

TO: LEA and ISD Superintendents, Public School Academy Authorizers and Directors

FROM: Jeremy M. Hughes, Ph.D.
Chief Academic Officer/Deputy Superintendent

DATE: April 7, 2004

SUBJ: No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Highly Qualified Teacher Flexibility

The United States Department of Education (USDOE) released additional No Child Left Behind (NCLB) flexibility guidelines for highly qualified teachers on March 15, 2004. Michigan has been diligently working to implement the various provisions of NCLB by the 2005-2006 deadline. The new flexibility will allow Michigan to expand the number of teachers who will now meet the NCLB highly qualified requirements without additional coursework or testing.

The Office of Professional Preparation Services (OPPS) staff has prepared the attached document to disseminate to local K-12 districts, schools and intermediate school districts to clarify the new NCLB highly qualified teacher flexibility. Staff will continue to work with the education community to keep you up-to-date on NCLB requirements and new guidance from the United States Department of Education.