Berrien County
FY19 Professional Qualifications
4.d.1 - State whether or not the district waives certification under Georgia charter law (OCGA 20-2-2065) or State Board Rule - Strategic Waivers (160-5-1-.33).
[Sec 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)]

Berrien County waives certification under State Board Rule - Strategic Waivers (160-5-1-33).

4.d.2 - If the district waives certification, specify whether or not, in the current fiscal year, certification is waived for all teachers (except Special Education). If certification is waived for a select group of teachers, please specify for which teachers the district waives certification. The description must address content fields and grade level bands (P-5, 4-8, 6-12, P-12). Please note that in Georgia certification requirements for Special Education CANNOT be waived. All Special Education teachers are required to hold GaPSC special education certification that is in-field for the course to which the teacher is assigned.
[Sec 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)]

P-5 Waivers - Counseling - Certificate waiver by passing test scores
Art - Certificate waiver by degree
Early Childhood - Certificate waiver by passing test scores

4-8 Waivers - Counseling - Certificate waiver by passing test scores
Counseling - Certificate waiver by degree
Middle Grades - Certificate waiver by passing test scores
Middle Grades - Certificate by passing test scores

9-12 Waivers - Curriculum, Instruction, and Admin. - Certificate waiver by degree
Counseling - Certificate waiver by degree
Business Admin. - Certificate waiver by degree
Math - Certificate waiver by test scores

4.d.3 - If the district waives certification, state the minimum professional qualifications required for employment of teachers for whom certification is waived (example: bachelor’s degree, content assessment, coursework, field experience, etc.).
[Sec 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)]

Teacher Professional Requirements:
1. Candidate has a degree in subject area assigned OR
2. Candidate has at least 21 semester hours/35 quarter hours in subject area assigned OR
3. Candidate has a passing score on content area test in subject area assigned.

AMENDED
4.d.1 – State whether or not the district waives certification under Georgia charter law (OCGA 20-2-2065) or State Board Rule - Strategic Waivers (160-5-1-.33).

Current Language: State current language in most recently approved DIP and section number that it can be found.

Amended Language: Write amended language to reflect changes. **

4.d.2 - If the district waives certification, specify whether or not, in the current fiscal year, certification is waived for all teachers (except Special Education, ESOL, Gifted). If certification is waived for a select group of teachers, please specify for which teachers the district waives certification. The description must address content fields and grade level bands (P-5, 4-8, 6-12, P-12). Please note that in Georgia certification requirements for Special Education, ESOL and Gifted teachers CANNOT be waived. All Special Education teachers are required to hold GaPSC special education certification that is in-field for the course to which the teacher is assigned. In addition, ESOL and Gifted Teachers must hold the corresponding GaPSC endorsement.

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Amended Language: Write amended language to reflect changes. **

Berrien County Schools
Professional Qualification (PQ) Requirement Guidelines for Strategic Waiver School System
Berrien County strives to provide our students with the best qualified candidate to teach the subject matter. The hiring of personnel will be conducted in a manner that will best serve the needs of our students. Berrien County is currently approved by the State of Georgia as a Strategic Waiver School System. The Berrien County SWSS is approved thru [add date here]. As required by Federal Requirements in ESSA Sections 111(g)(2)(J), 1112 (c)(6)
Berrien County Schools must have written professional qualification requirements.
The following guidelines for professional qualifications will be used for hiring, assigning class schedules, and salary placement:
Special Education teachers must hold GaPSC certification in the field assigned. Certification Waivers will not be used for Special Education teachers.

Teachers PQ Requirements

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Professional Qualification (PQ) Requirement Guidelines for Strategic Waiver School System
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The following guidelines for professional qualifications will be used for hiring, assigning class schedules, and salary placement:
Special Education teachers must hold GaPSC certification in the field assigned. Certification Waivers will not be used for Special Education teachers.

Teachers PQ Requirements
The following criteria will be used for all grade levels (pre-K thru grade 12) and for the following subject areas: ECE; Middle Grades subject areas of ELA, Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies; High School subjects of ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies; Art; Music; PE; Foreign Languages; and CTAE related fields. The following criteria will be used the service fields of school counseling, school social worker, and media specialists. Candidates who are not certified through the GAPSC will be considered professionally qualified (PQ) in the following circumstances:
1. Candidate has a degree in the subject area assigned
OR
2. Candidate has at least 21 Semester hours/35 quarter hours of subject area assigned.
OR
3. Candidate has a passing score on Content Area Test in subject area assigned
Salary placement will be based on the appropriate professional qualification criteria used.

### Paraprofessional PQ Requirements

1. Candidate has a minimum of an associate’s degree in any subject from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution
OR
2. Candidate has at least 60 Semester hours/90 quarter hours from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution
OR
3. Candidate has a passing score on GACE Paraprofessional Test AND holds a minimum of a high school diploma or GED equivalent.

For Middle Grade Certified Teachers ONLY who are teaching in grades 4-8: As long as the teacher is middle grades certified in one academic content area then the teacher will be considered Professionally Qualified to teach any academic content area. Salary placement will be based on the appropriate professional qualification criteria used.

### Paraprofessional PQ Requirements

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OR
2. Candidate has at least 60 Semester hours/90 quarter hours from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution
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