

Federal Requirement – Parents' Right to Know

THE REQUIREMENT

ESSA Section 1112(e)(1)(A)

In Georgia, all LEA schools are required to notify parents at the beginning of the school year of their 'right to know' the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teacher(s) and paraprofessional(s).

THE NOTIFICATION/LANGUAGE OF THE LAW

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act, parents may request the following information:

1. **Whether the student's teacher -**
 - has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
 - is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
 - is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
2. **Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.**

GUIDANCE AND SAMPLE

Parents' Right to Know guidance and [sample notifications](#) are available on the [Professional Qualifications & ESSA In-Field Reporting](#) page of the Georgia Department of Education website.

Parents' Right to Know Notification and Best Practices *ESSA Section 1112(e)(1)(A)*

In Georgia, parents' right to know notification requirements apply to all LEAs and schools/programs within each LEA. Notification best practices:

1. All parents must be notified **within 30 calendar days of the start of school or upon enrollment.**
2. The notification must:
 - Include the **name** of the **LEA and school**
 - Use the **language of the law**
 - Contain the **month/year of dissemination** - if included in another document, the primary document must contain a date
3. Records must be maintained

In Georgia, the following are considered best practices when notifying parents: (1) develop written procedures for compliance, (2) notify parents in multiple formats (websites, handbooks, notifications, etc.) to ensure accessibility, (3) notify parents, to the extent practicable, in a language they may understand, and (4) ensure notification contains school/program/LEA name and point of contact by position.