

Staff Development Requirements

Continuing Professional Education (CPE)

If you obtained a teacher certificate on or after Sept. 1, 1999, you are required to get 150 hours of continuing professional credit (CPE) hours every five years in order to renew your certificate.

Teacher Choice

Every teacher who works for Northside must earn 12 hours of Teacher Choice credit each year. You have from May 1, 2003 until May 1, 2004 to earn your twelve hours.

Participating in workshops, conferences, inservices, book studies, distance learning, and video conferencing are just some of the activities that would count for CPE and Teacher Choice credit.

CPE hours can be earned on contract time or during non-contract time. That means you can earn credit during the school day. You can also receive CPE credit even if you are paid a stipend.

Teacher choice activities must be done on non-contract time (i.e. evenings, weekends, summer). Also, you cannot receive Teacher Choice hours if you are paid a stipend.

Northside is a CPE credit provider. Any workshop you take at Northside will count towards your hours. In the Northside Staff Development catalog we list the number of CPE and Teacher Choice hours awarded for each course offered.

Copies of certificates will need to be sent to the state at the end of your first five years. For those activities that don't have certificates, you must keep a log.

Copies of your certificates must be given to your principal or his/her designee during the school year to show you have completed your 12 hours of Teacher Choice each year.

How It Works in Northside Independent School District

August – Everyone attends 2 ½ campus/district staff development days. = **15 hours**

These days are not workdays, but inservice days. They are contract days and therefore count as CPE but not Teacher Choice.

February – Everyone must attend ½ staff development day. = **3 hours**

It is a contract day and counts for CPE but not Teacher Choice.

From May 1, 2003 – May 1, 2004 – Everyone must obtain 12 hours of Teacher Choice credit on non-contract time. These hours count as both Teacher Choice (non-contract time) and CPE. Remember they must be activities where you are not being paid a stipend to receive Teacher Choice credit. = **12 hours**

Total = 30 CPE hours

If you follow the district requirements for staff development (2 ½ staff development days in August, ½ staff development day in February, and 12 Teacher Choice hours during the school year), you will earn 30 CPE hours each year. That means you will have the 150 hours you need every five years.