

# Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement Professional Qualifications/ESSA In-Field 20 Day Notification Decision Guide



## Federal Requirement – 20 Day Notification

In Georgia, in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, all LEA schools are required to provide timely notice to parents when students have been assigned or taught four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned. *ESSA Section 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)*

### Traditional LEAs

Traditional LEAs do not have the flexibility to waive certification (FY21 Buford City and Webster County)

LEAs must send 20-day notification of professional qualifications for teachers, including special education teachers in service and content, who do not meet the GaPSC certification 'ESSA In-Field' requirements.

LEAs are not required to send 20 Day Notifications for paraprofessionals and substitutes.

### Charter & Strategic/Waiver Systems

LEAs must use charter/strategic waiver plans to establish minimum professional qualification requirements. Notifications must be sent for any teachers who do not meet applicable State and/or LEA professional qualifications.

Special education teachers must be GaPSC Certified in Adapted and General for **SERVICE**  
**EIP Teachers** Must Be GaPSC Certified (SB59)

Special Education teachers for service and EIP teachers who **DO NOT Meet** State Certification Requirements  
20-day notifications must be sent.

Teacher **Does NOT Meet** LEA Professional Qualification Requirements  
20-day notification of PQ must be sent.

### 20 Day Notification of Professional Qualifications

- In Georgia, notification requirements apply to all teachers in all LEAs and schools/ programs within each LEA.
- LEAs must notify parents if a teacher has not met subject or grade level requirements for professional qualifications in compliance with state law for more than four consecutive weeks. In Georgia, this means either GaPSC certification requirements, or, if certification is waived under the Official Code of Georgia 20-2-80, 20-2-2065 or State Board Rules 160-5-1-.33, 160-4-9-.07, the minimum qualifications established by each LEA.
- In Georgia, this notification must be made **within 10 business days** following the **four consecutive weeks**.

See the [ESSA PQ & In-Field Implementation Guide](#) for best practices or contact GaDOE Staff.