



Administrative Regulations

South San Antonio Independent School District

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NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS – TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

As a condition of receiving assistance under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA) (20 U. S.C. 6301 et seq.), if a parent requests the professional qualifications the student's classroom teacher, the following should be included as a minimum:

- Has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction
- Is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
- Is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- If the child is provided services by a paraprofessional, their qualifications.

If an inappropriately certified or uncertified teacher is assigned to the classroom for more than thirty (30) consecutive instructional days, written notice should be provided to parents or guardians of each student in that classroom. Ensure that the letter is provided in a Bilingual form to any parent or guardian whose primary language is not English.

LOCAL DISTRICT OF INNOVATION

House Bill (HB) 1842, passed during the 84th Legislative Session, allows Texas public school districts to pursue the designation of District of Innovation. This designation allows local school districts to obtain exemptions from certain provisions of the Texas Education Code. In turn, the district would have more flexibility and provide local control to the district’s Board of Trustees. On August 22, 2022 the South San Antonio Independent School District’s Board of Trustees passed a Resolution to begin the process of becoming a District of Innovation to support local innovative initiatives and to improve educational outcomes for all students and the school community as a whole. The District’s Board of Trustees.

In the area of teacher certification, the following guidelines and exemptions apply:

B. SSAISD Strategic Plan - Teacher Certification TEC Code Requiring Exemption TEC §21.003

Certification and TEC §21.051 - Required Field-based Experience Benefit of Exemption for SSAISD

The teacher certification requirements enacted in these statutes inhibit the District’s ability to hire highly-skilled individuals to teach dual credit, career and technological education courses, STEM courses, as well as courses taught in languages other than English. The availability of teachers who are certified



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to teach these courses is limited, which causes the District to limit course offerings that support the 21st Century Learner.

SSAID is committed to the continuation of hiring fully certified teachers for all positions. SSAID is seeking flexibility in hiring professionals in hard to recruit and retain areas. This would include teacher recruitment in the following areas:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Fine Arts and Humanities
- Career and Technology Education
- Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
- Advanced Academics In order to best serve SSAID students, decisions on certification will be handled locally. Henceforth, students will be afforded greater course options, fluidity in scheduling and exposure to specialized practitioners (i.e. college professors, public service professionals and other expert personnel).

Local Guidelines:

The campus principal may submit to the Superintendent a request to allow a teacher to teach a course in a highly specialized or hard-to-fill area. The superintendent will decide whether the applicant is qualified to teach such a course or vocational skill through a local teaching certificate. Local teaching certificates will be for one year. The employee will receive a non-Chapter 21 contract. The Superintendent will then report this action to the Board of Trustees.