

# CREDENTIAL INFORMATION ALERT

**Date:** September 13, 2005

**Number:** 05-09

**Subject:** Hurricane Katrina Displaced Teachers

The Commission has received a number of telephone calls from school districts requesting information on procedures for hiring teachers who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The Commission's policy is to issue a preliminary credential to these teachers based on evidence that Louisiana, Mississippi or Alabama have issued them a credential. If these teachers are unable to obtain transcripts, the Commission will waive the transcript requirement until these teachers are eligible for the professional clear credential. If transcripts are unavailable, the Commission will hold these teachers to all requirements such as the U.S. Constitution, teaching reading, fifth year, special education and computers. These requirements will be cleared at such time transcripts are available. The Commission already waives CBEST for one year for out-of-state trained teachers and that one-year requirement will apply to these individuals.

The Louisiana Department of Education offers an online lookup system for teachers holding credentials in Louisiana. The web page can be found at <http://www.teachlouisiana.net/Certification/searchcertificationp.asp?PageID=11>. The Commission will honor verification of a credential held based on the Louisiana lookup system. The Commission is not aware of an electronic verification process in Mississippi or Alabama. Teachers from these two states will need to either have the original copy of the credential or obtain verification from the appropriate licensing agency in that state.

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**COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

CERTIFICATION, ASSIGNMENT AND WAIVERS DIVISION

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