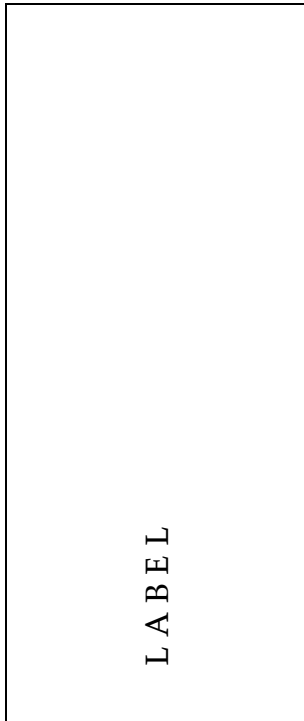
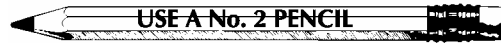


Spring 2007 Teacher Background Questionnaire

Prepared for the U.S. Department of Education
National Center for Education Statistics by:

Westat
1650 Research Boulevard
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Use a #2 pencil to complete this questionnaire.



According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1850-0750. Approval expires 01/31/2009. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time to review instruction, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collected. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving the survey instrument, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4700. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual response to this survey, write directly to: National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006-5650.

The collection of information in this survey is authorized by Public Law 107-279 Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, Title I, Part C, Sec. 151(b) and Sec. 153(a). Participation is voluntary. You may skip questions you do not wish to answer; however, we hope that you will answer as many questions as you can. Your responses are protected from disclosure by federal statute (PL 107-279, Title I, Part C, Sec. 183). All responses that relate to or describe identifiable characteristics of individuals may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose, unless otherwise compelled by law. Data will be combined to produce statistical reports. No individual data that links your name, address, telephone number, or identification number with your responses will be included in the statistical reports.

INTRODUCTION

Dear Teacher,

The **Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 1998 – 1999 (ECLS-K)** is collecting information from teachers of students who have been participating in this unique study for many years. ECLS-K is an important ongoing study of students' educational experiences beginning with kindergarten and continuing through middle school. It is unprecedented in its scope and duration and provides important information for educators and educational policymakers that is available nowhere else.

Information from teachers of participating students is a vital part of ECLS-K. This questionnaire contains two sections: Teacher Information and School Information. Obviously, only you can provide this information. Therefore, although we realize you are very busy, we urge you to complete this questionnaire as accurately as possible.

The information you provide is being collected for research purposes. All responses that relate to or describe identifiable characteristics of individuals may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose, unless otherwise compelled by law. Data will be combined to produce statistical reports. No individual data that links you, your students, or your school with your responses will be included in the statistical reports.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.

MARKING DIRECTIONS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND USE A SOFT LEAD (#2) PENCIL TO COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

CHECKING BOXES

It is important that you check the box next to your answers and print clearly.

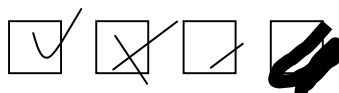
Shown below is the correct way to mark your answers, along with examples of incorrect ways.

Correct Mark:



Incorrect Marks:

Light and thin, outside the box, thick or scrawled.



PRINTING ANSWERS IN BOXES:

Print entire answer in box. Answers should be printed clearly and should not touch or cross any of the box lines. Do not cross zeroes or sevens. That is, do not write a zero with a line through it like this – 0/ and do not write a seven with a line through it like this – 7.

Write digits like this:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

Write words like this:

John Smith

**PLEASE GO TO THE NEXT PAGE
TO BEGIN THE QUESTIONNAIRE.**

TEACHER INFORMATION

1. What is your gender?

Male

Female

2. In what year were you born?

19

ENTER YEAR

3. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

Yes

No

4. Which best describes your race? MARK ONE OR MORE.

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White

5. **What is the highest level of education completed by your own parents?**
MARK ONE RESPONSE ONLY.

- Did not complete high school
- High school diploma or GED
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree
- At least one year of course work beyond a Bachelor's degree but not a graduate degree
- Master's degree
- Completed a PhD, MD, or other advanced professional degree
- Don't know

6. **What is the highest level of education you have completed?**
MARK ONE RESPONSE ONLY.

- High school diploma or GED
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree
- At least one year of course work beyond a Bachelor's degree but not a graduate degree
- Master's degree
- Education specialist or professional diploma based on at least one year of course work past a Master's degree level
- Doctorate

7. **Are you a(n)...?**

- English teacher (**GO TO QUESTION 8 ON PAGE 6**)
- Mathematics teacher (**GO TO QUESTION 10 ON PAGE 7**)
- Science teacher (**GO TO QUESTION 12 ON PAGE 8**)

THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS ARE FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS ONLY.

8. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following subjects as part of your undergraduate coursework? ENGLISH TEACHERS ONLY.

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No
a. Reading, language arts, or literacy education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. English	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other language arts-related subject	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following as part of your graduate coursework? ENGLISH TEACHERS ONLY WITH GRADUATE-LEVEL COURSEWORK.

