

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 June 2015 for comment and correction; states also received a final draft of their reports a month prior to release. All but three 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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NCTQ PROJECT TEAM

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Executive Summary

The 2015 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 32 policy goals focused on helping states put in place a comprehensive framework in support of preparing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers.

Delaware at a Glance



Overall 2015 Yearbook Grade

2013

2011

2009







2015 Delaware Area Goal Scores

AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers	B-
Admission into Teacher Preparation	*
Elementary Teacher Preparation	
Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction	
Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics	
Early Childhood Teacher Preparation	
Middle School Teacher Preparation	
Secondary Teacher Preparation	
Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science and Social Studies	
Special Education Teacher Preparation	
Special Education Preparation in Reading	
Assessing Professional Knowledge	• •
Student Teaching	
Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	
AREA 2: Expanding the Teacher Pool	В-
Alternate Route Eligibility	
Alternate Route Preparation	
Alternate Route Usage and Providers	• •
Part-Time Teaching Licenses	
Licensure Reciprocity	

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers	В
State Data Systems	•
Evaluation of Effectiveness	
Frequency of Evaluations	
Tenure	
Licensure Advancement	
Equitable Distribution	•
AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	B-
Induction	•
Professional Development	
Pay Scales and Performance Pay	
Differential Pay	
Compensation for Prior Work Experience	
AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers	D
Extended Emergency Licenses	
Dismissal for Poor Performance	
Reductions in Force	

Goal Summary







Meets Only a Small Part: 3

Does Not Meet: 6

Progress on Goals Since 2013



Progress Increased: 2



Progress Decreased: 0

Teacher Policy Priorities for Delaware

AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Elementary Teacher Preparation

- Require a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction for all elementary candidates.
- Ensure all new elementary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and career-readiness standards.
- Establish equivalent requirements for teachers who may teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, including a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects.

Middle School Teacher Preparation

Ensure all new middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and careerreadiness standards.

Secondary Teacher Preparation

- Require secondary science and social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.
- Ensure that all new secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and careerreadiness standards.

Special Education Teacher Preparation

- Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and require licenses that differentiate between the preparation of elementary and secondary teacher candidates.
- Require elementary special education candidates to pass a rigorous content test as a condition of initial licensure, as well as a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
- Ensure secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.
- Ensure that all new special education candidates are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Alternate Routes to Certification

Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs, including a high bar for academic proficiency and passage of a subject-matter test.

License Reciprocity

■ Require that teachers coming from other states meet testing requirements.

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

State Data Systems

Develop a definition of teacher of record that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness, and publish data on teacher production.

Licensure Advancement

■ Base licensure renewal on evidence of effectiveness.

Equitable Distribution of Teachers

 Publish aggregate school-level teacher evaluation ratings from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness.

AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Compensation

■ While leaving districts flexibility to determine their own pay scales, support pay systems that recognize teachers for their effectiveness and for teaching in subject-shortage areas and discourage systems tied to advanced degrees and/or experience.

AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Extending Emergency Licenses

Award standard licenses to teachers only after they have passed all required subject-matter licensing tests.

Dismissal for Poor Performance

■ Ensure that teachers terminated for ineffectiveness have the opportunity to appeal within a reasonable time frame.

Reductions in Force

Use teacher effectiveness as a factor when determining which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force.

