

PARENTS' RIGHT TO KNOW

QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS AND PARAPROFESSIONALS

No Child Left Behind raises requirements for teachers. Because **all states** have accepted **Title I funds**, this quality standard applies to **all public schools in all states**.

States must ensure that by the end of 2005-2006 school year, **all** teachers teaching in core academic subjects must be "**highly qualified**". That means they hold at least a bachelors degree and have passed a state test of subject knowledge. Elementary school teachers must demonstrate knowledge of teaching math and reading. Teachers in higher grades must demonstrate knowledge of the subject they teach, or have majored in that subject. Teachers have until 2005-2006 to obtain at least a bachelors degree, licensure and or certification. Teachers with license and certification waivers, even if for an emergency, will not meet this standard.

New paraprofessionals assisting in Title I programs or in a school that receives Title I funds, must have (1) completed two years of college, (2) obtained an associate's or higher degree or (3) pass a test which meets a rigorous standard of quality. The test will assess their ability to support teachers in reading, writing, and math instruction. Paraprofessionals already employed have until 2006 to meet these requirements.

As a parent you are entitled to information about a teacher. You are entitled to know whether the teacher is certified and qualified to teach the particular subject or grade. You are entitled to information about the teacher's college degree and major. If your child receives any services from a paraprofessional, the school is required to provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

This information is on file at the Campbell County Board of Education's Central Office and will be made available to parents upon request and by appointment.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT

§ 200.61 Parents' right to know

(a) At the beginning of each school year, an LEA that receives funds under subpart A of this part must notify the parents of each student attending may request and the LEA will provide the parents on request, information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including at a minimum the following:

(1) Whether the teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.

(2) Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.

(3) The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

(4) Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.