City Schools of Decatur
FY19 Professional Qualifications
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)]

  Under Georgia 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)] the City Schools of Decatur has the ability to waive certification. For FY19, this practice however, is one that will be used in extremely rare circumstances and will be used only in non-core content areas, if used at all.

  In compliance with Georgia State Board Rule, district special education teachers who issue grades must hold GaPSC special education certification aligned with teaching assignment (general, adapted, visual impairment, etc.); must hold content certification OR the equivalent for the subject and grade level bands for which the teacher is assigned (K-5), (4-8), (6-12) and in accordance with the students’ IEPs; and must have a clearance certificate. O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-80, 20-2-200, 20-2-211.1, 20-2-2065, GaPSC Rules, SBOE Rules.

- **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)]

  City Schools of Decatur (CSD) works to ensure that all educators have the appropriate GaPSC Certification for the assigned field of instruction. Waivers of certification will only be used in extenuating circumstances (e.g., Vocational Teachers - Field 150 for grade bands 6-12).

- **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)]

  In situations in which CSD may waive certification, a bachelor’s degree and related in-field industry work experience are required.