Figure A	State	Overall State	Overall State	Overall State Grade 2009
	Overall State Grade 2015	Overall Grade 2	Overal Grade 2	Overa Gade
Florida	B+	B+	В	С
Indiana	В	B-	C+	D
Louisiana	В	В	C-	C-
New York	В	B-	С	D+
Tennessee	В	В	B-	C-
Arkansas	B-	B-	С	C-
Connecticut	B-	B-	C-	D+
DELAWARE	B-	C+	С	D
Georgia	B-	B-	С	C-
Massachusetts	B-	B-	С	D+
Ohio	B-	B-	C+	D+
Oklahoma	B-	B-	B-	D+
Rhode Island	B-	В	B-	D
Illinois	C+	C+	С	D+
Michigan	C+	B-	C+	D-
New Jersey	C+	B-	D+	D+
Utah	C+	С	C-	D
Virginia	C+	C+	D+	D+
Colorado	С	C+	С	D+
Kentucky	С	С	D+	D+
Mississippi	С	С	D+	D+
New Mexico	С	D+	D+	D+
South Carolina	С	C-	C-	C-
Arizona	C-	C-	D+	D+
Idaho	C-	D+	D+	D-
Maine	C-	C-	D-	F
Minnesota	C-	C-	C-	D-
Missouri	C-	C-	D	D
Nevada	C-	C-	C- D+	D-
North Carolina Pennsylvania	C-	C C-	D+	D+ D
Texas	C-	C-	C-	C-
Washington	C-	C-	C-	D+
West Virginia	C-	C-	D+	D+
Alabama	D+	C-	C-	C-
District of Columbia	D+	D+	D	D-
Hawaii	D+	D+	D-	D-
Kansas	D+	D	D	D-
Maryland	D+	D+	D+	D
California	D	D+	D+	D+
lowa	D	D	D	D
Nebraska	D	D-	D-	D-
New Hampshire	D	D	D-	D-
North Dakota	D	D	D	D-
Oregon	D	D	D-	D-
Wisconsin	D	D+	D	D
Wyoming	D	D	D	D-
Alaska	D-	D	D	D
South Dakota	D-	D-	D	D
Vermont	D-	D-	D-	F
Montana	F	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 or the state has lost ground on that topic:



Goal progress has increased since 2013



Goal progress has decreased since 2013

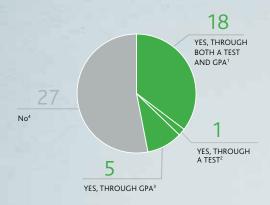
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



Indicates the criteria to meet the goal have been raised since the 2013 Yearbook.

READING CHARTS AND TABLES:

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



This year's edition of the *State Teacher Policy* Yearbook features a new format for presenting state and national data.

Each state's volume is now summarized to present the most important information about key teacher quality policies in an infographic format. Full narrative versions -- including detailed analyses and recommendations as well as the state response for each policy topic -- can now be found online, using NCTO's State Policy Dashboard



(http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard).

The National Summary maintains the traditional Yearbook format and presentation. Topics are organized as policy goals, including the specific components that form the basis of each analysis. National findings are included for each goal, as well



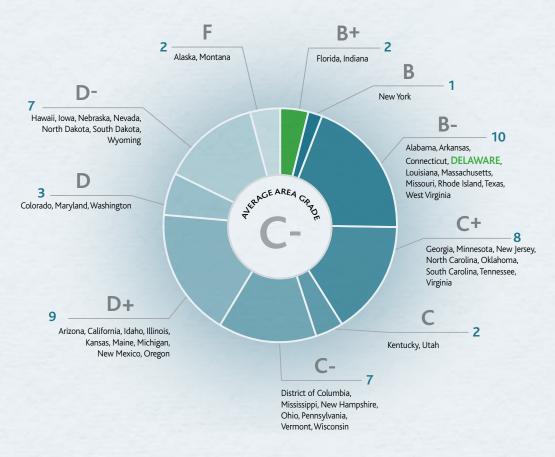
as a comprehensive set of tables and graphs that provide a national overview of the teacher policy landscape.

Area 1 Summary



How States are Faring on Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

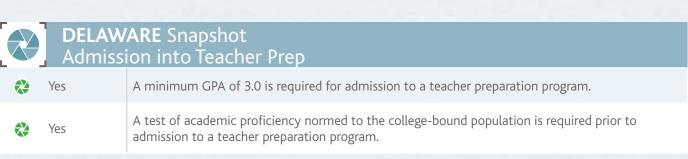
- · Admission into Teacher Preparation
- Elementary Teacher Preparation
- Middle School Teacher Preparation
- Secondary Teacher Preparation

- · Special Education Teacher Preparation
- · Assessing Professional Knowledge
- Student Teaching
- Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

Admission into Teacher Prep

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
admission into teacher prep
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





