2013 State Teacher Policy Yearbook

Colorado





Acknowledgments

STATES

State education agencies remain our most important partners in this effort, and their gracious cooperation has helped to ensure the factual accuracy of the final product. Every state formally received a draft of the *Yearbook* in July 2013 for comment and correction; states also received a final draft of their reports a month prior to release. All but two states responded to our inquiries. While states do not always agree with our recommendations, their willingness to engage in dialogue and often acknowledge the imperfections of their teacher policies is an important step forward.

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STAFF

Sandi Jacobs, *Project Director*Adrienne S. Davis, *Project Assistant*Kathryn M. Doherty, *Special Contributor*Kelli Lakis, *Lead Researcher*Stephanie T. Maltz and Lisa N. Staresina, *Researchers*Phil Lasser, *Research Assistant*

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Executive Summary

The 2013 State Teacher Policy Yearbook includes the National Council on Teacher Quality's (NCTQ) full review of the state laws, rules and regulations that govern the teaching profession. This year's report measures state progress against a set of 31 policy goals focused on helping states put in place a comprehensive framework in support of preparing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers.

Colorado at a Glance



Overall 2013 Yearbook Grade

Overall 2011 Yearbook Grade: C

Area Grades	2013	2011
Area 1 Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers	D-	D-
Area 2 Expanding the Teaching Pool	D+	D+
Area 3 Identifying Effective Teachers	B-	B-
Area 4 Retaining Effective Teachers	С	C-1
Area 5 Exiting Ineffective Teachers	A	Α

Goal Breakdown	2013
★ Best Practice	2
Fully Meets	4
Nearly Meets	4
Partially Meets	4
Meets Only a Small Part	7
O Does Not Meet	10

	Progress on Goals Since 2011	
•	Progress has increased	1
(2)	No change in progress	30
•	Progress has decreased	0

¹ State teacher pension policy is no longer included in the State Teacher Policy Yearbook.

So that Area 4 grades can be compared, 2011 grades have been recalculated to exclude the pension goals.

Overall 2011 grades were not recalculated, as the impact was negligible.

How is Colorado Faring?

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers Page 5 Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science Admission into Teacher Preparation **Elementary Teacher Preparation** Special Education Teacher Preparation Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction Assessing Professional Knowledge Teacher Preparation in Mathematics Student Teaching Middle School Teacher Preparation Teacher Preparation Program Accountability Secondary Teacher Preparation **Policy Strengths** ■ The state is on the right track in addressing preparation program accountability by connecting student achievement data to teacher preparation programs. **Policy Weaknesses** Middle school teacher candidates are not required to ■ Teacher candidates are not required to pass a test of pass a subject-matter test. academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to Secondary teachers are not required to pass a subjectteacher preparation programs. matter test. Elementary teacher candidates are not required The state offers a K-12 special education certification. to pass a content test with individually scored A pedagogy test is not required as a condition of subtests in each of the core content areas, including mathematics. Although preparation programs are required to Requirements for teacher preparation do not ensure a address the science of reading, candidates are not high-quality student teaching experience. required to pass a test to ensure knowledge of effective reading instruction. **Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers** Page 51 Alternate Route Eligibility Part-Time Teaching Licenses Alternate Route Preparation Licensure Reciprocity Alternate Route Usage and Providers **Policy Strengths** ■ There are no restrictions on alternate route usage or providers. **Policy Weaknesses** ■ The state does not offer a license with minimal Admission criteria for alternate routes to certification requirements that would allow content experts to are not sufficiently selective. teach core subjects part time. Alternate route requirements could do more to meet Out-of-state teachers are not required to meet the the immediate needs of new teachers.

state's testing requirements, and there are additional obstacles that do not support licensure reciprocity.

How is **Colorado** Faring?

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teacher	S	Page 71				
State Data Systems	Tenure					
Evaluation of Effectiveness	Licensure Advancement					
Frequency of Evaluations	Equitable Distribution					
Policy Strengths						
Objective evidence of student learning is the preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations.All teachers must be evaluated annually.	Tenure decisions are connected to evidence of tea effectiveness.					
Policy Weaknesses						
The state data system does not have the capacity to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.	 Little school-level data are reports support the equitable distribution 					
Licensure advancement and renewal are not based on teacher effectiveness.						
Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers		Page 101				
Induction	Compensation for Prior Work Experien	ce				
Professional Development	Differential Pay					
Pay Scales	Performance Pay	Ō				
Policy Strengths						
All new teachers receive mentoring.	■ Teachers who receive unsatisfacto					
Teachers receive feedback from their evaluations, and professional development is aligned with findings from teachers' evaluations.	 placed on structured improvemen Teachers can receive additional coworking in high-need schools. 	•				
Policy Weaknesses						
Although districts are given full authority for how teachers are paid, they are not discouraged from basing salary schedules solely on years of experience and advanced degrees.	 The state does not support perfor additional compensation for relev experience or working in shortage 	ant prior work				
Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers		Page 125				
Extended Emergency Licenses Dismissal for Poor Performance	Reductions in Force	*				
Policy Strengths						
All teachers must pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.	 Performance is the top criterion for consider when determining which 	teachers to lay off				
Ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal.	during reductions in force, and a la layoff policy is prohibited.	ast nired, first fired				

igure A	Overall State Grade 2013	Overall State Grade 2011	Overall State Grade 2009
Florida	О <u>Б</u>	В	С
Louisiana	В	C-	C-
Rhode Island	В	В-	D D
Tennessee	В	В-	C-
Arkansas	B-	C C	C-
Connecticut	В-	C-	D+
Georgia	В-	C	C-
Indiana	B-	C+	D
Massachusetts	B-	С	D+
Michigan	B-	C+	D-
New Jersey	B-	D+	D+
New York	B-	C	D+
Ohio	B-	C+	D+
Oklahoma	B-	B-	D+
COLORADO	C+	С	D+
Delaware	C+	С	D
Illinois	C+	С	D+
Virginia	C+	D+	D+
Kentucky	С	D+	D+
Mississippi	С	D+	D+
North Carolina	С	D+	D+
Utah	С	C-	D
Alabama	C-	C-	C-
Arizona	C-	D+	D+
Maine	C-	D-	F
Minnesota	C-	C-	D-
Missouri	C-	D	D
Nevada	C-	C-	D-
Pennsylvania	C-	D+	D
South Carolina	C-	C-	C-
Texas	C-	C-	C-
Washington	C-	C-	D+
West Virginia	C-	D+	D+
California	D+	D+	D+
District of Columbia	D+	D	D-
Hawaii	D+	D-	D-
Idaho	D+	D+	D-
Maryland	D+	D+	D
New Mexico	D+	D+	D+
Wisconsin	D+	D	D
Alaska	D	D	D
lowa	D	D	D
Kansas	D	D	D-
New Hampshire	D	D-	D-
North Dakota	D	D	D-
Oregon	D	D-	D-
Wyoming	D	D	D-
Nebraska	D-	D-	D-
South Dakota	D-	D	D
Vermont	D-	D-	F
Montana	F	F	F

How to Read the Yearbook

GOAL SCORE

The extent to which each goal has been met:



Best Practice



Fully Meets



Nearly Meets



Partially Meets



Meets Only a Small Part



Does Not Meet

PROGRESS INDICATOR

Whether the state has advanced on the goal, policy has remained unchanged or the state has lost ground on that topic:



Goal progress has increased since 2011



Goal progress has decreased since 2011



Goal progress has remained the same since 2011

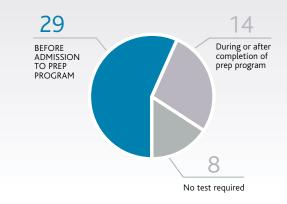
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



Indicates the criteria to meet the goal have been raised since the 2011 Yearbook.

READING CHARTS AND TABLES:

Strong practices or the ideal policy positions for the states are capitalized:

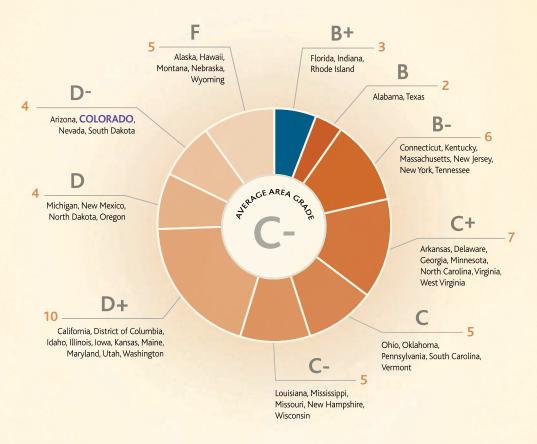


Area 1 Summary



How States are Faring on Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- 1-A: Admission into Teacher Preparation
- 1-B: Elementary Teacher Preparation
- 1-C: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction
- 1-D: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics
- 1-E: Middle School Teacher Preparation

- 1-F: Secondary Teacher Preparation
- 1-G: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science
- 1-H: Special Education Teacher Preparation
- 1-I: Assessing Professional Knowledge
- 1-J: Student Teaching
- 1-K: Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

Goal A – Admission into Teacher Preparation

The state should require teacher preparation programs to admit only candidates with strong academic records.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

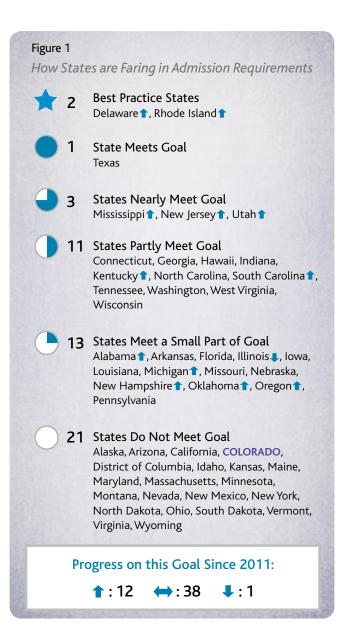
- 1. The state should require teacher candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, writing and mathematics skills as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs.
- 2. All preparation programs in a state should use a common admissions test to facilitate program comparison, and the test should allow comparison of applicants to the general college-going population. The selection of applicants should be limited to the top half of that population.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-A Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Colorado does not require aspiring teachers to pass a test of academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs or any time thereafter.

RECOMMENDATION

■ Require that teacher preparation programs screen candidates for academic proficiency prior to admission.

Teacher preparation programs that do not screen candidates invest considerable resources in individuals who may not be able to successfully complete the program and pass licensing tests. Candidates in need of additional support should complete remediation before entering the program to avoid the possibility of an unsuccessful investment of significant public tax dollars. Colorado should require candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, mathematics and writing prior to program admission.

Require preparation programs to use a common test normed to the general college-bound population.

Colorado should require an assessment that demonstrates that candidates are academically competitive with all peers, regardless of their intended profession. Requiring a common test normed to the general college population would allow for the selection of applicants in the top half of their class, as well as facilitate program comparison.

 Consider requiring candidates to pass subject-matter tests as a condition of admission into teacher programs.

In addition to ensuring that programs require a measure of academic performance for admission, Colorado might also want to consider requiring content testing prior to program admission as opposed to at the point of program completion. Program candidates are likely to have completed coursework that covers related test content in the prerequisite classes required for program admission. Thus, it would be sensible to have candidates take content tests while this knowledge is fresh rather than wait two years to fulfill the requirement, and candidates lacking sufficient expertise would be able to remedy deficits prior to entering formal preparation.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

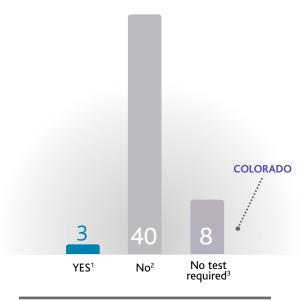
Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

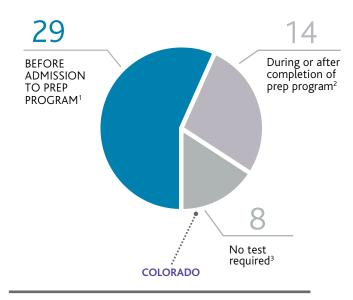
For admission to teacher preparation programs, Rhode Island and Delaware require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general collegebound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware also requires teacher candidates to have a 3.0 GPA or be in the top 50th percentile for general education coursework completed. Rhode Island also requires an average cohort GPA of 3.0, and beginning in 2016, the cohort mean score on nationally-normed tests such as the ACT, SAT or GRE must be in the top 50th percentile. In 2020, the requirement for the mean test score will increase from the top half to the top third.

Figure 2 Do states require an assessment of academic proficiency that is normed to the general college-going population?



- 1. Strong Practice: Delaware, Rhode Island, Texas
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Wyoming

Figure 3 When do states test teacher candidates' academic proficiency?



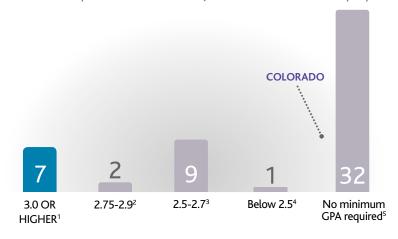
- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Alaska, California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Vermont
- 3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Wyoming

Figure 4		JON TO PREP PROP TO CORP. TO CORP. TO CORP. CORP		We text textiled any duffer of the series of
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Wyoming				
	3	26	14	8

^{1.} Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission with a 3.0 GPA.

Figure 5

Do states require a minimum GPA for admission to teacher prep?



- 1. Strong Practice: Delaware, Mississippi⁶, New Jersey⁶, Oklahoma⁷, Pennsylvania⁸, Rhode Island⁶, Utah
- 2. Kentucky, Texas
- 3. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut⁹, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wisconsin¹⁰
- 4. Louisiana
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 6. The 3.0 GPA requirement is a cohort average; individual candidates must have a 2.75 GPA.
- $7. \ Candidates in \ Oklahoma \ also \ have \ the \ option \ of \ gaining \ admission \ by \ passing \ a \ basic \ skills \ test.$
- 8. Students can also be admitted with a combination of a 2.8 GPA and qualifying scores on the basic skills test or SAT/ACT.
- 9. Connecticut requires a B- grade point average for all undergraduate courses.
- 10. The GPA admission requirement is 2.5 for undergraduate and 2.75 for graduate programs.

Goal B − Elementary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that its teacher preparation programs provide elementary teachers with a broad liberal arts education, providing the necessary foundation for teaching to the Common Core or similar state standards.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require all elementary teacher candidates, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all core subjects.
- 2. The state should require that its approved teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours to ensure appropriate depth in the core subject areas of English, science, social studies and fine arts. (*Mathematics preparation for elementary teachers is discussed in Goal 1-D.*)
- 3. The state should require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area. In addition to enhancing content knowledge, this requirement ensures that prospective teachers have taken higher level academic coursework.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-B Analysis: Colorado



State Meets a Small Part of Goal Raised for this Goal Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

Colorado has adopted the Common Core State Standards, which represent an effort to significantly raise the standards for the knowledge and skills American students will need for college readiness and global competitiveness. However, the state does not ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach the rigorous content associated with these standards.

Colorado requires candidates to pass either the Praxis II or the PLACE general elementary content test, neither of which reports teacher performance in each subject area, meaning that it may be possible to pass the test and still fail some subject areas. Further, based on available information on the Praxis II, there is no reason to expect that the current version required by Colorado would be well aligned with the Common Core State Standards.

Early childhood education teacher candidates, who are allowed to teach children through age 8, are only required to pass the PLACE Early Childhood Education assessment, which combines minimal content testing with pedagogical assessment and areas such as "professionalism" and "family and community relationships."

