatory requirements related to those topics to support constituents in preparing to implement the regulations. Click on the links below from idea.ed.gov for more information.

[Highly Qualified Teachers](#)

[HQT](#)

[Highly Qualified Teachers](#)

[Highly Qualified Teacher \(HQT\)](#)

[Highly Qualified Teacher \(HQT\) \[Leadership\]](#)

[Questions and Answers On Highly Qualified Teachers Serving Children with Disabilities](#)

[Highly Qualified Teachers \(HQT\)](#)

[HQT Curriculum Module](#)

Resource

And Who Will You Be Hiring?

Spring is a time to begin planning for the fall. What special education staff are you hiring for next year? Do you know what the requirements are for each field?

The purpose of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended in 2004, is to "ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living."

IDEA defines "highly qualified" special education teachers and requires all special education teachers to meet that definition. It also offers states some flexibility to work within their systems to meet the teacher requirement provisions of IDEA and the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001.

Special education teachers who teach in public charter schools must hold an appropriate credential and meet subject matter competency in every core academic subject they teach. There is nothing in state law that exempts special education teachers in a charter school from meeting these requirements.

Hiring Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT) takes time and forethought. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Office of Special Education (OSE) [Special Education Personnel Approval System](#) is your gateway to understanding the criteria, policies, and procedures for every administrator, teacher, and ancillary staff.

For an easy check on Michigan certification status of a potential employee, [click here](#). Does that potential employee also need a license through the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)? [Click here](#).

You Need to Know

Continuous Improvement and Monitoring System - CIMS

Important Dates

- June 1, 2013 Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) due
- June 15, 2013 Results Transmittals due

Michigan's Integrated Technology Supports (MITS)

MITS has [iPad Training Kits](#)

available for Michigan public school districts and ISDs/RESAs for short-term loan to conduct iPad Trainings. If you are interested in borrowing iPads to conduct a training please fill out the [online request form](#). Additionally, you can download a [spreadsheet](#) that lists the apps that are available for use on the MITS training iPads. You may also want to view the [iPad Accessibility Facilitation Materials](#).

Discipline Links

The following links were recently shared with new monitors. These might be helpful to you in your work. Briefing:

<http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cdynamic%2CTopicalBrief%2C6%2C>

Video:

<http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cdynamic%2CVideoClips%2C15%2C>

Question and Answers on Discipline Procedures:

<http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cdynamic%2CQaCorner%2C7%2C>

Module including power point, training guide, and handouts:

<http://nichcy.org/laws/idea/legacy/module19/>

Topic Specific Issues: <http://nichcy.org/tags/discipline>

- Placement issues
- Placement and School Discipline

- Discipline, in detail
- School Authority in Special Circumstances
- Manifestation Determination
- Are Services provided during disciplinary removals?
- Appeal and expedited due process
- Child's placement during the appeal process
- What is basis of knowledge?
- Reporting Crimes
- Putting it all together: a case study
- IDEA's Regulations on Discipline
- Subpart E: Procedural Safeguards
- Behavior at School
- Applying Discipline Rules to Students with Disabilities
- Evidence-based nonpunitive alternatives to zero tolerance
- Zero tolerance and alternative strategies
- Restraining the Use of Restraints for Students with Disabilities: An Empirical Analysis of Case Law

Upcoming Professional Development & Events

Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education (MAASE) Solving Problems Collaboratively with Dr. Ross Greene

June 10-11; 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Lexington Lansing Hotel

[Click here](#) for registration information.

Summer Institute - The Future is Now. Are We Ready?

August 11-14; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Grand Traverse Resort, Acme

[Click here](#) for registration information.

Michigan's Integrated Technology Supports (MITS) Summer Workshop

June 18-20, Traverse City

August 27-29, Muskegon

Save the Date to attend one of two 3-Day trainings being offered at the MITS Summer Workshop in Traverse City (June), and Muskegon (August). These identical workshops are designed to help participants develop a deeper understanding about the topic that is being presented.

- Session 1: PODD Training
- Session 2: Teaching All Kinds of Minds

MITS email list will receive an email when registration is open. Website: www.mits.cenmi.org.

Seventh Annual Summer Institute - Transforming Special Education: How Do We Get It Right?

Eastern Michigan University's Department of Special Education

3 graduate credit hours

June 24-28

Course Description: This course will focus on ethical responses to passionate positions and the need for advocacy in educational institutions. Participants will understand the need for systemic change at both macro and micro levels, driven by moral concerns; the needs of communities in democratic and diverse societies; and the specific issues in the field of special education. We will explore how each person can use a reflective process to determine his or her areas of passion and commitment. Finally, participants will develop an action plan, focusing on transforming an area of need or concern related to people with disabilities and their families.

Pre-registration is required! To pre-register email Phil Smith (psmith16@emich.edu) **BY FRIDAY, MAY 31**. Registration through EMU Continuing Education will take place on the first day of class. E.M.U. graduate tuition rates and registration fees apply. For information about tuition, go to - <http://www.emich.edu/sbs/tuitionfeesoutline.php>.

2013 Bureau of Assessment and Accountability (BAA) Fall Conference

The BAA will be hosting the fall conference at four locations around the state between mid-August and mid-September. The dates and locations are listed in the graphic below. If your email system does not allow you to receive the embedded graphic, please use the following link:
http://mdoe.state.mi.us/MDEDocuments/baa_fall_conference/index.html

August 19 - Grand Valley State University

August 23 - Saginaw Valley State University

September 11 - Eastern Michigan University

September 16 - Northern Michigan University