Educators employed at the SYSC shall possess current New Hampshire certification, and their subject area or field of specialization endorsement(s) shall be appropriate to the needs and educational disabilities of the students to be served. Educators shall participate in ongoing staff development training sessions to further develop the skills necessary to effectively meet the needs of a challenging student body.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to identify the qualifications required for educational faculty.

**Procedure**

I. **Job Description and Qualifications**
   The minimum qualifications listed on educational employees’ job descriptions shall be followed when recruiting and nominating educators to fill vacant positions. Educators shall be properly certified or eligible for certification through a letter of eligibility, by the NH State Department of Education’s Bureau of Credentialing, in the subject area(s) or field of specialization specified on the supplemental job description.

II. **Certification Required**
   The educators shall maintain current NH certification by participating in the SYSC approved five-year Master Plan for Staff Development, which complies with the rules established by the NH State Board of Education. Additionally, the faculty shall successfully complete mandatory training scheduled by the Division.

III. **Paraprofessionals**
   Paraprofessionals (e.g., teacher aides, teacher assistants) shall work under the supervision of NH certified educators and shall participate in the approved five-year Master Plan for Staff Development. Paraprofessionals shall not be expected to assume responsibilities of a teacher/substitute teacher.

IV. **Substitute Teachers**
   Certified NH educators shall be used as substitute teachers in order to offer all students uninterrupted continuation of their educational program when their regular teachers are absent.