Colorado requires its elementary teacher candidates to complete an academic major.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement

www.ets.org

PLACE Test Requirement

www.place.nesinc.com

Code of Colorado Regulations, 1 CCR 301-37, 2260.5-R-5.00, 5.04

Commission on Higher Education Part P, Section I, 3.03

Spurlin, M. D. (1985), Colorado Teacher Education and Certification Report (pg. iii). Colorado State Publications Library: ED 5/80.2/T22/.

Colorado Commission on Higher Education Meeting, March 24, 1986, pg. 3

RECOMMENDATION

Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all subjects.

Colorado should require both a rigorous content test as a condition of certification and separate, meaningful passing scores for each area on the test. Use of a composite passing score offers no assurance of adequate knowledge in each subject area. A candidate may achieve a passing score and still be seriously deficient in a particular subject area.

Colorado is urged to require all early childhood education teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass an appropriate test, either the same test as other elementary teachers or a comparably rigorous one geared to early childhood content. It is especially worrisome that the state allows teachers up through grade 3 to teach without ever having passed an adequate content test.

Ensure that teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework.

Colorado should either articulate a more specific set of standards or establish comprehensive coursework requirements for elementary teacher candidates that align with the Common Core State Standards to ensure that candidates will complete coursework relevant to the common topics in elementary grades. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours in the core subject areas of English, science, social studies and fine arts. Colorado's elementary teacher standards require that candidates be "knowledgeable" in content areas that include civics, economics, foreign language, geography, history, science, music, visual arts and physical education. Although these are important curricular areas, the list is incomplete and too ambiguous to set a meaningful standard for holding either programs or teachers accountable. In addition, all teacher candidates in Colorado must complete coursework in oral and written communication, critical thinking, social sciences, humanities and science. The state does not specify a minimum number of credit hours that must be completed in each of these areas; moreover, these required areas are too ambiguous to guarantee that the courses used to meet them will be relevant to the topics taught in the elementary classroom.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 7	EEMENTARY CONTENT SCORE FOR E. SPARATENT	Steinentay Content tees	Elementary content to	with /
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know core content?	18 JE 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	35 / C. S.	\$ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	ofuire.
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South Carolina South Dakota				
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West Virginia				
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TOTAL STATE OF BEST PRACTICE

Indiana ensures that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades possess the requisite subjectmatter knowledge before entering the classroom. Not only are elementary teacher candidates required to pass a content test comprised of independently scored subtests, but the state also requires its early childhood education teachers—who are licensed to teach up through grade 3—to pass a content test comprised of four subtests. Elementary teacher candidates in Indiana must also earn either a major or minor in an academic content area.

1. Alaska does not require testing for initial licensure.

2. The required test is a questionable assessment of content knowledge, instead emphasizing methods and instructional strategies.

4. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass content test.

^{3.} Massachusetts and North Carolina require a general curriculum test that does not report scores for each elementary subject. A separate score is

reach elementary grad to pass a content knowledge test? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas	CONTENT SUBSCORES EACH SUBJE	Content test with	Test with little	No test required	Not appliable;
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Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					

These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.
 May pass either multiple subjects (subscores) or content knowledge (no subscores) test.

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Oregon			*				*	*	*	*	*	+	*	*	*	*		*
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Rhode Island			*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*					
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Tennessee			*			*	*	*	*			*				*		
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Utah			*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*					
Vermont			*															
Virginia			*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Washington			*			*	*	*	*			*				*		*
West Virginia																		
Wisconsin			*			*		*	*	*	*		*					
Wyoming																		
												Subje	ct me	entio	ned	🜟 Sı	ıbject c	overed in dept

Figure 10
What subjects does Colorado expect elementary teachers to know?

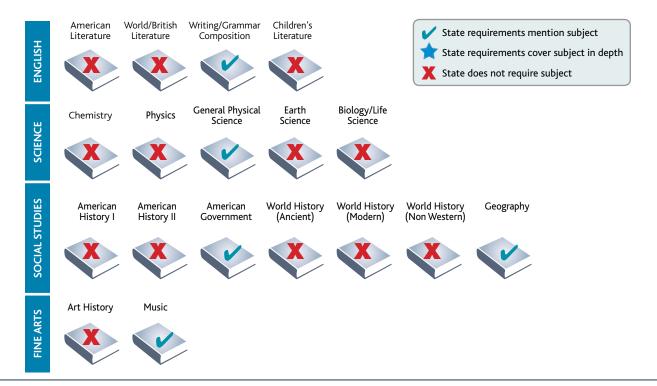
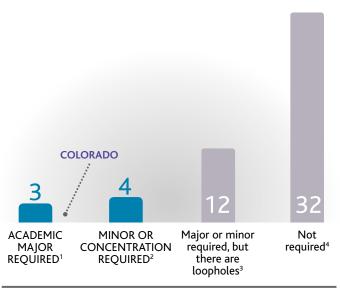


Figure 11

Do states expect elementary teachers to complete an academic concentration?



- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico
- 2. Strong Practice: Indiana, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Oklahoma
- 3. California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia
 - These states require a major, minor or concentration but there is no assurance it will be in an academic subject area.
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Goal C – Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that new elementary teachers, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, pass a rigorous test of reading instruction in order to attain licensure. The design of the test should ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without knowing the five instructional components shown by scientifically based reading research to be essential to teaching children to read.
- 2. The state should require that teacher preparation programs prepare candidates in the science of reading instruction.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-C Analysis: Colorado



State Partly Meets Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal 🙌 Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

Colorado does not require teacher candidates to pass a reading assessment prior to certification or at any point thereafter to verify that candidates have been effectively trained in the science of reading instruction.

In its standards for preparation of elementary teachers, Colorado does require teacher preparation programs to address the science of reading. Programs must provide training in "phonological and linguistic skills related to reading," including phonemic awareness; concepts about print and systematic, explicit phonics; reading comprehension; and vocabulary development.

Supporting Research

Code of Colorado Regulations, 1 CCR 301-37, 2260.5-R-5.00

RECOMMENDATION

Require all teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

Colorado should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom. The assessment should clearly test knowledge and skills related to the science of reading, and address all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. If the test is combined with an assessment that also tests general pedagogy or elementary content, it should report a subscore for the science of reading specifically. Elementary teachers who do not possess the minimum knowledge in this area should not be eligible for licensure.

Colorado should also require all early childhood education teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment to ensure that they are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado asserted that all preparation programs must provide instruction in literacy based on the state's literacy rubric. The state has also passed the READ Act legislation, which specifies specific criteria for student learning. Efforts are underway to align the requirements for educator preparation programs with the READ Act standards.

Supporting Research

Literacy Rubric

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/EPP_review_resources/license_review.htm

READ Act

HB12-1238

Figure 13		EPARATIOI UIREMEN	rc /	TEST REQUIRI	
Do states ensure that	FULLY ADDRESS READING SOIENGE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT	Do not address	4PPROPRIATE	152	,
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oj reading:	# A /	7 5	₹	Inadequate to	No reading t
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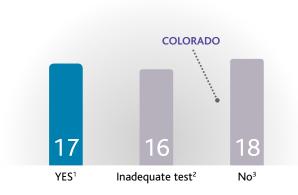
TOTAL STATE OF BEST PRACTICE

Fifteen states meet this goal by requiring that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades pass comprehensive assessments that specifically test the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Independent reviews of the assessments used by Connecticut and Massachusetts, confirm that these tests are rigorous measures of teacher candidates' knowledge of scientifically based reading instruction.

^{1.} Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum.

^{2.} Teachers have until their second year to pass the reading test.

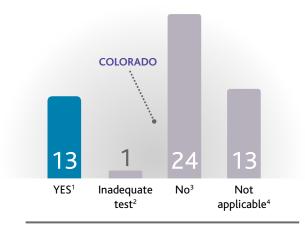
Figure 14
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading?



- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Maine, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont
- Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, Wyoming
- 4. Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum.
- $5. \, \text{Teachers}$ have until their second year to pass the reading test.

Figure 15

Do states measure knowledge of the science of reading for early childhood teachers who can teach elementary grades?



- Strong Practice: Alabama⁵, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Idaho
- Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, lowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming
- 4. Alaska, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.
- 5. Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum

Goal D – Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers have sufficient knowledge of the mathematics content taught in elementary grades.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require teacher preparation programs to deliver mathematics content of appropriate breadth and depth to elementary teacher candidates. This content should be specific to the needs of the elementary teacher (i.e., foundations, algebra and geometry with some statistics).
- The state should require elementary teacher candidates, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, to pass a rigorous test of mathematics content in order to attain licensure.
- Such test can also be used to test out of course requirements and should be designed to ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without sufficient knowledge of mathematics.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-D Analysis: Colorado







ANALYSIS

Colorado requires that all new elementary teachers pass either the state's PLACE (Program for Licensing Assessments for Colorado's Educators) elementary assessment or a general subject-matter test, the Praxis II. Neither test provides a specific mathematics subscore, so one can fail the mathematics portion and still pass the test. Further, while these tests cover important elementary school-level content, they barely evaluate candidates' knowledge beyond an elementary school level, do not challenge their understanding of underlying concepts and do not require candidates to apply knowledge in nonroutine, multistep procedures.

Colorado's early childhood education teachers, who are allowed to teach through grade 3, are only required to pass a combination content and pedagogy test, which also does not report an individual math subscore.

In its program approval standards, Colorado requires teacher candidates to demonstrate the ability to "develop in students an understanding and use of number systems and number sense, geometry, measurement, statistics and probability, and function and use of variables." Unfortunately, these standards lack the specificity needed to ensure that teacher preparation programs deliver mathematics content of appropriate breadth and depth to elementary teacher candidates.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org PLACE Test Requirement www.place.nesinc.com 1 CCR 301-37; 2260.5-R-5.02

RECOMMENDATION

Require all teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous mathematics assessment.

Colorado should assess mathematics content with a rigorous assessment tool, such as the test required in Massachusetts that evaluates mathematics knowledge beyond an elementary school level and challenges candidates' understanding of underlying mathematics concepts. Such a test could also be used to allow candidates to test out of coursework requirements. Teacher candidates who lack minimum mathematics knowledge should not be eligible for licensure.

 Require teacher preparation programs to provide mathematics content specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers.

Colorado must ensure that new teachers are prepared to teach the mathematics content required by the Common Core State Standards. Although Colorado's program approval standards require some knowledge in key areas of mathematics, the state should require teacher preparation programs to provide mathematics content specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers. This includes specific coursework in foundations, algebra and geometry, with some statistics coursework.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

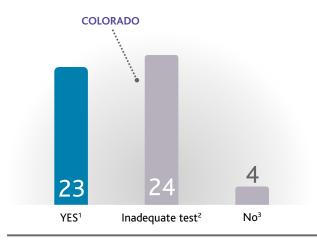


** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Eight states meet this goal by requiring that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades earn a passing score on an independently scored mathematics subtest. **Massachusetts's** MTEL mathematics subtest continues to set the standard in this area by evaluating mathematics knowledge beyond an elementary school level and challenging candidates' understanding of underlying mathematics concepts.

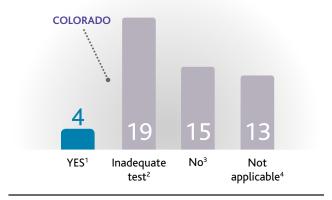
Figure 17

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas⁴, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia
- Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Alaska⁵, Hawaii, Montana, Ohio⁶
- 4. Test is not yet available for review.
- 5. Testing is not required for initial licensure.
- 6. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass an adequate content test.

Figure 18
Do states measure knowledge of math of early childhood teachers who can teach elementary grades?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Indiana, New York, Virginia
- Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Arizona, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. Alaska, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.

Goal E − Middle School Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that new middle school teachers pass a licensing test in every core academic area that they are licensed to teach.
- 2. The state should not permit middle school teachers to teach on a generalist license that does not differentiate between the preparation of middle school teachers and that of elementary teachers.
- 3. The state should encourage middle school candidates who are licensed to teach multiple subjects to earn minors in two core academic areas rather than earn a single major. Middle school candidates licensed to teach a single subject area should earn a major in that area.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-E Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

All middle-level teacher candidates in Colorado must earn a secondary (7-12) certification in a specific subject area.

Regrettably, secondary teachers may demonstrate content knowledge by either completing 24 semester hours of course credit as demonstrated through transcript evaluation or passing a content test relevant to the subject area.

Supporting Research

Requirements for Initial Licensure www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_tch_req.asp 1 CCR 301-37, 2260.5-R-5.00, 5.04

RECOMMENDATION

Require content testing in all core areas.

Colorado should require subject-matter testing for all middle school teacher candidates in every core academic area they intend to teach as a condition of initial licensure. To ensure meaningful middle school content tests, the state should set its passing scores to reflect high levels of performance.

Encourage middle school teachers licensed to teach multiple subjects to earn two subjectmatter minors.

This would allow candidates to gain sufficient knowledge to pass state licensing tests, and it would increase schools' staffing flexibility. However, middle school candidates in Colorado who intend to teach a single subject should earn a major in that area.

Close the loophole that allows teachers to add middle grade levels to an existing license without demonstrating content knowledge.

Colorado allows teachers to add new secondary areas with either coursework or a passing grade on a content test. The state is urged to require that all teachers who add the middle grade levels to their certificates pass a rigorous subject-matter test to ensure content knowledge of all subject areas before they are allowed in the classroom.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado asserted that it does not have a middle school endorsement.

Figure 20	K-8 LICENSE NOT OFFED.	K-8 liense officed for	\$ /
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elementary preparation?	SNA	Cense) ssu
eternementy preparation.	K-8116	K-8 III	K-8 license offered
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Alaska			
Arizona			1
Arkansas			
California		2	
COLORADO			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia 			
Hawaii			
Idaho Illinois			
Illinois Indiana			
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Louisiana			
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Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			1
Ohio			
Oklahoma			3
Oregon			4
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Vermont			
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Washington			
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Wyoming			
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***** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia, Mississippi, New Jersey and South Carolina ensure that all middle school teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach middle school-level content. None of these states offers a K-8 generalist license and all require passing scores on subject-specific content tests. Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina explicitly require at least two content-area minors, and New Jersey requires a content major along with a minor for each additional area of certification.

^{1.} Offers 1-8 license.

^{2.} California offers a K-12 generalist license for all self-contained classrooms.

^{3.} With the exception of mathematics.

^{4.} Oregon offers 3-8 license.

Figure 21		No, test does not tegos	<i>z</i> /	
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New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York	5			
North Carolina	6			
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon			7	
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Washington				
West Virginia				
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- Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.
 Candidates teaching multiple subjects only have to pass the elementary test. Single-subject credential does not require test.
- 3. For K-8 license, Idaho also requires a single-subject test.
 4. Maryland allows elementary teachers to teach in
- departmentalized middle schools if not less than 50 percent of the teaching assignment is within the elementary education grades.
- For nondepartmentalized classrooms, generalist in middle childhood education candidates must pass new assessment with three subtests.
- 6. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 7. Candidates opting for middle-level endorsement may either complete a major or pass a content test.

Goal F − Secondary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a licensing test in every subject they are licensed to teach.
- 2. The state should require secondary social studies teachers to pass a subject-matter test of each social studies discipline they are licensed to teach.
- 3. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a content test when adding subject-area endorsements to an existing license.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-F Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado allows secondary teacher candidates to demonstrate content proficiency by either completing 24 semester hours of credit as demonstrated through transcript evaluation or by passing a content assessment, either the Praxis II or the PLACE, in the endorsement area.

Regrettably, Colorado also allows both general science and general social studies licenses and does not require subject-matter testing for each subject area within these disciplines.

To demonstrate content proficiency, candidates for the social studies endorsement may either complete 24 semester hours of course credit or achieve a passing score on either the PLACE test (Social Studies) or the Praxis II Social Studies test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general social studies but rather can teach any of the topical areas. (For the state's science loophole, see Goal 1-G.)

To add an endorsement area to a license, secondary teachers in Colorado may also choose either 24 semester hours of credit or a content test.

