
The Highly Qualified Gifted Intervention Specialist

The purpose of this document is to outline the requirements for Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) as they relate to the Gifted Intervention Specialist (GIS) in Ohio.

For a full description of the requirements, please see the *Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) Toolkit* which can be found on the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Website (<http://www.ode.state.oh.us>) by searching the keyword *HQT*. The relevant forms (D & E) from the document are attached here. The forms offer a step by step checksheet to follow in order to determine your eligibility for HQT. It is very important that schools and districts accurately identify the HQT status of **ALL** teaching staff. To assist you in understanding the application of the requirements to GIS teachers, we offer the following narrative.

First Level Issues

1. The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) stipulates that all teachers must be highly qualified in the academic content areas they teach. This includes:
 - a. All teachers, not just the teacher of record.
 - b. All GIS teachers, whether in a self-contained, regular education or resource room.
2. Once a teacher meets the requirements for HQT status in a subject and grade level, s/he is always HQT in that subject and grade level.
3. All teachers must satisfy certain minimum standards. There are three sections to the requirements. The first two are common to both levels (K-6 and 7-12) of qualification as follows (you must have both):
 - a. Section 1. Have at least a BA degree.
 - b. Section 2. Hold full state certification/licensure in your teaching area. An endorsement in gifted satisfies this requirement and also permits the holder to teach gifted students in any grade k-12, regardless of the initial licensure to which the endorsement is attached if they meet subject criteria listed below.

Advanced Issues

Teachers in grades K-6 must satisfy the requirements of either Section 3 **or** Section 4 as described here:

Section 3:

- Pass any one of the following State Licensure Exams (NTE or Praxis II)
 - Praxis II: Education Young Children (#0021); or
 - Praxis II: Early Childhood Education (#0020) – if before September 1, 2005; or
 - Praxis II: Elementary Education Content (#0014); or
 - You may also take a specialty area content test appropriate to your teaching assignment. (Reading is the most popular test but it can be in any content area. The NTE or Praxis II for Elementary Education or Elementary General

Knowledge may apply here for those with 1-8 or K-8 certificates/licenses who took these assessments.)

Section 4: Using the *Ohio HQT Rubric* for Professional Development (PD):

- A Master's degree in Education, Curriculum/Instruction, Reading, or Teaching (an MA in Gifted Education also counts here; MA in administration, school counseling or leadership do not apply); or
- Have or ever have had an appropriate 8-year Professional Certificate; or
- Have an appropriate Permanent Certificate; or
- Appropriate National Board Certification; or
- 90 clock hours of PD
 - a. Completed after the fall of 1998 **and** after the issuance of your initial teaching certificate/license
 - b. A minimum of 45 of these clock hours **must** be in the academic content area; a maximum of 45 of these clock hours may be pedagogy; coursework and workshop both apply : if you are using coursework: 1 semester hour = 15 clock hours, 1 quarter hour = 10 clock hours. (Since the Endorsement in gifted requires initial licensure, all coursework taken for the Endorsement may be considered here if the coursework meets the appropriate timeline described above.)

Teachers in grades 7-12 must satisfy either Section 3 or Section 4 below:

Section 3: Note that all these requirements are in the academic content area for which you will be assigned. You must be HQT in all core academic subjects that you teach.

- Ohio State License Exam (NTE or Praxis II) in the content area; or
- An academic major or equivalent in the content area (30 semester or 45 quarter hours of subject specific coursework, methods and student teaching do not count); or
- Master's degree in the content area of your teaching assignment.

Section 4: Using the *Ohio HQT Rubric* for Professional Development (PD):

- 8-year Professional Certificate – appropriate to teaching assignment with at least 30 semester/45 quarter hours of coursework in the content area, or
- Permanent Certificate– appropriate to teaching assignment with at least 30 semester/45 quarter hours of coursework in the content area,; or
- National Board Certification –appropriate to your teaching assignment; or
- 90 clock hours of PD
 - Completed after the fall of 1998 **and** after the issuance of your initial teaching certificate/license
 - A minimum of 45 of these clock hours **must** be in the academic content area; a maximum of 45 of these clock hours may be pedagogy; coursework and workshop both apply : if you are using coursework: 1 semester hour = 15 clock hours, 1 quarter hour = 10 clock hours. (Since the Endorsement in gifted requires initial licensure, all coursework taken for the Endorsement may be considered here if the coursework meets the appropriate timeline described above.)

