

Options for Demonstrating Subject Matter Competency in Massachusetts

*In Massachusetts, highly qualified, as defined by NCLB, means that a teacher is licensed (at any level) **AND** has demonstrated subject matter competency in the appropriate subjects . Though charter school teachers are not required to be certified under NCLB, they are required to meet the subject matter competency requirements in the appropriate subjects. The options for demonstrating subject matter competency in Massachusetts are listed below.*

Means of Demonstrating Subject Matter Competency (Teachers listed on the left have to meet only <u>one</u> of the checked options that correspond to their cohort):						
	Successful completion of the MTEL in the appropriate subject(s) ²	Possession of a Graduate Degree in the appropriate subject(s)	Possession of an Academic Major in the appropriate subject(s)	Successful completion of coursework equivalent to an undergraduate major in the appropriate subject(s)	Nationally Board Certified	The Massachusetts High Objective Uniform Standard of Evaluation in the appropriate subject(s) (MA HOUSSE) [Title IX, Section 9101] ³
Elementary School Teachers (including Kindergarten Teachers)	X					X (this option is currently only available to special education and veteran ESL teachers (teachers with at least one year of teaching experience in ESL) who were HQ in math, science, English or reading/language arts at the time of hire)
Middle and Secondary School Teachers	X	X	X	X	X	X (this option is currently only available to special education and veteran ESL teachers who were HQ in math, science,

						English or reading/language arts at the time of hire)
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The appropriate subject(s) are the core academic subject(s) (English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography) in which the teacher teaches. Generalist teachers licensed in a specific area but teaching more than one core academic subject (Elementary, Middle School Generalist, ESL and Special Education teachers must demonstrate competency in all of the subjects that they teach.

2

Elementary school teachers must successfully complete the MTEL in General Curriculum, while Kindergarten teachers have the option of successfully completing either the Early Childhood or General Curriculum MTEL.

3

The MA HOSSE includes the successful approval of an Individual Professional Development Plan (IPDP). For more information on the use of HOSSE, please visit: http://www.doe.mass.edu/nclb/hq/hq_faq.html?section=HOSSE.