Supporting Research

Testing Requirements
www.ets.org
www.place.nesinc.com
Colorado Initial Teaching License-Approved Programs
www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_tch_approved.asp
Adding an Additional Endorsement to a Valid License
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_tch_approved.asp

RECOMMENDATION

■ Require subject-matter testing for secondary teacher candidates.

As a condition of licensure, Colorado should require its secondary teacher candidates to pass a content test in each subject area they plan to teach to ensure that they possess adequate subject-matter knowledge and are prepared to teach grade-level content.

Require secondary social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.

Teacher candidates in Colorado should not be allowed to substitute coursework for a passing score on a content test. While a major is generally indicative of a background in a particular subject area, only a subject-matter test ensures that candidates know the specific content they will need to teach.

■ Require subject-matter testing when adding subject-area endorsements.

Colorado should require passing scores on subject-specific content tests, regardless of other coursework or degree requirements, for teachers who are licensed in core secondary subjects and wish to add another subject area, or endorsement, to their licenses. While coursework may be generally indicative of background in a particular subject area, only a subject-matter test ensures that teachers know the specific content they will need to teach.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

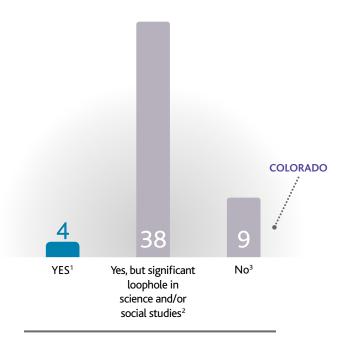
Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia, Indiana and Tennessee require that all secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subject—both as a condition of licensure and to add an additional field to a secondary license. Further, none of these states offers secondary certification in general social studies; all teachers must be certified in a specific discipline. Also worthy of mention is Missouri, which now requires its general social studies teachers to pass a multi-content test with six independently scored subtests.

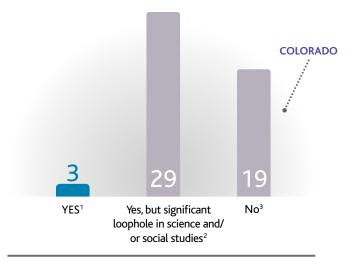
Figure 23 Does a secondary teacher have to pass a content test in every subject area for licensure?



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Tennessee
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁴, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin [For more on loopholes, see Goal 1-G (science) and Figure 25 (social studies).}
- 3. Alaska, Arizona⁵, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Montana, New Hampshire⁵, Washington, Wyoming⁶
- 4. Teachers may also have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 5. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.
- 6. Only secondary comprehensive social studies teachers must pass a content test.

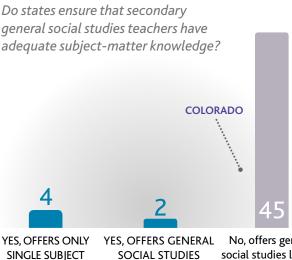
Figure 24 Does a secondary teacher have to pass a

content test in every subject area to add an endorsement?



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Tennessee
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin (Science is discussed in Goal 1-G.)
- 3. Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Washington, Wyoming

Figure 25



STUDIES LICENSES¹

SOCIAL STUDIES LICENSE WITH ADEQUATE TESTING²

No, offers general social studies license without adequate testing3

- 1. Strong Practice: Georgia, Indiana, South Dakota, Tennessee
- 2. Strong Practice: Minnesota⁴, Missouri

SOCIAL

- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma⁵, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Minnesota's test for general social studies is divided into two individually scored subtests.
- 5. Oklahoma offers combination licenses.

Goal G − Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science The state should ensure that secondary science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require secondary science teachers to pass a subject-matter test in each science discipline they are licensed to teach.
- If a general science or combination science certification is offered, the state should require teachers to pass a subject-matter test in each science discipline they are licensed to teach under those certifications.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-G Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado offers a secondary endorsement in science education, which combines physics, biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and environmental science. This appears to be the only secondary science endorsement. To demonstrate content proficiency, candidates may either complete 24 semester hours of course credit or achieve a passing score on either the PLACE test (Science) or the Praxis II General Science test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general science but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Supporting Research

Program for Licensing Assessments for Colorado Educators www.place.nesinc.com

Praxis Testing Requirements
www.ets.org

Certification Requirements

www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_tch_req.asp

RECOMMENDATION

Require secondary science teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.

Although coursework plays a key role in the acquisition of content knowledge, teacher candidates in Colorado should also be required to pass a rigorous subject-matter assessment, which is the only way to ensure that teachers possess adequate knowledge of the subject area.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 27	D. J.			
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EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Missouri ensures that its secondary science teachers know the content they teach by taking a dual approach to general secondary science certification. The state offers general science certification but only allows these candidates to teach general science courses. Missouri also offers an umbrella certification—called unified science that requires candidates to pass individual subtests in biology, chemistry, earth science and physics. These certifications are offered in addition to single-subject licenses.

^{1.} Teachers with the general science license may only teach general science courses.

^{2.} Georgia's science test consists of two subtests.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal H − Special Education Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should not permit special education teachers to teach on a K-12 license that does not differentiate between the preparation of elementary teachers and that of secondary teachers.
- All elementary special education candidates should be required to pass a subjectmatter test for licensure that is no less rigorous than what is required of general education candidates.
- 3. The state should ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-H Analysis: Colorado



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado only offers a K-12 special education certification.

All K-12 special education candidates must pass the same elementary education content test as general education elementary teachers. This elementary content test does not report subscores for each individual content area.

Supporting Research

Requirements for a Colorado Initial Teacher License http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_tch_req.asp Available Endorsement Areas http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_tch_approved.asp

RECOMMENDATION

End licensure practices that fail to distinguish between the skills and knowledge needed to teach elementary grades and secondary grades.

It is virtually impossible and certainly impractical for Colorado to ensure that a K-12 special education teacher knows all the subject matter he or she is expected to be able to teach, especially considering state and federal expectations that special education students should meet the same high standards as other students. While the broad K-12 umbrella may be appropriate for teachers of low-incidence special education students, such as those with severe cognitive disabilities, it is deeply problematic for the overwhelming majority of high-incidence special education students, who are expected to learn grade-level content.

Require that elementary special education candidates pass a rigorous content test as a condition of initial licensure.

Although Colorado is on the right track in ensuring that special education teacher candidates who will teach elementary grades possess sufficient knowledge of the subject matter at hand, the state should require a rigorous content test that reports separate passing scores for each content area. Colorado should also set these passing scores to reflect high levels of performance. Failure to ensure that teachers possess requisite content knowledge deprives special education students of the opportunity to reach their academic potential.

Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

Secondary special education teachers are frequently generalists who teach many core subject areas. While it may be unreasonable to expect secondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements for each subject they teach as other teachers who teach only one subject, Colorado's current policy of only requiring an elementary content test is problematic and will not help secondary special education students to meet rigorous learning standards. To provide a middle ground, Colorado should consider a customized HOUSSE route for new secondary special education teachers and look to the flexibility offered by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which allows for a combination of testing and coursework to demonstrate requisite content knowledge in the classroom.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 29		Offics K.72 and Bade-Specific and	/s) _{uo}
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and secondary special	SNO.	5 K- 7	Sonly
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Vermont			
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Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	16	7	28
	16	7	20



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Unfortunately, NCTQ cannot award "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of special education. However, two states—New York and Rhode Island—are worthy of mention for taking steps in the right direction in ensuring that all special education teachers know the subject matter they are required to teach. Both states require that elementary special education candidates pass the same elementary content tests, which are comprised of individual subtests, as general education elementary teachers. Secondary special education teachers in New York must pass a newly developed multisubject content test for special education teachers comprised of three separately scored sections. Rhode Island requires its secondary special education teachers to hold certification in another secondary area.

Figure 30
Which states require

Which states require subject-matter testing for special education teachers?

for special education teachers?						
Elementa	ry Subject-Matter Test					
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania ¹ , Rhode Island, Texas, West Virginia ² , Wisconsin					
Required for a K-12 special education license	COLORADO, Idaho, North Carolina					
Secondary	Subject-Matter Test(s)					
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	New York ³					
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania ¹ , Rhode Island, West Virginia ²					
Required for a K-12 special education license	None					

- In Pennsylvania, a candidate who opts for dual certification in elementary or secondary special education and as a reading specialist does not have to take a content test.
- 2. West Virginia also allows elementary special education candidates to earn dual certification in early childhood, which would not require a content test. Secondary special education candidates earning a dual certification as a reading specialist are similarly exempted.
- 3. New York requires a multi-subject content test specifically geared to secondary special education candidates. It is divided into three subtests.

Figure 29:

Although New Jersey does issue a K-12 certificate, candidates must meet discrete elementary and/or secondary requirements.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal I – Assessing Professional Knowledge

The state should use a licensing test to verify that all new teachers meet its professional standards.

Goal Component

(The factor considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

 The state should assess new teachers' knowledge of teaching and learning by means of a pedagogy test aligned to the state's professional standards.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-I Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



(Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado does not currently require new teachers to pass a pedagogy test in order to attain licensure.

Senate Bill 00-195 "limits Colorado's educator assessment program to content tests only, eliminating tests in basic skills, liberal arts and sciences, and professional knowledge."

Colorado is part of the Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA) Consortium and began a pilot program in Spring 2011. It is unclear whether this can or will become a state requirement, given the state's constraints on tests of professional knowledge.

Supporting Research

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/content_tests.htm http://aacte.org/index.php?/Programs/ http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_PLACE_info.htm S. B. 00-195.

RECOMMENDATION

- Require that all new teachers pass a pedagogy test.
 - Colorado should verify that all new teachers meet professional standards through a test of professional knowledge.
- Ensure that performance assessments provide a meaningful measure of new teachers' knowledge and skills.

While Colorado is commended for considering the use of a performance-based assessment, the state should proceed with caution until additional data are available on the Teacher Performance Assessment. Additional research is needed to determine how the edTPA compares to other teacher tests as well as whether the test's scores are predictive of student achievement. The track record on similar assessments is mixed at best. The two states that currently require the Praxis III performance-based assessment report pass rates of about 99 percent. Given that it takes significant resources to administer a performance-based assessment, a test that nearly every teacher passes is of questionable value.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

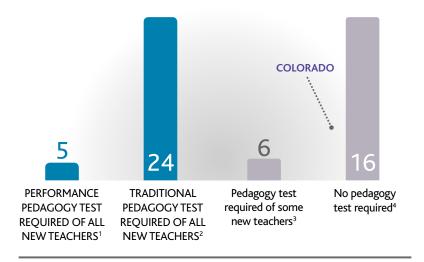
Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that, as noted in the analysis, it has several pilot programs looking at outcomes for educator preparation and licensure. Colorado believes that this work will lead to a better method for determining the effectiveness of educator preparation programs than an input-based model of assessment.



Although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, it commends the many states that require a pedagogy assessment to verify that all new teachers meet professional standards.

Figure 32

Do states measure new teachers' knowledge of teaching and learning?



- 1. Strong Practice: California, Illinois⁵, New York, Tennessee⁶, Washington
- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina⁷, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia
- 3. Connecticut, Maryland, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Utah⁸, Wyoming
- 4. Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin
- 5. Beginning in 2015.
- 6. Teachers may pass either the edTPA or a Praxis pedagogy test.
- $7. \\ Teachers have until their second year to pass if they attempt to pass during their first year.$
- 8. Not required until teacher advances from a Level One to a Level Two license.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal J − Student Teaching

The state should ensure that teacher preparation programs provide teacher candidates with a high quality clinical experience.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should require that student teachers only be placed with cooperating teachers for whom there is evidence of their effectiveness as measured by consistent gains in student learning.
- 2. The state should require that teacher candidates spend at least 10 weeks student teaching.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-J Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado requires candidates to complete a minimum of 800 clock hours of field experiences. The state articulates that field-based training may include a variety of experiences associated with teaching in supervised settings, such as classroom observations, assisting licensed teachers in school settings, practica, student teaching and internships. Colorado does not outline any requirements for cooperating teachers.

Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statutes 23-1-121(2)(d)

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.

In addition to the ability to mentor an adult, cooperating teachers in Colorado should also be carefully screened for their capacity to further student achievement. Research indicates that the only aspect of a student teaching arrangement that has been shown to have an impact on student achievement is the positive effect of selection of the cooperating teacher by the preparation program, rather than by the student teacher or school district staff.

- Use evidence from the state's teacher evaluation system to select cooperating teachers.
 - Colorado requires objective measures of student growth to be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations. The state should therefore utilize its evaluation results, which provide evidence of effectiveness in the classroom, in the selection of effective cooperating teachers.
- Require teacher candidates to spend at least 10 weeks student teaching.
 - Although Colorado requires prospective teachers to have extensive field experiences, it does not specifically require a summative clinical experience. Student teaching should be a full-time commitment, as requiring coursework and student teaching simultaneously does a disservice to both. Alignment with a school calendar for at least 10 weeks ensures both adequate classroom experience and exposure to a variety of ancillary professional activities.
- Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting candidates from completing this requirement abroad.

Unless preparation programs can establish true satellite campuses to closely supervise student teaching arrangements, placement in foreign or otherwise novel locales should be supplementary to a standard student teaching arrangement. Outsourcing the arrangements for student teaching makes it impossible to ensure the selection of the best cooperating teacher and adequate supervision of the student teacher and may prevent training of the teacher on relevant state instructional frameworks.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that it has one of the highest requirements for field-based experiences in the country and asserted that to require all student teaching to be done locally drastically limits the opportunity for new teachers to learn how to teach for the global world in which we now live.

LAST WORD Allowing part of the field experience to be done abroad may well be an important opportunity for new teachers "to learn how to teach for the global world." The concern is that allowing the summative student teaching experience to be done abroad makes selecting cooperating teachers and providing sufficient feedback and oversight quite problematic, and it means that the student teaching experience does not focus on teaching to the state standards for which the teacher will be certified.

Figure 34 Do states ensure a high-quality student teaching experience? Alabama	Figure 34		/
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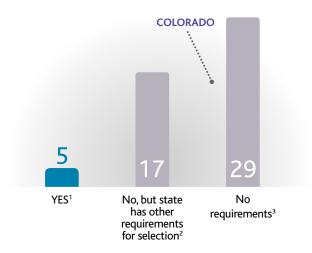


EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Florida, Rhode Island and Tennessee not only require teacher candidates to complete at least 10 weeks of full-time student teaching, but they also all require that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.

^{1.} West Virginia allows candidates to student teach for less than 12 weeks if determined to be proficient.

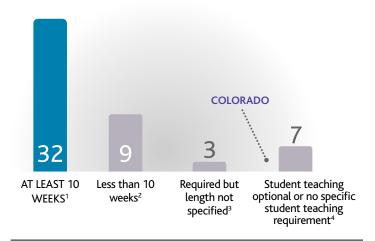
Figure 35
Is the selection of the cooperating teacher based on some measure of effectiveness?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Tennessee
- Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming

Figure 36

Is the student teaching experience of sufficient length?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia⁵, Wisconsin
- 2. Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Illinois, New Hampshire, Utah
- ${\it 4. \,\, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Maryland, Montana}$
- West Virginia allows candidates to student teach for less than 12 weeks if determined to be proficient.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

▶Goal K – Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

The state's approval process for teacher preparation programs should hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.

