5. Professional Qualifications

- Part 1 – State "explicitly" whether or not in the current fiscal year the LEA uses its Charter or Strategic Waiver flexibility to waive certification. [O.C.G.A. 20-2-80, 20-2-2065, ESSA Sec. 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)]

  We are currently not using our Strategic Waiver flexibility to waive certification.

- Part 2 - If the LEA waives certification, specify whether or not, in the current fiscal year, certification is waived:
  i. for all teachers (except Special Education), or
  ii. for a select group of teachers (please specify content fields and grade level bands, P-5, 4-8, 6-12, P-12).

  [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. All educators must hold a GaPSC issued Clearance Certificate.] [O.C.G.A. 20-2-211.1, SBOE 160-4-9-.05, ESSA Sec. 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)]

  Bleckley County is a Strategic Waiver system and we have the flexibility to waive certification except for special education. However, we are currently not using our flexibility to waive certification and all teachers are certified.

- Part 3 - If the LEA waives certification, state the minimum qualifications required for employment of teachers for whom certification is waived (example: bachelor’s degree, content assessment, coursework, field experience, etc.). If no requirements exist beyond a Clearance Certificate, please explicitly state so. [Sec. 1112(e)(1)(B)(ii)]

  Minimum qualifications in order to be hired in our district require the following: having earned a bachelor's degree in the content or field of instruction, documented coursework in the content area, and passing a subject area competency test. The stated minimum professional qualifications in hiring CTAE teachers has not impacted us in hiring CTAE teachers. We have hired one CTAE teacher recently and he met the qualifications required to teach agriculture.