



Arkansas Highly Qualified Teachers FAQs

1. What are the Arkansas Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provisions?

HQT is a federal requirement, established as part of the No Child Left Behind legislation, whereby Congress determined that teachers of core academic classes must demonstrate that they (1) have a degree, (2) have an appropriate license, and (3) demonstrate content knowledge in the area(s) they teach. Arkansas established Rules for HQT using the guidelines established by the federal legislation. (See [Arkansas Rules for HQT.](#))

2. Which teachers are required to establish HQT status?

Every teacher who teaches a class in **Math**, **Science**, **English**, **Reading** or **Language Arts**, **Social Studies**, **Art**, **Music** or **Foreign Language** must have an HQT Designation Form on file. This form demonstrates that the teacher has “**content knowledge**” in the subject area. Teachers may have demonstrated content knowledge by passing a content knowledge test, or by having a major, a degree, or a certification in a content area, or by achieving 100 points on the ARHOUSSE document.

3. Which classes require HQT?

Every class in the subject area(s) of **Math**, **Science**, **English**, **Reading** or **Language Arts**, **Social Studies**, **Art**, **Music** or **Foreign Language** requires HQT. Specific courses that require HQT are evident on the [ADE Course Code List](#). These courses have a check mark (√) in the HQT column.

4. Does being on an Additional Licensure Plan (ALP) satisfy HQT requirements?

Not necessarily. HQT and licensure are two different things. ALPs are for licensure. HQT has to do with whether teachers have demonstrated “**content knowledge**” in the subject they are teaching, not whether they are licensed. If a teacher is on an ALP and has passed the content knowledge test then yes, he or she would be HQT in that content area.

5. What is to be done if a teacher is NOT HQT?

If a teacher is NOT HQT he or she is to complete an [Individual Teacher Plan to Become Highly Qualified](#) and follow that plan to become HQT. Once the teacher is highly qualified he or she is to complete an [HQT Designation Form](#).

6. How often is a teacher supposed to fill out an [HQT Designation Form](#)? Each year?

HQT Designation Forms are only filled out once. Once a teacher establishes HQT status in a content area it is good for the duration. It does not have to be established each year. Teachers and school districts should keep copies of the forms and documentation. The only time a teacher would fill out another form would be to establish HQT status in another (different) content area.