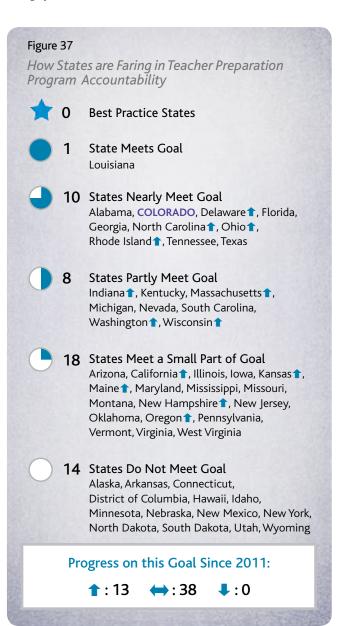
Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should collect data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.
 Such data can include value added or growth analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent.
- 2. The state should collect other meaningful data that reflect program performance, including some or all of the following:
 - a. Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including academic proficiency, subject-matter and professional-knowledge tests;
 - b. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests;
 - c. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison and
 - d. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.
- 3. The state should establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data. Programs should be held accountable for meeting these standards, with articulated consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.
- 4. The state should produce and publish on its website an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs.
- 5. The state should retain full authority over its process for approving teacher preparation programs.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



1-K Analysis: Colorado



State Nearly Meets Goal



(Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado's approval process for its traditional and alternate route teacher preparation programs is on the right track but could do more to hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.

The state will produce an annual report that shows the relationship between teacher preparation programs and student academic growth. The effectiveness of programs will be examined using aggregate data, including the correlation among different preparation programs and student academic growth, educator placement, and educator mobility and retention. The report will be limited to language arts and math teachers in grades 3-10 because those are the only students tested by the Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP).

However, it does not appear that Colorado has articulated a plan to apply any transparent, measurable criteria for conferring program approval.

These reports will be available to the public on the state's website.

In Colorado, there is some overlap of accreditation and state approval. Although NCATE/CAEP and the state conduct concurrent on-site reviews, Colorado delegates its subject-matter program review process to NCATE/CAEP.

Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statute 23-1-121 SB 10-036 (2010) Reports http://highered.colorado.gov/i3/Reports.aspx www.ncate.org

RECOMMENDATION

■ Establish the minimum standard of performance for accountability purposes.

In order to make use of the data Colorado plans to collect and publish for accountability purposes, it is critical that the state establish minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data. Programs should then be held accountable for meeting these standards, and there should be consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.

Maintain full authority over the process for approving teacher preparation programs.

Colorado should ensure that it is the state that considers the evidence of program performance and makes the decision about whether programs should continue to be authorized to prepare teachers.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado asserted that it does not delegate its content review to CAEP. While institutions of higher education (IHEs) may opt for national accreditation, they cannot operate in the state without authorization from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Department of Higher Education (DHE).

Supporting Research

CRS 23-1-121(2), 22-2-190(5)

LAST WORD

NCATE's website indicates Colorado defers to NCATE's program review system. If this is not accurate, the state is urged to clarify its practice with NCATE/CAEP.

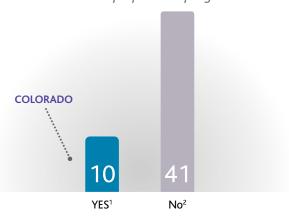
Figure 38	OBJECTIVE PROGRAM.		
Do states hold teacher	\$ 0 \$ 0		A D A D A D A D A D A D A D A D A D A D
preparation programs	1/EP 0/472	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	SUBL/
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Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			2
Georgia			
Hawaii	Ē		
Idaho			
Illinois			
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lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			2
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West Virginia	1		
Wisconsin			
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	26	4	10
	36	4	19



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

NCTQ is not awarding "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of teacher preparation program accountability. However, the following states should be commended for collecting data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs: Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee and Texas.

Figure 39 Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia^a, Hawaii^a, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland^a, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York³, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Included in state's Race to the Top plan, but not in policy or yet implemented.

 $^{1. \} For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$

^{2.} State does not distinguish between alternate route programs and traditional preparation programs in public reporting.

^{3.} For alternate routes only.

Figure 40

Which states collect meaningful data?

STUDENT LEARNING GAINS

COLORADO, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas

EVALUATION RESULTS FOR PROGRAM GRADUATES

Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas

AVERAGE RAW SCORES ON LICENSING TESTS

Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia

SATISFACTION RATINGS FROM SCHOOLS

Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland¹, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia

TEACHER RETENTION RATES

Arizona, COLORADO, Florida, Indiana, Maine, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas

1. For alternate route only

Figure 41

What is the relationship between state program

approval and national

П

П

П

П

П

П

П

accreditation?

Alabama Alaska

Arizona

Arkansas

California

COLORADO

Connecticut

District of Columbia

Delaware

Florida

Georgia

Hawaii

Indiana

Kansas

Kentucky

Louisiana Maine

Maryland

Iowa

Idaho Illinois National accreditation is required for program approval

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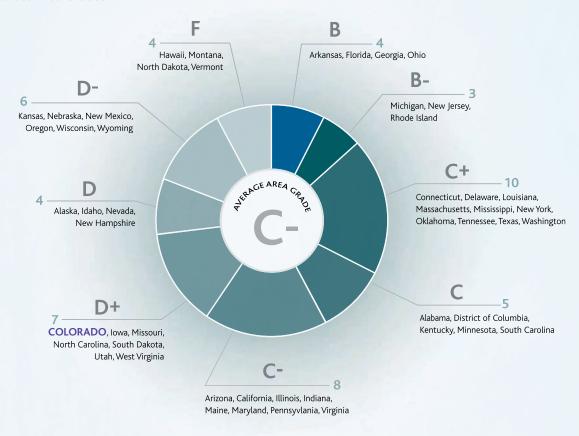
Massachusetts Michigan П Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana П П Nebraska Nevada П П New Hampshire New Jersey П П New Mexico П П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah П Vermont Virginia П Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 1. National accreditation can be substituted for state approval. 2. For institutions with 2,000 or more full-time equivalent students 7 13 31 COLORADO NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2013: 49

Area 2 Summary



How States are Faring in Expanding the Pool of Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- 2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility
- 2-B: Alternate Route Preparation
- 2-C: Alternate Route Usage and Providers
- 2-D: Part-Time Teaching Licenses
- 2-E: Licensure Reciprocity

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal A − Alternate Route Eligibility

The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- With some accommodation for work experience, alternate route programs should set a rigorous bar for program entry by requiring that candidates take a rigorous test to demonstrate academic ability, such as the GRE.
- All alternate route candidates, including elementary candidates and those having a major in their intended subject area, should be required to pass the state's subject-matter licensing test.
- 3. Alternate route candidates lacking a major in the intended subject area should be able to demonstrate subject-matter knowledge by passing a test of sufficient rigor.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy

Figure 42 How States are Faring in Alternate Route Eligibility **Best Practice States** District of Columbia, Michigan State Meets Goal Minnesota 13 States Nearly Meet Goal Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey 1, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Washington 11 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas 1, Virginia 15 States Meet a Small Part of Goal California, COLORADO, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Hawaii, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2011: **1**:2 **+** : 49

2-A Analysis: Colorado



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Colorado offers one- and two-year alternative route programs. Applicants for both are required to obtain the Colorado Alternative Teacher license. Colorado requires candidates to demonstrate prior academic performance with a minimum GPA requirement of 2.6.

Colorado does not require all applicants to pass a content exam. Candidates for elementary education must pass a subject-matter test; however, the state does not require a subject-matter test for secondary teachers. Secondary candidates must either complete 24 semester hours of coursework or pass a content-area test in the subject they plan to teach.

Supporting Research

1 CCR 301-37 Colorado Rule 2260.5-R-3.12

Colorado Alternative Teacher Program http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_alt1_info.asp

RECOMMENDATION

Screen candidates for academic ability.

Colorado should require that candidates to its alternate routes provide some evidence of good academic performance. The standard should be higher than what is required of traditional teacher candidates, such as a GPA of 3.0 or higher. A rigorous test appropriate for candidates who have already completed a bachelor's degree, such as the GRE, would be ideal.

■ Extend subject-matter test requirement to secondary certification applicants.

While Colorado is commended for requiring elementary candidates to demonstrate content knowledge on a subject-matter test, it is strongly recommended that the state extend this requirement to all of its candidates. The concept behind alternate routes is that the nontraditional candidate is able to concentrate on acquiring professional knowledge and skills because he or she has strong subject-area knowledge. Teachers without sufficient subject-matter knowledge place students at risk.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis.

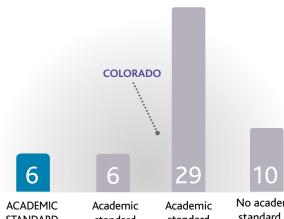
Are states' alternate	ACADEM STANDARD FOR	DORA TER	NO MAJOR RECURED IN LIEU OF MAJOR SE
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** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

The District of Columbia and Michigan require candidates to demonstrate aboveaverage academic performance as a condition of admission to an alternate route program, with both requiring applicants to have a minimum 3.0 GPA. In addition, neither requires a content-specific major; subjectarea knowledge is demonstrated by passing a test, making their alternate routes flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.

Figure 44 Do states require alternate routes to be selective?



STANDARD EXCEEDS THAT OF TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL ROUTES/ MAIN ROUTE1

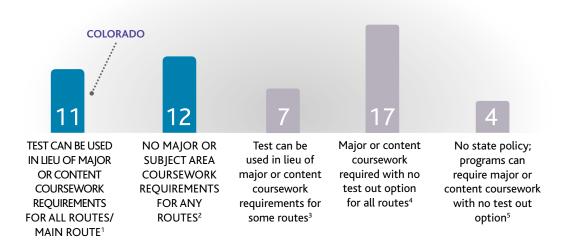
standard exceeds that of traditional programs for some routes² standard too low for all routes³

No academic standard for any route4

- 1. Strong Practice: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island
- 2. Alabama, Illinois⁵, Indiana, Kentucky⁶, New York, Pennsylvania
- 3. Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Arizona, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah
- 5. Illinois' routes are in the process of converting to a single new license.
- 6. Only one of Kentucky's eight alternate routes has a 3.0 GPA requirement.

Figure 45

Do states accommodate the nontraditional background of alternate route candidates?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Maine, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas
- 2. Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Washington
- 3. Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia
- 4. Alaska, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 5. Hawaii, Idaho, New Mexico, North Dakota

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal B − Alternate Route Preparation

The state should ensure that its alternate routes provide efficient preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers, as well as adequate mentoring and support.

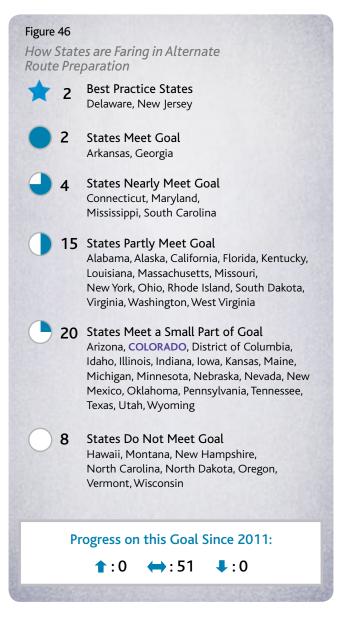
Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should ensure that the amount of coursework it either requires or allows is manageable for a novice teacher. Anything exceeding 12 credit hours of coursework in the first year may be counterproductive, placing too great a burden on the teacher. This calculation is premised on no more than 6 credit hours in the summer, three in the fall and three in the spring.
- 2. The state should ensure that alternate route programs offer accelerated study not to exceed six (three credit) courses for secondary teachers and eight (three credit) courses for elementary teachers (exclusive of any credit for practice teaching or mentoring) over the duration of the program. Programs should be limited to two years, at which time the new teacher should be eligible for a standard certificate.
- 3. All coursework requirements should target the immediate needs of the new teacher (e.g., seminars with other grade-level teachers, training in a particular curriculum, reading instruction, classroom management techniques).
- 4. The state should require intensive induction support, beginning with a trained mentor assigned full time to the new teacher for the first critical weeks of school and then gradually reduced over the course of the entire first year. The state should support only induction strategies that can be effective even in a poorly managed school: intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area, a reduced teaching load and frequent release time to observe effective teachers. Ideally, candidates would also have an opportunity to practice teach in a summer training program.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.



Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy

2-B Analysis: Colorado



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal (



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado offers one- and two-year alternative route programs. Both alternate routes require that candidates complete 225 clock hours of instruction in teacher preparation courses that meet state performance-based standards and include training in dropout prevention. Specific details of the coursework are not outlined. A program advisory council may exempt candidates from some coursework requirements based on an applicant's previous experience or demonstrated knowledge.

Although Colorado does not require a practice-teaching opportunity or specialized mentorship for candidates in the one-year program, all new teachers in the state are assigned a mentor as part of a required induction program. The two-year program pairs each candidate with a mentor teacher for the first year; during the second year participants are considered the teacher of record.

Supporting Research

1 CCR 301-37 Colorado Rule 2260.5-R-18.00

RECOMMENDATION

■ Establish coursework guidelines for alternate route preparation programs.

Colorado should articulate guidelines regarding the specific nature of coursework required of candidates. Requirements should be manageable and contribute to the immediate needs of new teachers. Appropriate coursework should include grade-level or subject-level seminars, methodology in the content area, classroom management, assessment and scientifically based early reading instruction. Simply mandating coursework without specifying the purpose can inadvertently send the wrong message to program providers—that "anything goes" as long as credits are granted. However constructive, any course that is not fundamentally practical and immediately necessary should be eliminated as a requirement.

Provide induction experience for all new teachers.

While Colorado is commended for requiring teachers in the two-year program to work with a mentor, candidates in the one-year program should also receive this support. In addition, the state should consider providing sufficient guidelines to ensure that the induction program is structured for new teacher success. Effective strategies include practice teaching prior to teaching in the classroom, intensive mentoring with full classroom support in the first few weeks or months of school, a reduced teaching load and release time to allow new teachers to observe experienced teachers during each school day.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado indicated that induction is a requirement for all initially licensed teachers. Once a teacher successfully completes an alternative program, he or she must go through a State Board-approved induction program to move to a professional license.

Supporting Research

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_provtoprof_info.asp

LAST WORD

While it is important that the state mandates induction for all new teachers, it is unclear why the state would want alternatively certified teachers to wait until they complete their programs to receive induction support. Alternate route teachers are generally teachers of record while completing their programs and would certainly benefit form mentoring and other induction support earlier on.

Figure 47		RELEVANT COURCE	REASONABLE PROGRAMILE	PRACTICE TEACHING	INTENSIVE SUPPORT
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provide efficient preparation	2 2		ZABL MARI		1/2 / 1/2 /
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needs of new teachers?	EFFICIENT COURSEWORK	REL	/ # % /	/ 88 /	/ ≷
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Arkansas	*	<u> </u>	*		<u> </u>
California			*		
COLORADO					
Connecticut	X			*	
Delaware District of Columbia				X	
Florida				X	
Georgia	-	-			<u> </u>
Hawaii					
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Indiana				*	
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Kentucky					*
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West Virginia		→	1		1
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Wyoming			*		



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Delaware and **New Jersey** ensure that alternate routes provide efficient preparation that meets the needs of new teachers. Both states require a manageable number of credit hours, relevant coursework, a field placement and intensive mentoring.

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

➤ Goal C – Alternate Route Usage and Providers

The state should provide an alternate route that is free from limitations on its usage and allows a diversity of providers.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should not treat the alternate route as a program of last resort or restrict the availability of alternate routes to certain subjects, grades or geographic areas.
- 2. The state should allow districts and nonprofit organizations other than institutions of higher education to operate alternate route programs.
- 3. The state should ensure that its alternate route has no requirements that would be difficult to meet for a provider that is not an institution of higher education (e.g., an approval process based on institutional accreditation).

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



2-C Analysis: Colorado





State Meets Goal 😩 Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado does not limit the usage or providers of its alternate routes.

Colorado is commended for not placing restrictions on the usage of its alternate routes with regard to subject, grade or geographic area.

District, private and charter schools, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and universities may all be approved as designated agencies offering alternate route programs. The state is commended for structuring its programs to allow a diversity of providers. A good diversity of providers helps all programs, both university- and nonuniversity-based, to improve.