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No
a. Reading, language arts, or literacy education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. English	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other language arts-related subject	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PLEASE GO TO QUESTION 14 ON PAGE 9.

THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS ARE FOR MATHEMATICS TEACHERS ONLY.

10. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following subjects as part of your undergraduate coursework? **MATHEMATICS TEACHERS ONLY.**

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No
a. Mathematics education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Mathematics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other mathematics-related subject such as statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following as part of your graduate coursework? **MATHEMATICS TEACHERS ONLY WITH GRADUATE-LEVEL COURSEWORK.**

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No
a. Mathematics education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Mathematics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other mathematics-related subject such as statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PLEASE GO TO QUESTION 14 ON PAGE 9.

THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS ARE FOR SCIENCE TEACHERS ONLY

12. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following subjects as part of your undergraduate coursework?
SCIENCE TEACHERS ONLY.

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No
a. Biology or other life science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Physics, chemistry, or other physical science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Earth or space science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Mathematics or mathematics education or engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. Did you have a major, minor, or special emphasis in any of the following as part of your graduate coursework?
SCIENCE TEACHERS ONLY WITH GRADUATE-LEVEL COURSEWORK.

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.	Yes, a major	Yes, a minor or special emphasis	No
a. Biology or other life science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Physics, chemistry, or other physical science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Earth or space science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Mathematics or mathematics education or engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Elementary or secondary education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PLEASE GO TO QUESTION 14 ON PAGE 9.

14. Counting this school year, how many years have you been a school teacher, including part-time teaching?

YEARS

15. Counting this school year, how many years have you taught in this general subject area, including part-time teaching?

YEARS

16. Counting this school year, how many years have you taught in your current school, including part-time teaching?

YEARS

17. In the state in which you teach, what type of teaching certification do you hold?

MARK ONE RESPONSE ONLY.

- Regular or standard state certificate or advanced professional certificate
- Probationary certificate (the initial certificate issued after satisfying all requirements except the completion of a probationary period)
- Provisional or other type given to persons who are still participating in what the state calls an "alternative certification program"
- Temporary certificate (requires some additional college coursework and/or student teaching before regular certification can be obtained)
- Emergency certificate or waiver (issued to persons with insufficient teacher preparation who must complete a regular certification program in order to continue teaching)
- Regular or full certification by an accrediting or certifying body other than the state
- I do not have any of the above certifications in this state

18. In what content area(s) does the teaching certificate marked above allow you to teach in this state?

MARK ALL THAT APPLY.

EDUCATION

- Early childhood/Pre-K, general
- Elementary grades, general
- Secondary education
- Middle grades, general
- Special education

ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS

- Communications
- Composition
- English
- Journalism
- Language Arts
- Reading
- Speech
- English as a Second Language
- ESL/Bilingual Education

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

- Mathematics
- Computer science

NATURAL SCIENCES

- Science, general
- Biology/Life sciences
- Chemistry
- Earth Science
- Physical science
- Physics
- Other natural sciences

SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Social studies, general
- Anthropology
- Economics
- Geography
- Government/Civics
- History
- Native American studies
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Other social sciences

OTHER

- Vocational/Technical education
- Foreign languages
- Health education
- Art or music
- Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

19. Have you taken the following test?

MARK ONE RESPONSE ONLY.

	Not taken	Taken and passed	Taken and have not yet passed	Taken and awaiting test results
a. An exam for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

20. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on teaching. MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. I really enjoy my present teaching job.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. I am certain I am making a difference in the lives of the students I teach.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. If I could start over, I would choose teaching again as my career.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. I am satisfied with my class size.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. I worry about the security of my job because of the performance of the students in my class(es) on state or local tests.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. How well prepared are you in teaching students from different cultural backgrounds? MARK ONE RESPONSE ONLY.

- Well prepared
- Moderately prepared
- Not well prepared

SCHOOL INFORMATION

22. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements about your school.

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree
a. Staff members in this school generally have school spirit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The level of student misbehavior (e.g., noise, horseplay, or fighting in the halls or cafeteria) in this school interferes with my teaching.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Many of the students I teach are not capable of learning the material I am supposed to teach them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. I feel accepted and respected as a colleague by most staff members.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Teachers in this school are continually learning and seeking new ideas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Routine administrative duties and paperwork interfere with my job of teaching.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Parents are supportive of school staff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. If I try really hard, I can get through even to the most difficult or unmotivated students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. I feel that it's part of my responsibility to keep students from dropping out of school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. If some students in my class are not doing well, I feel that I should change my approach to the subject.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. By trying a different teaching method, I can significantly affect a student's achievement.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. There is really very little I can do to insure that most of my students achieve at a high level.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. I work to create lessons so my students will enjoy learning and become independent thinkers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. I feel sometimes it is a waste of my time to try to do my best as a teacher.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MARK ONE ON EACH ROW.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree
o. The attitudes and habits students bring to my class greatly reduce their chances for academic success.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
p. My success or failure in teaching is due primarily to factors beyond my control rather than to my own effort or ability.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

23. Date questionnaire completed:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="2007"/>
MONTH	DAY	YEAR

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.