*Quite a few folks have asked me to put together this information shared at our last panel discussion at LAC. Michelle helped me edit it to try to make it as clear as possible.*

*Margaret*

The Georgia Accrediting Commission is an independent accrediting agency in Georgia, not an arm of the state government. There are quite a few schools in Georgia who are accredited by GAC, both public, private, and non-traditional. <http://gac.coe.uga.edu/>

Those parents that contract with GAC-accredited schools still only need to have a minimum high school education to teach their own children. However, there has been a change in teacher requirements for those who teach GAC homeschoolers who are not their own children.

By July 1 of 2016, "outside teachers" need to have at least a BA or BS degree, and must have completed and passed 6 semester hours of education training ("how to teach" classes) since they graduated from high school.

After July 1, 2016, students will not be able to put classes on their GAC-accredited transcripts that have been taught by teachers (except for their parents) who have NOT completed these 6 hours of education credits.

PLUs, CDUs, CEUs, and other types of teacher certification credits may possibly count for credit--this has not been clarified by GAC. There is no particular source required for obtaining required credits, to date. It is ultimately up to GAC personnel to determine what counts as education credit.

Teachers who instruct GAC-accredited students who are not the teachers' own children will need to send proof of their BA/BS degrees and (if not in their BA/BS degrees) evidence of the 6 education credits to each GAC-accredited institution whose children they serve so that a file can be built of teacher credentials at each GAC-certified entity.

Dual enrollment instructors are exempt from submitting documents to verify their degrees and 6 credit hours in education.

*This info was compiled on Sept 28, 2013, by Margaret Shuman, who interviewed Northeast Independent Preparatory Academy's Michelle Shaw, who had direct communication with GAC staff.*