Supporting Research

1 CCR 301-37 Colorado Rule 2260.5-R-18.00

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

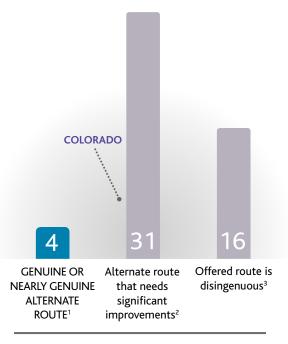
Figure 49	ROSS	S / SEG
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routes free from	75,5	\ \rangle \ran
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Washington	*	*
West Virginia Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
For some alternate routes For most	or most widely 🌟 F	or all alternate ro



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Twenty-three states meet this goal, and although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, it commends all states that pemit both broad usage and a diversity of providers for their alternate routes.

Figure 50 Do states provide real alternative pathways to certification?



- 1. Strong Practice: Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey, Rhode Island
- 2. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia
- 3. Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Figure 51	PREREQUISITE OF STRONG	VERIFICATION OF SUBJECT	; / ts;		* / <u>*</u>	XX /	/	y /	D _M	IDERS
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Arkansas		*	*	*	*	*		<u>*</u>		*
California						*			*	*
COLORADO			*	*		*			*	*
Connecticut	*			*	*	*	*		*	*
Delaware				*	*	*	*	*		*
District of Columbia Florida	*	*	*				*		*	*
		*	*			*			*	*
Georgia Hawaii			*	*	*	*		*	*	★
Idaho										
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Iowa			*			*	*			
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Maryland					*	*	*	*	*	*
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South Carolina		*		*	*			*		*
South Dakota		*				*				
Tennessee			*						*	*
Texas						*			→	÷
Utah			Ô						*	Ô
Vermont							*		*	
Virginia		*		*					*	*
Washington		*	*			*		*	*	*
West Virginia		*			*	*		*		*
Wisconsin										*
Wyoming						*				
For some alternate routes F	or most or m	ost widely u	sed alternate	routes 🚖	For all alter	rnate routes				

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

➤ Goal D – Part-Time Teaching Licenses

The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- Either through a discrete license or by waiving most licensure requirements, the state should license individuals with content expertise as part-time instructors.
- All candidates for a part-time teaching license should be required to pass a subjectmatter test.
- 3. Other requirements for this license should be limited to those addressing public safety (e.g., background screening) and those of immediate use to the novice instructor (e.g., classroom management training).

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



2-D Analysis: Colorado



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado offers an Adjunct Instructor Authorization, under which individuals can teach highly specialized academic enrichment areas outside of required content areas. State policy is clear that this certification is not issued for regular academic endorsement areas.

Applicants for the Adjunct Instructor Authorization must provide evidence of five years of employment in the area of specialization or a bachelor's degree in the intended teaching field. Candidates are not required to pass a subject-matter exam.

Supporting Research

1 CCR 301-37 Colorado Rule 2260.5-R-.4.01

RECOMMENDATION

Offer a license that allows content experts to serve as part-time instructors.

Colorado should build on its Adjunct Instructor Authorization to permit individuals with deep subject-area knowledge to teach a limited number of courses without fulfilling a complete set of certification requirements. The state should verify content knowledge through a rigorous test and conduct background checks as appropriate, while waiving all other licensure requirements. Such a license would increase districts' flexibility to staff certain subjects, including many STEM areas, that are frequently hard to staff or may not have high enough enrollment to necessitate a full-time position.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 53 Do states offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part-time? YES Š Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California **COLORADO** Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine П П Maryland Massachusetts П Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey П П New Mexico **New York** North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon П П Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah П П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 10 12 29



TEXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia offers a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time. Individuals seeking this license must pass a subject-matter test and will be assigned a mentor.

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal E − Licensure Reciprocity

The state should help to make licenses fully portable among states, with appropriate safeguards.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should offer a standard license to fully certified teachers moving from other states, without relying on transcript analysis or recency requirements as a means of judging eligibility. The state can and should require evidence of effective teaching in previous employment.
- 2. The state should uphold its standards for all teachers by insisting that certified teachers coming from other states meet its own testing requirements.
- The state should accord the same license to teachers from other states who completed an approved alternate route program as it accords teachers prepared in a traditional preparation program.
- 4. Consistent with these principles of portability, state requirements for online teachers based in other states should protect student interests without creating unnecessary obstacles for teachers.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



2-E Analysis: Colorado



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Regrettably, Colorado grants waivers for its licensing tests to out-of-state teachers who have three years of teaching experience.

Teachers with valid, comparable out-of-state certificates are eligible for Colorado's professional license, if "the standards for the issuance of such license or certificate meet or exceed the standards of the state board of education for the issuance of a professional teacher license," and the teacher has three years of experience.

Transcripts are required for all applicants; however, it is not clear whether the state analyzes these transcripts to determine whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route or whether additional coursework will be required.

Colorado is also a participant in the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement, which outlines which other states' certificates will be accepted by the receiving state. This agreement is not a collection of two-way reciprocal acceptances, nor is it a guarantee that all certificates will be accepted by the receiving state, and is therefore not included in this analysis.

It appears that the state requires all teachers who provide online instruction to be licensed in Colorado.

Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statute 22-60.5-201

Licensure Requirements for Out-of-State and Foreign Applicants www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_outstate_faq.asp

RECOMMENDATION

To uphold standards, require that teachers coming from other states meet testing requirements.

Colorado takes considerable risk by granting a waiver for its licensing tests to any out-of-state teacher who has three years of teaching experience. The state should not provide any waivers of its teacher tests unless an applicant can provide evidence of a passing score under its own standards. The negative impact on student learning stemming from a teacher's inadequate subject-matter knowledge is not mitigated by a teacher's having experience.

 Offer a standard license to certified out-of-state teachers, absent unnecessary requirements.

Colorado should consider discontinuing its requirement for the submission of transcripts. Transcript analysis is likely to result in additional coursework requirements, even for traditionally prepared teachers; alternate route teachers, on the other hand, may have to virtually begin anew, repeating some, most or all of a teacher preparation program in Colorado. Regardless of whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route, all certified out-of-state teachers should receive equal treatment.

- Require evidence of effective teaching when determining eligibility for full certification.
 - Rather than rely on transcripts to assess credentials, Colorado should instead require that evidence of teacher effectiveness be considered for all out-of-state candidates. Such evidence is especially important for candidates who come from states that make student growth at least a significant factor of a teacher evaluation (see Goal 3-B).
- Ensure that requirements for out-of-state online teachers are not burdensome.

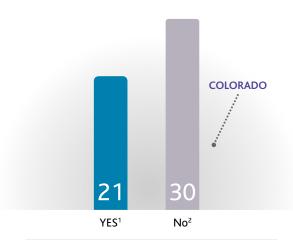
 Colorado should balance the interests of its students in having qualified online instructors with making certain that these requirements do not create unnecessary obstacles for out-of-state teachers.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 55

Do states require all out-of-state teachers to pass their licensure tests?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska³, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine⁴, Massachusetts³, Minnesota, New York⁵, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas³, Utah, Washington⁶, Wisconsin
- Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana', Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Allows one year to meet testing requirements.
- 4. Maine grants waiver for basic skills and pedagogy tests.
- Waiver for teachers with National Board Certification; all others given two years to meet testing requirements.
- 6. Waiver for teachers with National Board Certification.
- 7. No subject-matter testing for any teacher certification.

What do states require of teachers transferring from other states? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California COLORADO Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia П Hawaii П Idaho П Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Г Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota П Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island П South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas П П Utah П Vermont П Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 6 44 11

Figure 56

4. Teachers with less than 3 years' experience are subject to transcript review.

^{1.} State conducts transcript reviews.

^{2.} Recency requirement is for alternate route.

^{3.} For traditionally prepared teachers only.

Figure 57	5	State specifies of the route to	ate / sate
Do states treat out-of-state	STATE TREATS TEACHER	The The	alter,
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Delaware			
District of Columbia			
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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

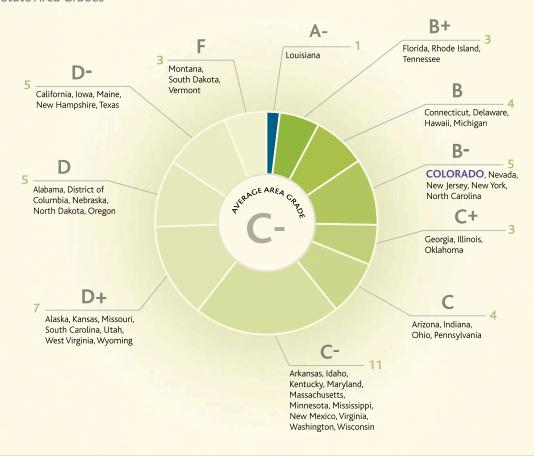
Alabama and Texas appropriately support licensure reciprocity by requiring that certified teachers from other states meet Alabama's and Texas's own testing requirements, and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate route teachers. Also worthy of mention is **Delaware** for its reciprocity policy that limits the evidence of "successful" experience it will accept to evaluation results from states with rigorous requirements similar to its own.

Area 3 Summary



How States are Faring in Identifying Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- 3-A: State Data Systems 3-D: Tenure
- 3-B: Evaluation of Effectiveness 3-E: Licensure Advancement
- 3-C: Frequency of Evaluations 3-F: Equitable Distribution

Goal A – State Data Systems

The state should have a data system that contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should establish a longitudinal data system with at least the following key components:
 - a. A unique statewide student identifier number that connects student data across key databases across years;
 - b. A unique teacher identifier system that can match individual teacher records with individual student records and
 - c. An assessment system that can match individual student test records from year to year in order to measure academic growth.
- Student growth or value-added data provided through the state's longitudinal data system should be considered among the criteria used to determine teachers' effectiveness.
- To ensure that data provided through the state data system is actionable and reliable, the state should have a clear definition of "teacher of record" and require its consistent use statewide.
- 4. Data provided through the state's longitudinal data system should be used to publicly report information on teacher production.



The components for this goal have changed since 2011. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-A Analysis: Colorado



State Meets a Small Part of Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal 😝 Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

Colorado does not have a data system that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Colorado has two of three necessary elements that would allow for the development of a student- and teacher-level longitudinal data system. The state has assigned unique student identifiers that connect student data across key databases across years, and it has the capacity to match student test records from year to year in order to measure student academic growth. Although Colorado assigns teacher identification numbers, it cannot match individual teacher records with individual student records.

Commendably, Colorado defines teacher of record as an individual who has been assigned responsibility for a student's learning in a subject/course with aligned performance measures. The state has in place a process for teacher roster verification, and its teacher-student data link can connect more than one educator to a particular student in a given course.

Colorado publishes an annual report entitled "Program Results for Educator Preparation," which includes data on the number of candidates who completed an endorsement program and were eligible to receive their institution's recommendation for licensure in Colorado. The state notes that it has just begun to collect these data, and that the number of program completers who actually applied for and received a Colorado license is unknown. The Department of Higher Education and the Department of Education are in the process of creating a system to link these data, and the percent of program completers who applied for and received licensure in the state should be available next year. However, the state has not indicated any plans to connect these data to district hiring statistics.

Supporting Research

Data Quality Campaign www.dataqualitycampaign.org

Teacher Supply

http://highered.colorado.gov/Publications/Reports/Legislative/TED/201201_TED_toGGA.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Develop capacity of state data system.

Colorado should ensure that its state data system is able to match individual teacher records with individual student records.

Connect supply data to district hiring statistics.

Colorado is on the right track in reporting teacher production data. However, it should strengthen its data collection practices by connecting program completion and licensure rates to district hiring statistics and using these data to inform policy decisions.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that it has launched the Data Pipeline, which will allow for the implementation of the Teacher/Student Data Link, providing real-time information from school districts to the state.

Supporting Research

http://www.cde.state.co.us/DataPipeline

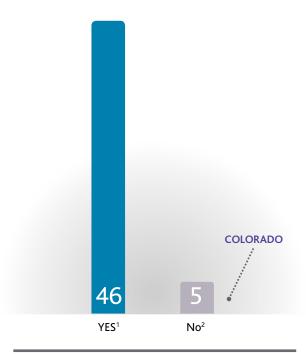
LAST WORD

This analysis was revised subsequent to the state's review based on updated data from the Data Quality Campaign.

Figure 59

Do states' data systems have the basic elements needed to assess teacher effectiveness; unique

needed to assess teacher effectiveness: unique teacher and student identifiers that can be matched to test records over time?



^{1.} Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

2. Colorado, Maine, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

Figure 60		/	JENY / SENY
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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Hawaii and New York have all three necessary elements of a student- and teacher-level longitudinal data system. Both states have developed definitions of "teacher of record" that reflect instruction. Their data links can connect multiple teachers to a particular student, and there is a process for teacher roster verification. In addition, Hawaii and New York publish teacher production data. Also worthy of mention is Maryland for its "Teacher Staffing Report," which serves as a model for other states. The report's primary purpose is to determine teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus.

Goal B – Evaluation of Effectiveness

The state should require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should either require a common evaluation instrument in which evidence of student learning is the most significant criterion or should specifically require that student learning be the preponderant criterion in local evaluation processes. Evaluation instruments, whether state or locally developed, should be structured so as to preclude a teacher from receiving a satisfactory rating if found ineffective in the classroom.
- Evaluation instruments should require classroom observations that focus on and document the effectiveness of instruction.
- 3. The state should encourage the use of student surveys, which have been shown to correlate strongly with teacher effectiveness.
- 4. The state should require that evaluation instruments differentiate among various levels of teacher performance. A binary system that merely categorizes teachers as satisfactory or unsatisfactory is inadequate.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-B Analysis: Colorado





State Meets Goal (🔁) Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Commendably, Colorado requires that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations. The state is in the process of developing the Colorado Model Evaluation System. Districts may adopt this system or develop their own as long as it meets or exceeds the state's rules.

Beginning school year 2013-2014, 50 percent of the overall performance evaluation rating must be determined by multiple measures of student academic growth. Measures of student growth must include the following: a measure of individually attributed student academic growth; a measure of collectively attributed student academic growth; statewide summative assessment results, when available, and for subjects with annual statewide summative assessment results in two consecutive grades, results from the Colorado Growth Model. Additional measures may also be used.

The remaining 50 percent are measures of professional practice. The method for evaluating teachers' professional practice must include data collection for multiple measures on multiple occasions. Data must include observations and at least one of the following measures: student perception measures (surveys); peer feedback; feedback from parents or guardians; or review of lesson plans or student work samples.

Evaluations must use the following four rating categories: highly effective, effective, partially effective and ineffective.

Supporting Research

http://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/documents/educatoreffectiveness/downloads/rulemaking/ 1ccr301-87evaluationoflicensedpersonnel11.9.11.pdf

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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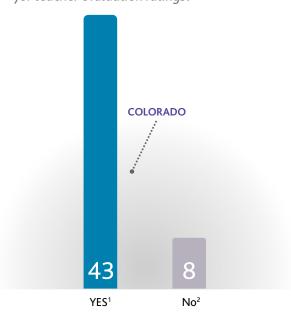
^{2.} Explicitly defined for the 2013-2014 school year.

 The state has an ESEA waiver requiring an evaluation system that includes student achievement as a significant factor. However, no specific guidelines or policies have been articulated.

Figure 64 Type of suriey not specified Is survey data used as part of teacher evaluations? Alabama Alaska¹ Arizona П П П Arkansas California COLORADO 2 Connecticut³ П П Delaware П П П District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii П Idaho Illinois \Box П П Indiana Iowa1 Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine 2 Maryland П П П П Massachusetts Michigan П Minnesota Mississippi П П П Missouri 2 Montana П Nebraska Nevada П П New Hampshire П П П New Jersey П New Mexico П П П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П П П Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina П South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming П 2 14 11 6 33

Figure 65

Do states require more than two categories for teacher evaluation ratings?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Alabama, California, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont

Input from students, teachers and peers is required, but there is no explicit indication that this must come from surveys.

