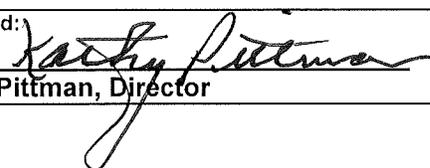


**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES
JUVENILE INSTITUTIONS**

Subject: Special Education: Qualification/Licensure	Policy Number: 17
Number of Pages: 1	Section: XII
Attachments	Related Standards & References Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA '97) and Regulations Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA '04) No Child Left Behind (NCLB, 2001) Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2004 Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Special Education Policies and Procedures (2003)
Effective Date: 06/09/2006 Revised: 10/06/2008	Approved:  Kathy Pittman, Director
	Reviewed: 12/15/2009

I. POLICY

It is the policy of MDHS/DYS that teachers working with Regular Education/Special Education students will be endorsed in special education and a specific subject area and deemed highly qualified according to "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB).

II. DEFINITIONS

As used in this policy and procedure, the following definitions apply:

No Child Left Behind: (NCLB) Federal Regulations defining the highly qualified status of teachers. In order to be identified as a highly qualified teacher, new elementary and secondary teachers must have full state certification and/or pass the state's licensing examinations. Practicing teachers must also meet the states "highly qualified" standard with emphasis on holding full certification and demonstrating subject-matter competency.

III. PROCEDURE

1. School principals will be responsible for verifying certifications of all school staff members in accordance to requirements of NCLB.
2. Valid teacher license must be submitted to principal prior to employment.
3. It will be the responsibility of the individual teacher to maintain license renewal requirements.
4. No teacher will be assigned to teach a course outside of his/her area of certification.