

## Alternative Education Teachers and Highly Qualified Requirements

### Alternative Education Teachers

The purpose of this document is to define “multi-subject teacher in an alternative education setting”. Please note that ALL teachers working in alternative education settings must meet the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Highly Qualified (HQ) provisions. These provisions may be met using Indiana’s HOUSSSE Rubric ONLY if the instructor is a Veteran Teacher hired prior to the end of the 2006-2007 school year.

### Definition of Multi-Teacher in an Alternative Education Program

Alternative Education: Defined by Indiana Code 20-30-8: In addition to meeting all criteria set out in 20-30-8 to qualify as an alternative education program for the purpose of this definition, the program must:

- Enroll the majority (at least 80%) of its students for AT LEAST 15 days or more (meaning students are placed in this program for at least 15 days);
- Operate for AT LEAST 2 consecutive hours each day (this means that THE SAME students attend the program for at least 2 consecutive hours);
- Act as the primary educational placement for students enrolled in the Alternative Education Program (i.e. students attend this program instead of the program of their traditional “sending” school).

***Only a multi-subject teacher working in an Alternative Education program that meets the above criteria will qualify for this definition.***

### Multi-Subject Teacher

To qualify as a multi-subject teacher in an Alternative Education program, a teacher must:

- Be employed by the school corporation;
- Have primary employment in the Alternative Education program of the school corporation;
- Teach two or more core academic subjects to students that are enrolled in an Alternative Education program;
- Have a least a Bachelor’s Degree;
- Hold AT LEAST **ONE** of the following valid Indiana Teacher’s Licenses:
  - Elementary Education (for Bulletin 94, 192, 400; and Rules 46-47);
  - Elementary: Intermediate Generalist (for Rules 2002);
  - Elementary: Primary Generalist (for Rules 2002);
  - Elementary Generalist (for REPA);
  - Content specific license for Junior High/Middle School setting (Rules 2002; REPA);
  - Special education (exceptional needs) in any exceptionality area (all licenses);
  - Content specific license for Secondary/High School setting (Bulletins 94, 192, 400; Rules 46-47; Rules 2002; REPA);
- Demonstrate core content knowledge per the options on either the Elementary or Secondary HQT Verification Form, or earn 100 HOUSSSE Rubric points for each Core Academic Subject (CAS) taught (only veteran teacher may use the HOUSSSE Rubric).

***Teachers who are working in Alternative Education programs that meet the eligibility criteria as specified in Indiana Code 20-30-8 AND the criteria listed in point one (above) and who meet the definition of multi-subject teacher (point two) will not be required to hold an Indiana teacher’s license in every subject that they teach to meet state accreditation requirements. This waiver is valid only while the teacher’s primary placement is in the Alternative Education program. Only a multi-subject teacher working in an Alternative Education program that meets the above criteria will qualify for this definition.***

### **Alternative Education Programs Packets as a Method of Instruction Clarification**

Many alternative education programs use packets as a method of instruction. These packets are prepared by highly qualified local teachers, and are based on state standards that have been approved by the district. The packets function like computer based programs in providing the directing instruction. Teachers in these settings function as on-site facilitators. Since No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provisions only apply to teachers who provide **DIRECT** instruction, alternative education teachers facilitating packets are not required to meet the Highly Qualified Teacher provision. However, if they are working in an approved alternative education program as defined by Indiana Code 20-30-8, they do need to hold a valid Indiana teaching license.

### **Questions**

For information regarding alternative education programs please contact the Office of Educator Effectiveness and Licensing's Help Desk at (317) 232-9010 or email them at [licensinghelp@doe.in.gov](mailto:licensinghelp@doe.in.gov). For Highly Qualified questions please contact Tana Mansfield, Educator Effectiveness Specialist over Testing and Title II/Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) Specialist by email at [hqt@doe.in.gov](mailto:hqt@doe.in.gov) or by phone at (317) 234-0218. Visit our Highly Qualified webpage at: <http://www.doe.in.gov/effectiveness/educator-effectiveness-highly-qualified-teacher-provisions>.