^{2.} Explicitly allowed but not required.

 $^{{\}it 3. Requires parent or peer surveys; whole-school student learning or student surveys.}\\$



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

NCTQ has not singled out any one state for "best practice" honors. Many states continue to make significant strides in the area of teacher evaluation by requiring that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion. Because there are many different approaches that result in student learning being the preponderant criterion, all 19 states that meet this goal are commended for their efforts.

Figure 66		Presumptive state evaluation	District designed entration frame work oriens with state
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^{1.} New Hampshire is in the process of developing a state model/criteria for teacher evaluations.

Figure 67	MUTPILE EVALUATOR	_ /	EVALUATORS MUSTRE.	EVALUATOR CRITIFICATION
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^{1.} Maryland requires multiple observers for ineffective teachers.

^{2.} Multiple evaluators are explicitly allowed but not required.

➤ Goal C – Frequency of Evaluations

The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that all teachers receive a formal evaluation rating each year.
- 2. While all teachers should have multiple observations that contribute to their formal evaluation rating, the state should ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback early in the school year.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-C Analysis: Colorado



State Nearly Meets Goal 😝 Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Commendably, Colorado requires annual evaluations for all teachers.

New teachers in Colorado must receive at least two documented observations and one evaluation that result in a written evaluation report each academic year. The state does not articulate when these observations should occur.

Supporting Research

http://www.cde.state.co.us/EducatorEffectiveness/downloads/rulemaking/ 1CCR301-87EvaluationofLicensedPersonnel11.9.11.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Base evaluations on multiple observations.

To guarantee that annual evaluations are based on an adequate collection of information, Colorado should require multiple observations for all teachers, even those who have nonprobationary status.

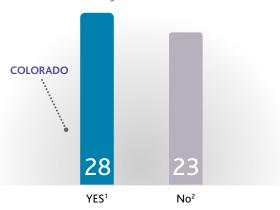
■ Ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback early in the school year.

It is critical that schools and districts closely monitor the performance of new teachers. Colorado should ensure that its new teachers get the support they need, and that supervisors know early on which new teachers may be struggling or at risk for unacceptable levels of performance.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 69
Do states require districts to evaluate all teachers each year?

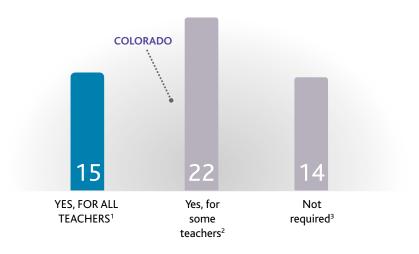


- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland³, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 2. Alaska, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia
- ${\it 3. Regulations sunset on September 30, 2014.}$

Figure 70	ANNUAL EVALUATON	TEACHERS AWWALEVALUATION OF TEACHERS
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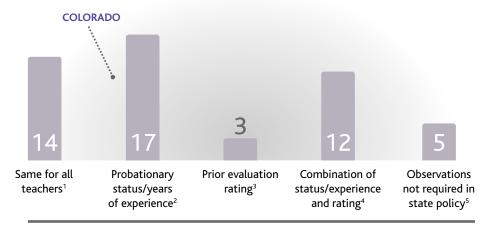
Figure 71

Do states require multiple classroom observations?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington
- 2. Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wyoming

Figure 72
What is the determining factor for frequency of observations?



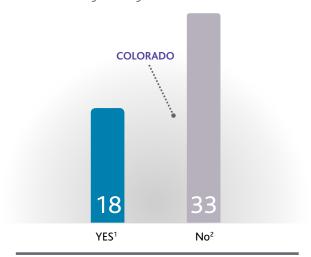
- Alabama, District of Columbia⁶, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island
- 2. Alaska, Arkansas⁷, California⁷, Colorado, Florida, Kansas⁷, Minnesota⁷, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma⁷, Oregon, Pennsylvania⁷, South Carolina, South Dakota⁷, Utah⁷, Washington, West Virginia⁸
- 3. Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio
- 4. Arizona⁹, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts⁷, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas⁷, Virginia⁷, Wisconsin⁷
- 5. Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming
- 6. Depends on LEA requirements.
- 7. Frequency is based on evaluation cycle, not year.
- 8. No observations required after year 5.
- 9. Second observation may be waived for tenured teachers with high performance on first observation.



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

NCTQ is not awarding "best practice" honors for frequency of evaluations but commends Alabama, Hawaii, Idaho, Mississippi, New Jersey, Tennessee and Washington. These states not only require annual evaluations and multiple observations for all teachers, but they also ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback during the first half of the school year.

Figure 73 Do states require that new teachers are observed early in the year?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota³, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia
- 2. Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia⁴, Wisconsin,
- 3. New teachers must be evaluated early in the year; observations not explicit.
- 4. Teachers in their first year are informally evaluated early in the year.

Goal D - Tenure

The state should require that tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

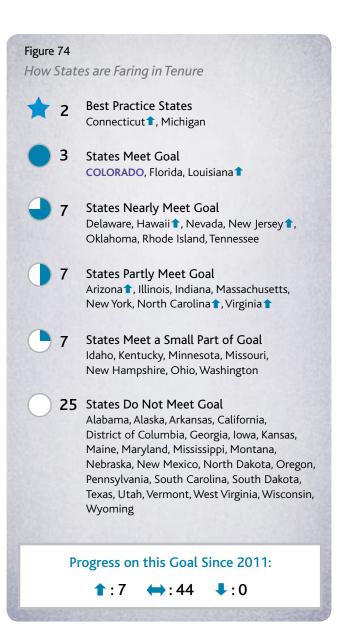
Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- A teacher should be eligible for tenure after a certain number of years of service, but tenure should not be granted automatically at that juncture.
- 2. Evidence of effectiveness should be the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.
- The minimum years of service needed to achieve tenure should allow sufficient data to be accumulated on which to base tenure decisions; four to five years is the ideal minimum.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-D Analysis: Colorado



State Meets Goal



🛑 Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado requires evaluation ratings of either effective or highly effective for three consecutive years to earn nonprobationary status.

For probationary teachers, a rating of ineffective or partially effective must not count toward the accrual of years toward nonprobationary status. A nonprobationary teacher who is rated ineffective for two consecutive years must lose nonprobationary status. Also, for a nonprobationary, a rating of partially effective must be considered the first of two consecutive years of ineffective performance that result in the loss of nonprobationary status. In this case, nonprobationary status is lost if the subsequent year's rating is either partially effective or ineffective.

Because Colorado's teacher evaluation ratings are centered primarily on evidence of student learning (see Goal 3-B), basing tenure decisions on these evaluation ratings ensures that classroom effectiveness is appropriately considered.

Supporting Research

Rules

http://www.cde.state.co.us/EducatorEffectiveness/downloads/rulemaking/ 1CCR301-87EvaluationofLicensedPersonnel11.9.11.pdf

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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- 1. Idaho limits teacher contract terms to one year.
- 2. A teacher can receive up to a 4-year contract if deemed proficient on
- Teachers must hold an educator license for at least seven years and have taught in the district at least three of the last five years.
- 4. Teachers may also earn career status with an average rating of at least effective for a four-year period and a rating of at least effective for the last two years.
- While technically not on annual contracts, Rhode Island teachers who receive two years of ineffective ratings are dismissed.
- 6. Local school board may extend up to five years.
- 7. At a district's discretion, a teacher may be granted tenure after the second year if he/she receives one of the top two evaluation ratings.



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Connecticut and Michigan appropriately base tenure decisions on evidence of teacher effectiveness. In Connecticut, tenure is awarded after four years and must be earned on the basis of effective practice as demonstrated in evaluation ratings. Michigan requires a probationary period of five years, with teachers having to earn a rating of effective or highly effective on their three most recent performance evaluations. Both states require that student growth be the preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations.

- 1. Florida only awards annual contracts.
- 2. North Carolina has recently eliminated tenure. The state requires some evidence of effectiveness in awarding multipleyear contracts.
- 3. Oklahoma has created a loophole by essentially waiving student learning requirements and allowing the principal of a school to petition for career-teacher status.

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Goal E – Licensure Advancement

The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should base advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license on evidence of effectiveness.
- 2. The state should not require teachers to fulfill generic, unspecified coursework requirements to advance from a probationary to a nonprobationary license.
- 3. The state should not require teachers to have an advanced degree as a condition of professional licensure.
- 4. Evidence of effectiveness should be a factor in the renewal of a professional licenses.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-E Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado's requirements for licensure advancement and renewal are not based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

In Colorado, to advance from a Provisional to a Professional license, the state requires that teachers successfully complete an approved induction program and are recommended by the local district providing the program.

Colorado also does not include evidence of effectiveness as a factor in the renewal of a professional license. Colorado requires teachers to renew their professional license every five years by completing six semester hours of college/university credit or 90 clock hours of professional development. Teachers with a master's certificate need to renew their licenses every seven years.

Supporting Research

Colorado Code of Regulations 1 CCR 301-37, Rules 2260.5-R-3.05 and 13.01 http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_license.htm http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Licensure_RenewalApp.asp

RECOMMENDATION

■ Require evidence of effectiveness as a part of teacher licensing policy.

Colorado should require evidence of teacher effectiveness to be a factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license. The state should use evidence of effectiveness from its strong teacher evaluations as a factor in determining whether teachers advance to the next licensure level (see Goal 3-B). However, states must consider carefully how to use this evidence, as the standard for denying licensure—the right to practice in the state—should not necessarily be the same standard that might result in termination from a particular position.

 Discontinue license renewal requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Colorado's general, nonspecific coursework requirements for license renewal merely call for teachers to complete a certain amount of seat time. These requirements do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

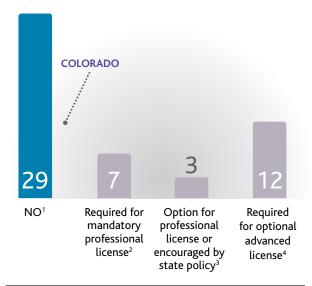
Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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- Evidence of effectiveness is required for license renewal but not for conferring of professional license.
- 2. Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.
- 3. Maryland uses some objective evidence through their evaluation systems for renewal, but advancement to professional license is still based on earning an advanced degree.

Figure 79

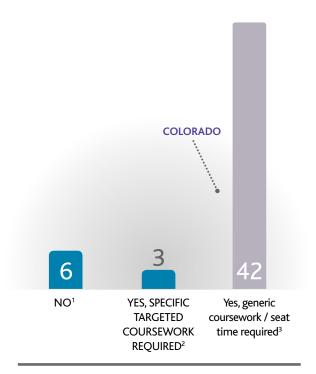
Do states require teachers to earn advanced degrees before conferring professional licensure?



- Strong Practice: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 2. Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, New York and Oregon all require a master's degree or coursework equivalent to a master's degree.
- 3. Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri
- 4. Alabama, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia

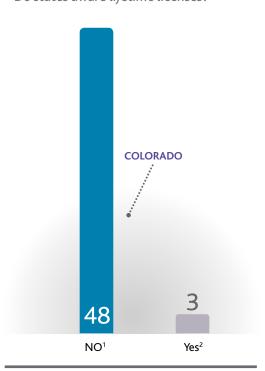
Figure 80

Do states require teachers to take additional coursework before conferring or renewing professional licenses?



- Strong Practice: Hawaii, Louisiana, New Jersey, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Tennessee
- 2. Strong Practice: California, Georgia, Minnesota
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina⁴, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Some required coursework is targeted.

Figure 81 Do states award lifetime licenses?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut³, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin,
- 2. New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia
- 3. Although teachers in Connecticut must renew their licenses every five years, there are no requirements for renewal.



TEXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Rhode Island is integrating certification, certification renewal and educator evaluations. Teachers who receive poor evaluations for five consecutive years are not eligible to renew their licenses. In addition, teachers who consistently receive "highly effective" ratings will be eligible for a special license designation.

→ Goal F — Equitable Distribution

The state should publicly report districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged children.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should make aggregate school-level data about teacher performance —from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness as described in Goal 3-B publicly available.
- 2. In the absence of such an evaluation system, the state should make the following data publicly available:
 - a. An "Academic Quality" index for each school that includes factors research has found to be associated with teacher effectiveness such as:
 - · percentage of new teachers;
 - percentage of teachers failing basic skills licensure tests at least once;
 - percentage of teachers on emergency credentials:
 - average selectivity of teachers' undergraduate institutions and
 - teachers' average ACT or SAT scores
 - b. The percentage of highly qualified teachers disaggregated by both individual school and by teaching area.
 - c. The annual teacher absenteeism rate reported for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school.
 - d. The average teacher turnover rate for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school, by district and by reasons that teachers leave.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



3-F Analysis: Colorado



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



(=) Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Providing comprehensive reporting may be the state's most important role for ensuring the equitable distribution of teachers among schools. Colorado reports little school-level data that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent among schools within districts.

Colorado does not require districts to publicly report aggregate school-level data about teacher performance, nor does the state collect and publicly report most of the other data recommended by NCTQ. Colorado does not provide a school-level teacher quality index that demonstrates the academic backgrounds of a school's teachers and the ratio of new to veteran teachers. The state also does not report on teacher absenteeism or turnover rates.

Colorado does report on the percentage of highly qualified teachers and commendably, these data are reported for each school, rather than aggregated by district. Colorado also compares the percentage of highly qualified teachers and novice teachers at high- and low-poverty schools at the district level. The state does a similar comparison across minority populations. However these data are reported only at the district and state level. Colorado's school performance reporting site does contain information about teacher distribution within a district. The "Staff" section of each report allows the public to view a scatter graph of the distributed among the district by percent of Highly Qualified or novice teachers, and minority or poverty. However, the public cannot see school level data regarding teachers' evaluation ratings.

Supporting Research

2011-2012 Highly Qualified Teacher Data, School or District Level http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/dper/hqtdata.asp 2009-2010 District and School Teacher Equity Data http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/dper/hqtdata.asp

2013 Performance Data http://www.schoolview.org/performance.asp

RECOMMENDATION

■ Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

Colorado should make aggregate school-level data about teacher performance—from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness—publicly available. Given that Colorado requires teacher evaluations to be based to a significant extent on evidence of student learning (see Goal 3-B), such data about the effectiveness of a school's teachers can shine a light on how equitably teachers are distributed across and within school districts. The state could build on the extensive data available on the School View website by providing aggregate school-level data about teacher performance.

Provide comparative data based on school demographics.

While Colorado is commended for providing data on the percent of highly qualified and novice teachers at the district level across poverty and minority populations, the state should provide this data at the school level. Doing so would yield a more comprehensive picture of gaps in the equitable distribution of teachers.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis.

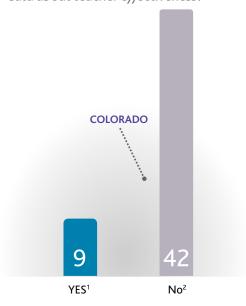
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** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Although not awarding "best practice" honors for this goal, NCTQ commends the nine states that meet the goal for giving the public access to teacher performance data aggregated to the school level. This transparency can help shine a light on on how equitably teachers are distributed across and within school districts and help to ensure that all students have access to effective teachers.

Figure 84 Do states publicly report school-level data about teacher effectiveness?

