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)]

  Catoosa County Public Schools waives certification under the statute for Charter Systems. (O.C.G.A 20-2-2065)

- 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)]

  Certification is waived for all educators for which Georgia law allows. It is the intent of the system for any educator for whom certification is waived to be required to complete all requirements for PSC certification within a reasonable period (up to 3 years). Each educator for which certification is waived will have a written plan that outlines their responsibilities in working toward full certification by the PSC. These activities may include but are not limited to the following: entering the Georgia TAPP program, completion of a master’s program leading to certification, completion of EdTPA if required by the PSC, content area tests.

- 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:
  Bachelor’s degree and either (1) Content Assessment or (2) Coursework in the assigned teaching area.