Gifted HQT Case Studies

Teacher 1: Mrs. Smith is a GIS assigned to a 3, 4, 5 self-contained classroom. Her initial licensure, obtained in 2001, is in elementary childhood (4-9). She received a Gifted Endorsement in 2005.

Using Form D (Grades K-6 Special Education/Intervention Specialist Teachers, Mrs. Smith qualifies as HQT as follows:

- Section 1: Yes, BS Education
Section 2: Yes, 5 yr Initial Professional License (4-9), Gifted Endorsement (K-12)
- Section 3: Yes, Praxis II Elementary Education Content
Section 4: Yes, 90 clock hours – Used one course in pedagogy from her endorsement in gifted and 1 graduate course in Language Arts Education taken as part of a MA program.

In this case, Mrs. Smith would have satisfied HQT with Section 3 but she also continues to participate in Professional Development in Language Arts in case her assignment changes.

Teacher 2: Mrs. Guarana received initial licensure in 1970 and has a Permanent Teaching Certificate in Ohio for grades K-8. She earned Licensure in Gifted in 2000. Her current teaching assignment is 3rd & 4th grade gifted resource room in 3 schools.

- Section 1: Yes, BS Education
Section 2: Yes, Permanent Professional License (K-8), Gifted Endorsement (K-12)
- Section 3: No. Has never taken any Praxis exams.
Section 4: Yes, Earned a MA in Curriculum & Instruction in 1994.

In this case, Mrs. Guarana is a highly qualified elementary teacher.

Teacher 3: Mrs. Williams teaches 7th & 8th grade Mathematics to gifted students. She has a K-3 license, earned in 2005 and a Gifted Endorsement (K-12) earned in 2006.

- Section 1: Yes, BS in Education
Section 2: Yes, 5 yr Professional License (K-3), Gifted Endorsement (K-12)

In this case, the k-12 licensure in Gifted Endorsement allows Mrs. Williams to continue to teach middle school students.

- Section 3: Yes, Praxis II Mathematics (middle childhood)
No, Academic Major
No, MA is in Education (Intervention Services – Gifted)
- Section 4: 90 Clock Hours: During MA program, took Gifted Pedagogy course for 3 semester hours and Educational Statistics for 3 semester hours.

Mrs. Williams is a highly qualified teacher in Mathematics because of the advanced coursework taken and approved by her LPDC. However, her HQT status only applies to her gifted classes, she does not have adequate licensure to teach regular education students at this level.

FORM D

Grades K – 6 Special Education/Intervention Specialist Teachers

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER WORKSHEET

For Special Education/Intervention Specialists, Grades K-6

Section 1: Do you have at least a bachelor’s degree? Yes No

Section 2: Do you hold full* state certification/licensure in your teaching area? Yes No

** One must hold at least a provisional license/certificate, an approved alternative educator license or supplemental license. Conditional teaching permits or substitute licenses do not meet this requirement.*

IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO EITHER OF THESE QUESTIONS, PROCEED NO FURTHER. RECORD THIS INFORMATION ON THE STATUS SHEET AND RETURN TO YOUR BUILDING PRINCIPAL.

Section 3:

Did you receive initial certification/licensure in Ohio in 1991 or later, and pass one or more of the following Ohio’s State Licensure Exam (NTE or Praxis II)? Yes No

- Teacher, grades K-3 Praxis II: EYC (#0021)
- Teacher, grades K-3 Praxis II: ECE (#0020) if passed before Sept. 1, 2005
- Teacher, grades 4-6 Praxis II: Elem. Ed. Content (#0014)
- Specialty area content test appropriate to your teaching assignment

Yes, I have answered “yes” in each of the three Sections above. This satisfies the federal definition of a HQT.