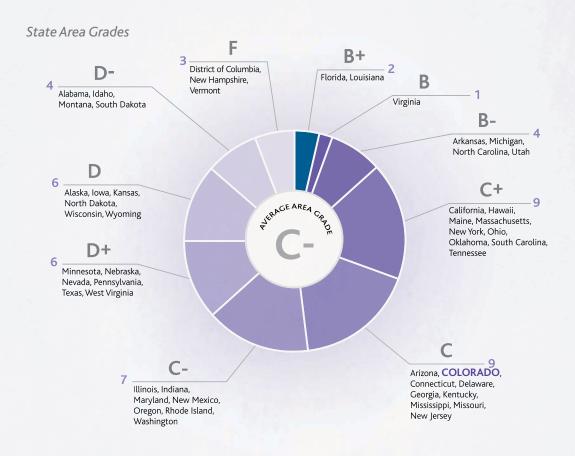


- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas³, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts⁴, Missouri, New York, North Carolina,
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida⁵, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah⁵, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Reporting of teacher effectiveness data will begin in 2017.
- 4. Massachusetts' evaluation system is not based primarily on evidence of teacher effectiveness.
- 5. Reports data about teacher effectiveness at the district level.

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers



Topics Included In This Area 4-A: Induction 4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience 4-B: Professional Development 4-E: Differential Pay 4-C: Pay Scales 4-F: Performance Pay

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

➤ Goal A – Induction

The state should require effective induction for all new teachers, with special emphasis on teachers in high-need schools.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should ensure that new teachers receive mentoring of sufficient frequency and duration, especially in the first critical weeks of school.
- Mentors should be carefully selected based on evidence of their own classroom effectiveness and subject-matter expertise. Mentors should be trained, and their performance as mentors should be evaluated.
- Induction programs should include only strategies that can be successfully implemented, even in a poorly managed school. Such strategies include intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area, a reduced teaching load and frequent release time to observe effective teachers.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-A Analysis: Colorado



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado requires that all new teachers participate in an induction program and receive mentoring. The induction program lasts for three years, with mentoring occurring during the first year only.

The state mandates that local districts are responsible for developing policies to address the "standards for selection, training and release of mentors" as well as methods to evaluate and assess the induction program. The district must establish the "primary role of the mentor as teacher, coach, advocate, support, guide and nurturer of new teachers." Induction programs should provide both mentors and new teachers opportunities for professional growth and development. The state requires each induction program to conduct a self-evaluation every five years.

The state also provides guidelines for assignment of mentors, including similar teaching assignments and teaching styles and close proximity. Districts are encouraged to closely match mentors and teachers in terms of teaching area. Compensation of mentors is left to the discretion of the districts.

Supporting Research

Code of Colorado Regulations 2260.5-R-13.00; 14.00

Induction Program Guidelines

http://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/documents/cdeprof/cdeprofsvc/iheprograms/downloads/teachersspinductionguidelines.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Expand guidelines to include other key areas.

While still leaving districts flexibility, Colorado should articulate minimum guidelines for a high-quality induction experience. The state should ensure that new teachers receive support during the critical first few weeks of school and that the mentor's performance is evaluated.

Require induction strategies that can be successfully implemented, even in poorly managed schools.

To ensure that the experience is meaningful, Colorado should make certain that induction includes strategies such as intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area and a reduced teaching load and/or frequent release time to observe other teachers.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Colorado recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that it is currently conducting an in-depth review of induction program requirements.

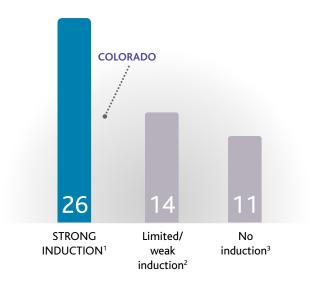
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T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

South Carolina requires that all new teachers, prior to the start of the school year, be assigned mentors for at least one year. Districts carefully select mentors based on experience and similar certifications and grade levels, and mentors undergo additional training. Adequate release time is mandated by the state so that mentors and new teachers may observe each other in the classroom, collaborate on effective teaching techniques and develop professional growth plans. Mentor evaluations are mandatory and stipends are recommended.

Figure 87 Do states have policies that articulate the elements of effective induction?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia
- 2. Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal B − Professional Development

The state should ensure that teachers receive feedback about their performance and require professional development to be based on needs identified through teacher evaluations.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their performance.
- 2. The state should require that all teachers who receive a rating of ineffective/ unsatisfactory or needs improvement on their evaluations be placed on an improvement plan.
- 3. The state should direct districts to align professional development activities with findings from teachers' evaluations.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-B Analysis: Colorado





State Meets Goal Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado requires that teachers receive copies of their evaluations "at least two weeks before the last class day of the school year." The written evaluations are to be discussed by the teacher and the evaluator. All evaluations, regardless of rating, shall include "what improvements, if any, are needed in the performance of the licensed personnel and shall clearly set forth recommendations for improvements, including recommendations for additional education and training." The state also specifies that professional development activities be linked to a teacher's evaluation and performance standards. Remediation plans are developed for teachers who have been given a rating of less than effective.

Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statutes 22-9-105.5 3(b) and 22-9-106

http://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/documents/educatoreffectiveness/downloads/rulemaking/1ccr301-87evaluationoflicensedpersonnel11.9.11.pdf

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

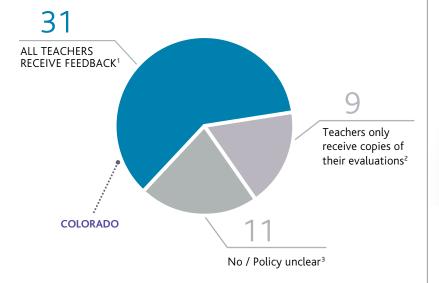
Louisiana and North Carolina require that teachers receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations and direct districts to connect professional development to teachers' identified needs. Both states also require that teachers with unsatisfactory evaluations are placed on structured improvement plans. These improvement plans include specific performance goals, a description of resources and assistance provided, as well as timelines for improvement.

- 1. Improvement plans are required for tenured teachers only.
- 2. Improvement plans are required only for teachers teaching for four years or more.
- 3. Wisconsin's educator effectiveness system includes many of these $\,$ elements, but is still in the pilot stage. Full implementation will not begin until 2014-2015.

Figure 89	MAROLENENT PANS FOR
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Do states ensure that evaluations are used to help teachers improve?	\$\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
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Figure 90

Do teachers receive feedback on their evaluations?

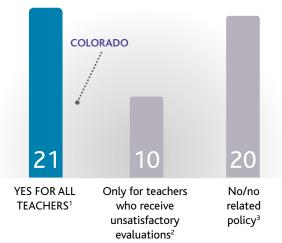


- Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 2. Alaska, California, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania
- 3. Alabama, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin⁴
- 4. Wisconsin's educator effectiveness system requires that teachers receive feedback, but it is still in the pilot stages. Full implementation will not begin until 2014-15.

Figure 91

Do states require that teacher evaluations

inform professional development?



- Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 2. Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas
- Alabama, California, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin⁴
- Wisconsin's educator effectiveness system requires that evaluations inform professional development, but it is still in the pilot stages. Full implementation will not begin until 2014-15.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal C − Pay Scales

The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. While the state may find it appropriate to articulate teachers' starting salaries, it should not require districts to adhere to a state-dictated salary schedule that defines steps and lanes and sets minimum pay at each level.
- 2. The state should discourage districts from tying additional compensation to advanced degrees. The state should eliminate salary schedules that establish higher minimum salaries or other requirements to pay more to teachers with advanced degrees.
- 3. The state should discourage salary schedules that imply that teachers with the most experience are the most effective. The state should eliminate salary schedules that require that the highest steps on the pay scale be determined solely be seniority.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-C Analysis: Colorado



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado gives local districts the authority for pay scales, eliminating barriers such as state salary schedules and other regulations that control how districts pay teachers. The state allows districts the option of adopting a salary schedule based on job description and definition; a salary policy "based on level of performance demonstrated by each teacher" or a combination of salary schedule and salary policy.

Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statutes 22-63-401

RECOMMENDATION

- Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees.
 - While still leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scale, Colorado should articulate policies that definitively discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees, in light of the extensive research showing that such degrees do not have an impact on teacher effectiveness.
- Discourage salary schedules that imply that teachers with the most experience are the most effective.
 - Similarly, Colorado should articulate policies that discourage districts from determining the highest steps on the pay scale solely by seniority.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Florida and Indiana allow local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from prioritizing elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. In Florida, local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest salary adjustment available. Indiana requires local salary scales to be based on a combination of factors and limits the years of teacher experience and content-area degrees to account for no more than one-third of this calculation.

^{1.} Colorado gives districts the option of a salary schedule, a performance pay policy or a combination of both. 2. Rhode Island requires that local district salary schedules are based on years of service, experience and training.

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- 1. For advanced degrees earned after April 2014.
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} 2. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training". \end{tabular}$
- 3. Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.
- 4. Beginning in 2015-2016.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

▶ Goal D – Compensation for Prior Work Experience

The state should encourage districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.

Goal Component

(The factor considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

1. The state should encourage districts to compensate new teachers with relevant prior work experience through mechanisms such as starting these teachers at an advanced step on the pay scale. Further, the state should not have regulatory language that blocks such strategies.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-D Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado does not encourage local districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience. However, the state does not seem to have regulatory language blocking such strategies.

Supporting Research

NCTQ Analysis Citation

RECOMMENDATION

■ Encourage local districts to compensate new teachers with relevant prior work experience.

While still leaving districts with the flexibility to determine their own pay scales, Colorado should encourage districts to incorporate mechanisms such as starting these teachers at a higher salary than other new teachers. Such policies would be attractive to career changers with related work experience, such as in the STEM subjects.

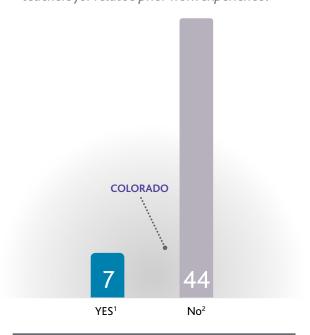
COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

North Carolina compensates new teachers with relevant prior-work experience by awarding them one year of experience credit for every year of full-time work after earning a bachelor's degree that is related to their area of licensure and work assignment. One year of credit is awarded for every two years of work experience completed prior to earning a bachelor's degree.

Figure 96

Do states direct districts to compensate teachers for related prior work experience?



- 1. Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Texas, Washington
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii³, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Hawaii's compensation is limited to prior military experience.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal E − Differential Pay

The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage subject areas.
- 2. The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in high-need schools.
- 3. The state should not have regulatory language that would block differential pay.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-E Analysis: Colorado



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado does not support differential pay by which a teacher can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects. However, the state has no regulatory language preventing local districts from providing such differential pay in this area.

A teacher can earn additional pay by working in schools classified as high need, namely those that receive Title I funds or that are in rural geographic regions. The amount of annual incentive pay is up to \$4,000 for each of the first two years and up to \$1,000 for each of the next two years. A loan-forgiveness grant is available for first-year teachers as well.

In addition, teachers who are National Board Certified are eligible to receive an annual stipend of \$1,600 for the first three years; the stipend is increased by \$3,200 for teachers in low-performing schools.

Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statutes 23-3.9-102; 22-2-504

RECOMMENDATION

Support differential pay initiatives for effective teachers in subject-shortage areas.

Colorado should encourage districts to link compensation to district needs. Such policies can help districts achieve a more equitable distribution of teachers.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 98		HIGH NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	
Do states provide				AREAS	
incentives to teach i	n _	/ %	/ **	/ %	/
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or shortage subject	FERE	10%	FERE	100%	/ ddns
areas?	DIFFERENTIAL	Loan forgiveness	DIFFERENTIAL	Loan fogriveness	No support
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Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in subject shortage areas.

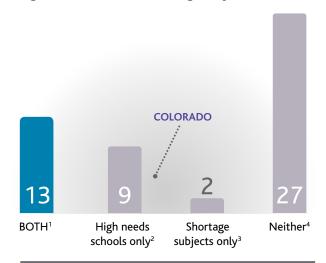
^{2.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in high-need schools.



TEXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Georgia supports differential pay by which teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects. The state is especially commended for its compensation strategy for math and science teachers, which moves teachers along the salary schedule rather just providing a bonus or stipend. The state also supports differential pay initiatives to link compensation more closely with district needs and to achieve a more equitable distribution of teachers.

Figure 99 Do states support differential pay for teaching in high need schools and shortage subjects?



- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia
- 2. Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Pennsylvania, Utah
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal F − Performance Pay

The state should support performance pay, but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.

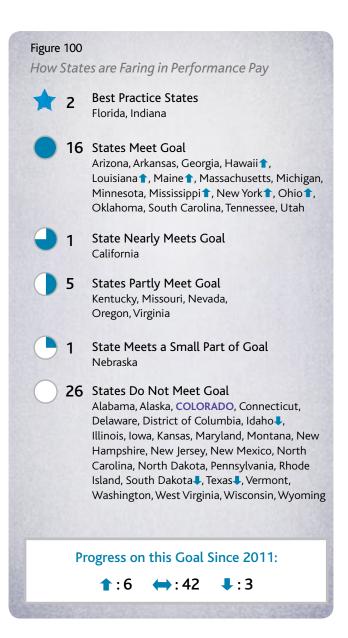
Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should support performance pay efforts, rewarding teachers for their effectiveness in the classroom.
- 2. The state should allow districts flexibility to define the criteria for performance pay provided that such criteria connect to evidence of student achievement.
- 3. Any performance pay plan should allow for the participation of all teachers, not just those in tested subjects and grades.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



4-F Analysis: Colorado



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado does not support performance pay. The state does not have any policies in place that offer teachers additional compensation based on evidence of effectiveness.

RECOMMENDATION

- Support a performance pay plan that recognizes teachers for their effectiveness.
 - Whether it implements the plan at the state or local level, Colorado should ensure that performance pay structures thoughtfully measure classroom performance and connect student achievement to teacher effectiveness. The plan must be developed with careful consideration of available data and subsequent issues of fairness.
- Consider piloting performance pay in a select number of school districts.

This would provide an opportunity to discover and correct any limitations in available data or methodology before implementing the plan on a wider scale.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 101	PERCORMANCEFACTORE	PERCORMANCE BONUES	Performance pay Pennix.	Sate supported per-	en /
	70,	i / 💥	Performance pay permit.	ر بر روان	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1
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****** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

An increasing number of states are supporting performance pay initiatives. Florida and Indiana are particularly noteworthy for their efforts to build performance into the salary schedule. Rather than award bonuses, teachers' salaries will be based in part on their performance in the classroom.

^{1.} Nebraska's initiative does not go into effect until 2016.

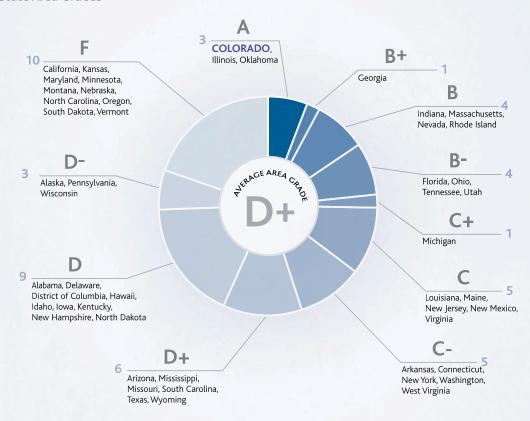
^{2.} Nevada's initiative does not go into effect until 2015-2016.

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- **5-A: Extended Emergency Licenses**
- 5-B: Dismissal for Poor Performance
- 5-C: Reductions in Force

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal A − Extended Emergency Licenses

The state should close loopholes that allow teachers who have not met licensure requirements to continue teaching.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- Under no circumstances should a state award a standard license to a teacher who has not passed all required subject-matter licensing tests.
- 2. If a state finds it necessary to confer conditional or provisional licenses under limited and exceptional circumstances to teachers who have not passed the required tests, the state should ensure that requirements are met within one year.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



5-A Analysis: Colorado



Best Practice State



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado requires that all new teachers pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.

