

## HOUSSE Questions:

### **What does HOUSSE mean?**

High, objective, uniform, state standard of evaluation. Federal law allows each state to set its own requirements for its HOUSSE.

### **Who can use the HOUSSE?**

Only experienced teachers may use the HOUSSE option, except in special instances specified by the federal government: secondary special education teachers teaching core content and secondary teachers in districts participating in the Small Rural Schools Achievement Program.

### **Who evaluates the HOUSSE?**

The department put its requirements for the HOUSSE into regulation. Each district uses the requirements in regulation to complete the HOUSSE form.

### **I teach multiple subjects in secondary school. Do I build a HOUSSE for each one?**

Since the federal definition of highly qualified is based on the core academic area a teacher is teaching, you would need to build a HOUSSE for each subject. It is possible to use some course work, professional development, etc. in more than one HOUSSE.

### **What is the multiple-subject HOUSSE?**

The multiple-subject HOUSSE may be used by teachers who teach multiple subjects in small rural secondary schools.

### **How do I earn points in the multiple-subject HOUSSE?**

You need to earn 50 points for each subject on the multiple-subject HOUSSE. Only **25 points** earned for a content area in the multiple subject HOUSSE may be earned for teaching experience. For each content area of the multiple subject HOUSSE, the teacher must earn **18 points** in the content area.

### **Can I use the Alaska Teacher Performance Review to earn points on a HOUSSE?**

Yes. If you achieve passing scores on two performance reviews in the same content area, you would receive 100 points on the HOUSSE or 50 points on the multiple-subject HOUSSE and be considered highly qualified in that content area.

### **Can I use the Alaska Reading Course to earn points on the HOUSSE?**

Yes. If you are building a HOUSSE for Reading, you may earn 25 points by passing the course.

### **Where can I find Alaska's HOUSSE requirements?**

Alaska's HOUSSE requirements may be found at the following web site  
[www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification)

**Is the HOUSSE going away?**

The federal government has indicated that in the future, the use of HOUSSE to meet the highly qualified requirements will only be allowed for secondary special education teachers and rural multi-subject secondary teachers.