No, I have not answered “yes” in each of the three Sections above.

Section 4:

| OHIO HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER RUBRIC [Abbreviated Version] | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| *Since completion in each of these categories equals 100 points, only ONE YES is required* | | | | |
| MASTER’S DEGREE | 8-YEAR PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE | PERMANENT CERTIFICATE | NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION | 90 CLOCK HOURS |
| In ONE of the following areas: • Education; • Curriculum/Instruction; • Reading; OR • Teaching | Had or ever have had an eight-year professional certificate appropriate to your teaching assignment | Appropriate to your teaching assignment | Appropriate to your teaching assignment | Professional development approvable by your LPDC since 1998 and post initial licensure in: • 90 clock hours appropriate content knowledge (a maximum of 45 clock hours of teaching skills pedagogy or Ohio academic content standards may apply) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Yes=100 points | Yes=100 points | Yes=100 points | Yes=100 points | Yes=100 points |

Yes, I have earned 100 points on the Ohio HQT Rubric, in addition to checking “yes” in Section 1 and Section 2, to meet the federal HQT definition.

No, I have not earned 100 points on the Ohio HQT Rubric to meet the federal HQT definition.

Teachers who have checked **NO** for Section 4 may use the Ohio Highly Qualified Teacher Expanded Rubric in the reporting packet to earn 100 points and earn the third required “yes”.

FORM E

Grades 7 – 12 Special Education/Intervention Specialist Teachers

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER WORKSHEET

For Special Education/Intervention Specialists, Grades 7-12:
Teachers in a Teaching Assignment ~ Special Education or Intervention Specialist Grades 7-12

Section 1: Do you have at least a bachelor's degree? Yes No

Section 2: Do you hold full* state certification/licensure in your teaching area? Yes No

* One must hold at least a provisional license/certificate, an approved alternative educator license or supplemental license. Conditional teaching permits or substitute licenses do not meet this requirement.

IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO EITHER OF THESE QUESTIONS, PROCEED NO FURTHER. RECORD THIS INFORMATION ON THE STATUS SHEET AND RETURN TO YOUR BUILDING PRINCIPAL.

Section 3: (Only one “yes” is required.)

Did you pass **Ohio's State Licensing Exam** (NTE or Praxis II) in the content area of your teaching assignment and receive initial certification/licensure in Ohio in 1991 or later? Yes No

Do you have an **Academic Major** or its equivalent in the content area? (Major or equivalent = 30 semester hours/45 quarter hours) Yes No

Do you have a Master's Degree in the content area of your teaching assignment? Yes No

Yes, I have earned answered “yes” in each of the three Sections above.
 This satisfies the federal definition of a HQT.

No, I have not answered “yes” in each of the three Sections above.

Section 4:

| OHIO HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER RUBRIC [Abbreviated Version] | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| *Since completion in each of these categories equals 100 points, only ONE YES is required* | | | |
| 8-YEAR PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE | PERMANENT CERTIFICATE | NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION | 90 CLOCK HOURS |
| Appropriate to your teaching assignment, with at least 30 semester/45 quarter hours in the academic subject you teach | Appropriate to your teaching assignment, with at least 30 semester/45 quarter hours in the academic subject you teach | Appropriate to your teaching assignment | Professional development approvable by your LPDC since 1998 and post initial licensure in: • 90 clock hours appropriate content knowledge (a maximum of 45 clock hours of teaching skills pedagogy or Ohio academic content standards may apply) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Yes=100 points | Yes=100 points | Yes=100 points | Yes=100 points |

Yes, I have earned 100 points on the Ohio HQT Rubric, in addition to checking “yes” in Section 1 and Section 2, to meet the federal HQT definition.

No, I have not earned 100 points on the Ohio HQT Rubric to meet the federal HQT definition.

Teachers who have checked **NO** for Section 4 may use the Ohio Highly Qualified Teacher Expanded Rubric in the reporting packet to earn 100 points and earn the third required “yes”.