



**NCLB NYS Field Memo
#07-2003**

September 23, 2003

To: Charter Schools
Deans, Directors and Chairs of Teacher Education
District Superintendents of Schools
State Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching
Nonpublic School Administrators
Regional Certification Officers
Superintendents of Public Schools

From: Johanna Duncan-Poitier James A. Kadamus
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Office of Higher Education Office of Elementary, Middle, Secondary
Office of the Professions and Continuing Education

Johanna Duncan-Poitier *James A. Kadamus*

Subject: Updated Federal Guidance on Implementing the NCLB's Requirements for Teachers

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) has recently issued two new draft, non-regulatory guidance documents for the NCLB that are available on its web site at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/edpicks.jhtml?src=fp>.

Improving Teacher Quality, dated September 12, is a revised version of earlier federal guidance. It addresses the definition of a "highly qualified" teacher, the "high objective uniform State standard of evaluation," middle school teachers, demonstrating subject-matter competency and other topics. This revised guidance does not require any changes to guidance that SED has issued for New York State.

Report Cards, Title I, Part A, dated September 19, provides information on report cards required by the NCLB. In addition to student accountability information, State education agency report cards and local educational agency (LEA) report cards must contain teacher quality information. Starting this fall, SED is collecting information through its Basic Education

Data System that will enable it to supplement existing State and LEA report cards with the teacher quality information required by the NCLB.

You can find all NCLB NYS field memos about teachers and paraprofessionals at <http://www.highered.nysed.gov>. Memos issued since June 2003 contain current information that supersedes information from earlier memos.

Please continue to send your questions about the NCLB to nclbnys@mail.nysed.gov and to send your questions about State certification to tcert@mail.nysed.gov.