Supporting Research

1 Colorado Code of Regulations 301-37: Rule 2260.5-R-3.05; 2260.5-R-3.01(5)

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

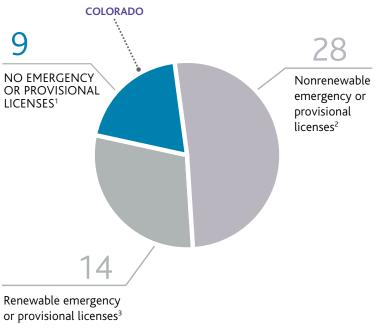
Figure 103		/	/	
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Colorado, **Illinois**, **Mississippi**, and **New Jersey** require all new teachers to pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.

Figure 104

Do states still award emergency licenses?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska⁴, Colorado, Illinois, Mississippi, Montana⁵, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina
- Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota⁶, Ohio⁶, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island⁶, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Arizona, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin
- 4. Alaska does not require subject-matter testing for initial certification.
- 5. Montana does not require subject-matter testing for certification.
- 6. License is renewable, but only if licensure tests are passed.

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal B − Dismissal for Poor Performance

The state should articulate that ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and ensure that the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.

Goal Components

(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- The state should articulate that teachers may be dismissed for ineffective classroom performance. Any teacher that receives two consecutive ineffective evaluations or two such ratings within five years should be formally eligible for dismissal, regardless of tenure status.
- A teacher who is terminated for poor performance should have an opportunity to appeal. In the interest of both the teacher and the school district, the state should ensure that this appeal occurs within a reasonable time frame.
- 3. There should be a clear distinction between the process and accompanying due process rights for teachers dismissed for classroom ineffectiveness and the process and accompanying due process rights for teachers dismissed or facing license revocation for felony or morality violations or dereliction of duties.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy

How States are Faring in Dismissal for Poor Performance **Best Practice States** Florida, Oklahoma State Meets Goal Indiana States Nearly Meet Goal COLORADO, Hawaii, Illinois, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee 20 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska ↑, Arizona ↑, Arkansas ↑, Connecticut ↑, Delaware, Georgia 1, Louisiana 1, Maine 1, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey 1, New Mexico ♠, Ohio, Pennsylvania ♠, Virginia ♠, Washington ↑, West Virginia ↑, Wisconsin, Wyoming States Meet a Small Part of Goal Idaho 1, Minnesota 1, New Hampshire, North Carolina 1, Utah 17 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont Progress on this Goal Since 2011: **1**: 16 **\(:** 35 **↓**:0

5-B Analysis: Colorado



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado specifically identifies classroom ineffectiveness as grounds for dismissal. For teachers who receive "a performance rating of ineffective, the evaluator shall either make additional recommendations for improvement or may recommend the dismissal of the person." Under the state's dismissal statute, teachers may be dismissed for unsatisfactory performance and one of the purposes of the evaluation system is "to serv[e] as documentation for an unsatisfactory performance dismissal proceeding." In addition, a teacher reverts to probationary status after two consecutive years of ineffective evaluations.

Although Colorado has attempted to address issues of due process and dismissal by reverting ineffective teachers to probationary status, the state also retains other policy that does not distinguish the due process rights of teachers dismissed for ineffective performance from those facing other charges commonly associated with license revocation such as a felony and/or morality violations. The process is the same regardless of the grounds for cancellation, which include "physical or mental disability, incompetency, neglect of duty, immorality, unsatisfactory performance, insubordination, the conviction of a felony or the acceptance of a guilty plea, a plea of nolo contendere, or a deferred sentence for a felony, or other good and just cause."

Tenured teachers who are terminated may appeal multiple times. After receiving written notice of dismissal, the teacher may request a hearing within five days. A hearing officer must then be selected within five days, and then within three days, the hearing office schedules the hearing, which must take place within 30 days. The teacher may then file an additional appeal in the court of appeals. According to the state, this review is given precedence and is "heard in an expedited manner"; however, a specific time frame is not articulated. Another appeal, to the Supreme Court, is also possible.

Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statutes 22-63-301; 302 and 22-9-106 (4.5)(b)

Rules

http://www.cde.state.co.us/EducatorEffectiveness/downloads/rulemaking/ 1CCR301-87EvaluationofLicensedPersonnel11.9.11.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Align dismissal statute to support evaluation policy.

Colorado should ensure that its dismissal policies are in step with the state's rigorous evaluation requirements. It should be clear that classroom ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal for any teacher, regardless of tenure status. The dismissal policy should also avoid using euphemistic terms to describe poor performance.

Ensure that the appeals process occurs within a reasonable time frame, and that due process rights are distinguished between dismissal for classroom ineffectiveness and dismissal for morality violations, felonies, or dereliction of duty.

Although probationary teachers who have earned such status due to unsatisfactory evaluations may not be subject to the state's dismissal laws, the state could do more to distinguish the due process rights of teachers dismissed for ineffective performance from those facing license revocation for dereliction of duty or felony and/or morality violations. In addition, the state should ensure that the opportunity to appeal occurs only once and only at the district level. The decision should be made only by those with educational expertise.

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Figure 106

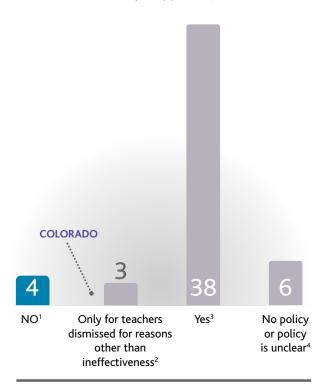
Florida and Oklahoma clearly articulate that teacher ineffectiveness in the classroom is grounds for dismissal. In both states, teachers are eligible for dismissal after two annual ratings of unsatisfactory performance. Each state has taken steps to ensure that the dismissal process for teachers deemed to be ineffective is expedited. Teachers facing dismissal have only one opportunity to appeal.

Do states articulate that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal? Alabama Alaska Arizona П Arkansas California **COLORADO** Connecticut П Delaware П District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii П Idaho П Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi П Missouri Montana П Nebraska Nevada П New Hampshire П New Jersey New Mexico П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island П South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 29 22

^{1.} A teacher reverts to probationary status after two consecutive years of unsatisfactory evaluations, but it is not articulated that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

Figure 107

Do states allow multiple appeals of teacher dismissals?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Wisconsin
- 2. Teachers in these states revert to probationary status following ineffective evaluation ratings, meaning that they no longer have the due process right to multiple appeals: Colorado, Indiana, Tennessee
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. District of Columbia, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada⁵, Utah, Vermont
- 5. Though a teacher returns to probationary status after two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations, Nevada does not articulate clear policy about its appeals process.

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal C - Reductions in Force

The state should require that its school districts consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off when a reduction in force is necessary.

Goal Component

(The factor considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

1. The state should require that districts consider classroom performance and ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at: nctq.org/statepolicy



5-C Analysis: Colorado



Best Practice State



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Colorado considers teacher performance—measured by a performance evaluation—as the top criterion for districts to use in determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force. Other factors, including "the consideration of probationary and nonprobationary status and the number of years a teacher has been teaching in the school district" may only be considered after a teacher's performance is taken into account.

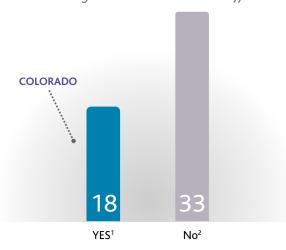
Supporting Research

Colorado Revised Statutes 22-9-106; 22-63-202, sec. VII (3)

COLORADO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 109

Do districts have to consider performance in determining which teachers are laid off?



- Strong Practice: Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts³, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio³, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington
- Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Tenure is considered first.

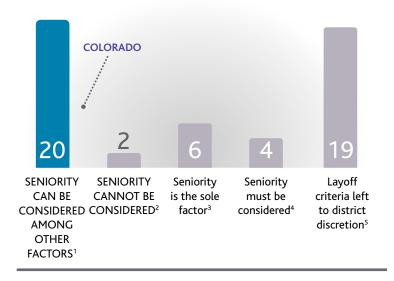




Colorado, **Florida**, and **Indiana** all specify that in determining which teachers to lay off during a reduction in force, classroom performance is the top criterion. These states also articulate that seniority can only be considered after a teacher's performance is taken into account.

Figure 111

Do states prevent districts from overemphasizing seniority in layoff decisions?



- Strong Practice: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts⁶, Michigan, Missouri⁶, Nevada, New Hampshire, Ohio⁶, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington
- 2. Strong Practice: Louisiana, Utah
- 3. Hawaii, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin⁷
- 4. California, Kentucky, New Jersey, Oregon
- 5. Alabama, Alaska⁶, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska⁶, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming
- 6. Nontenured teachers are laid off first.
- 7. Only for counties with populations of 500,000 or more and for teachers hired before 1995.

Goals and Keywords

GOAL	STATEMENT	KEY WORDS
	AREA 1: Delivering Well Prepared Te	achers
1-A: Admission into Teacher Preparation	The state should require teacher preparation programs to admit only candidates with strong academic records.	admission requirements, academic proficiency measures, basic skills tests, GPA
1-B: Elementary Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that its teacher preparation programs provide elementary teachers with a broad liberal arts education, providing the necessary foundation for teaching to the Common Core or similar state standards.	license/certification, elementary teachers, early childhood teachers, content tests, elementary coursework/standards, content specialization requirements
1-C: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction	The state should ensure that new elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction.	license/certification, elementary teachers, early childhood teachers, science of reading tests, science of reading coursework/standards
1-D: Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics	The state should ensure that new elementary teachers have sufficient knowledge of the mathematics content taught in elementary grades.	license/certification, elementary teachers, early childhood teachers, math content tests, math coursework/standards
1-E: Middle School Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.	license/certification, middle school teachers, content tests, K-8 licenses, content specialization requirements
1-F: Secondary Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate gradelevel content.	license/certification, secondary teachers, secondary social studies, content tests, endorsements
1-G: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science	The state should ensure that secondary science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	license/certification, secondary general science, content tests, combination sciences
1-H: Special Education Teacher Preparation	The state should ensure that special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	license/certification, special education teachers, content tests, K-12 special education license, elementary special education, secondary special education
1-I: Assessing Professional Knowledge	The state should use a licensing test to verify that all new teachers meet its professional standards.	license/certification, pedagogy, professional standards/knowledge, performance assessments, edTPA
1-J: Student Teaching	The state should ensure that teacher preparation programs provide teacher candidates with a high quality clinical experience.	student teaching, cooperating teachers, clinical preparation, placements
1-K: Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	The state's approval process for teacher preparation programs should hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.	teacher preparation programs, program accountability, student achievement, standard of performance, public reporting, national accreditation

Goals and Keywords

GOAL	STATEMENT	KEY WORDS
	AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching I	Pool
2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility	The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.	alternate route programs, admission requirements, GPA, academic proficience measures, subject-matter test, flexibility test-out
2-B: Alternate Route Preparation	The state should ensure that its alternate routes provide efficient preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers, as well as adequate mentoring and support.	alternate route programs, coursework requirements, length of program, studer practice teaching, induction, mentoring
2-C: Alternate Route Usage and Providers	The state should provide an alternate route that is free from limitations on its usage and allows a diversity of providers.	alternate routes; subject, grade or geographic restrictions; college or university providers; district-run programs; non-profit providers
2-D: Part-Time Teaching Licenses	The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time.	part-time license/certificate, adjunct license
2-E: Licensure Reciprocity	The state should help to make licenses fully portable among states, with appropriate safeguards.	license reciprocity, license portability, out-of-state teachers, testing requirements, online teachers
	AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teac	hers
3-A: State Data Systems	The state should have a data system that contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness.	longitudinal data systems, definition of teacher of record, teacher production
3-B: Evaluation of Effectiveness	The state should require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.	teacher evaluation, teacher effectivenes student learning, classroom observation surveys, rating categories
3-C: Frequency of Evaluations	The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.	teacher evaluation, evaluation frequency classroom observations, feedback
3-D: Tenure	The state should require that tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.	tenure, probationary period, continuing contracts, teacher effectiveness
3-E: Licensure Advancement	The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.	probationary license, professional licens license renewal, evidence of teacher effectiveness, coursework requirements
3-F: Equitable Distribution	The state should publicly report districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged children.	public reporting, aggregate school-level data, evaluation ratings, school report cards, teacher absenteeism rate, turnover rate

Goals and Keywords

GOAL	STATEMENT	KEY WORDS
	AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teacl	hers
4-A: Induction	The state should require effective induction for all new teachers, with special emphasis on teachers in high-need schools.	mentoring, induction, mentor selection, reduced teaching load, release time
4-B: Professional Development	The state should ensure that teachers receive feedback about their performance and should require professional development to be based on needs identified through teacher evaluations.	feedback from observations/evaluations, professional development linked to evaluations results, improvement plans
4-C: Pay Scales	The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.	teacher compensation, salary schedules, pay scales, steps and lanes, advanced degrees, years of experience, teacher performance
4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience	The state should encourage districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.	teacher compensation, relevant work experience
4-E: Differential Pay	The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas.	teacher compensation, differential pay, shortage subject areas, high-need school
4-F: Performance Pay	The state should support performance pay, but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.	teacher compensation, performance pay, teacher performance, student achievement
	AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teach	ners
5-A: Extended Emergency Licenses	The state should close loopholes that allow teachers who have not met licensure requirements to continue teaching.	emergency licenses, provisional certificates, loopholes, subject-matter tests
5-B: Dismissal for Poor Performance	The state should articulate that ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and ensure that the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.	dismissal, ineffectiveness, poor performance, appeals, due process
5-C: Reductions in Force	The state should require that its school districts consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off when a reduction in force is necessary.	reduction in force, layoffs, teacher performance, seniority

Teacher Policy Priorities for Colorado

AREA 1: Delivering Well Prepared Teachers	
Require teacher preparation programs to screen candidates prior to admission by using a common test normed to the general college-bound population, and limit acceptance to those candidates demonstrating academic ability in the top 50th percentile.	Goal 1-A
 Adopt an elementary content test with independently scored subject-matter subtests in each of the core areas. 	Goal 1-B
■ Require all elementary teacher candidates to pass a rigorous stand-alone science of reading test.	Goal 1-C
Adopt a rigorous stand-alone math test for all elementary teacher candidates.	Goal 1-D
■ Ensure that all middle school teacher candidates pass a content test in every core area they are licensed to teach.	Goal 1-E
Require secondary teacher candidates to pass subject-matter tests. Specifically require social studies and science teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.	Goal 1-F Goal 1-G
■ Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and ensure that both elementary and secondary special education teachers possess adequate and appropriate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.	Goal 1-H
■ Require all new teachers to pass a pedagogy test.	Goal 1-I
 Ensure that cooperating teachers for student teaching placements have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning, and require teacher candidates to spend at least 10 weeks student teaching. 	Goal 1-J

AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool	
Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs, including a high bar for academic proficiency and passage of a subject-matter test.	Goal 2-A
■ Establish guidelines for alternate route programs that require preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. Ensure programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.	Goal 2-B
■ Require out-of-state teachers to meet the state's own testing requirements.	Goal 2-E

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers		
Develop the capacity of the state data system to ensure its ability to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.	Goal 3-A	
■ Base licensure advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license and licensure renewal on evidence of effectiveness.	Goal 3-E	
■ Publish aggregate school-level teacher evaluation ratings from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness.	Goal 3-F	

AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	
■ Discourage districts from basing teacher pay scales primarily on advanced degrees and seniority.	Goal 4-C
Support differential pay initiatives for effective teachers in shortage subject areas.	Goal 4-E
Support performance pay to recognize teachers for their effectiveness.	Goal 4-F