DELAWARE Admi	DELAWARE Admission into Teacher Prep Characteristics				
Test Requirement	A passing score on test normed to the general college-bound population is one option for candidates to fulfill admissions requirements.				
GPA Requirement	GPA of 3.0 or a GPA in the "top 50th percentile for coursework completed during the most recent two years of the applicant's general education." is one option for candidates to fulfill admission requirements.				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP POLICIES IN DELAWARE

- Ensure that the passing score for the test of academic proficiency is sufficiently rigorous.
 - Delaware is commended for setting one of the highest bars in the country for program admission. The state should ensure that the minimum score established for the required test of academic proficiency is appropriately rigorous and selects from the top half of test takers.
- Consider requiring candidates to pass subject-matter tests as a condition of admission into teacher programs.
 In addition to ensuring that program
 - In addition to ensuring that programs require a measure of academic performance for admission, Delaware might also want to consider requiring content testing prior to program admission as opposed to at the point of program completion.

Examples of Best Practice

While many states now require CAEP accreditation, which includes a standard requiring strong admission practices, Delaware, Rhode Island and West Virginia have set a high bar independent of the accreditation process, ensuring that the state's expectations are clear. These states require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general college-bound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware, Rhode Island and West Virginia require teacher candidates to have a 3.0 GPA or to be in the top 50th percentile for general education coursework completed. Rhode Island and West Virginia also require 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.

SUMMARY OF ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP FIGURES

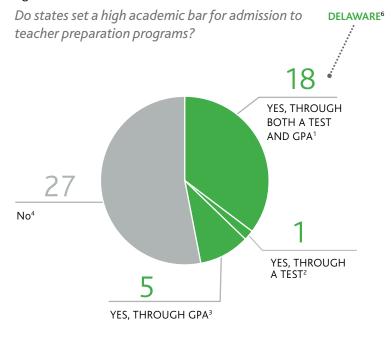
Figure 1 Academic proficiency requirements

Other admission figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Admission tests (p. 4)
- Minimum GPA for admission (p. 5)

For more information about DELAWARE's admission into teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 1



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama⁵, Arkansas⁵, Delaware⁶, District of Columbia⁵, Indiana⁵, Louisiana⁵, Michigan⁵, New Jersey⁷, New York⁵, North Carolina⁵, Oklahoma⁵, Oregon⁵, Rhode Island, South Carolina⁵, Tennessee⁵, Utah⁶, Virginia⁵, West Virginia
- 2. Strong Practice: Texas
- 3. Strong Practice: Georgia, Hawaii⁸, Mississippi, Montana, Pennsylvania⁹
- $4.\ Alaska, Arizona,\ California,\ Colorado,\ Connecticut,\ Florida,\ Idaho,\ Illinois,\ Iowa,\ Kansas,\ Kentucky,$ Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- ${\it 5. Requirement for admissions test normed to college-bound population and cohort minimum}\\$ GPA of 3.0 are based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admissions policies.
- 6. Candidates can qualify for admission through the GPA or test requirement.
- 7. New Jersey requires a cohort minimum GPA of 3.0. The requirement for admissions test normed to college-bound population is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admissions policies.
- 8. Requirement for cohort minimum GPA of 3.0 is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not Hawaii's own admission standards. Hawaii exempts candidates with a bachelor's degree from admission testing requirements.
- 9. Candidates can also be admitted with a combination of a 2.8 GPA and qualifying scores on the basic skills test or SAT/ACT.

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
elementary teacher preparation
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Elementary Teacher Preparation

DELAWARE Ratings	
Content Knowledge New elementary teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	•
Reading Instruction New elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction and understand the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.	•
Mathematics New elementary teachers have deep knowledge of the math content taught in elementary grades.	
Early Childhood Teachers who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license are appropriately prepared for the elementary classroom.	
 Fully meets → Nearly meets → Partially meets → Meets only a small part → Does not meet N/A Not Applie Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013 → Bar raised for this goal 	cable

	DELAW Elemen	ARE Snapshot tary Teacher Preparation
*	Yes	Content test required for elementary teachers in each of the four core subjects.
*	No	An adequate science of reading test is required.
₹	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for elementary teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.
*	No	Elementary teachers must have an academic content specialization.
₹	No	Teachers who teach elementary grades on an early childhood license are held to appropriate content and early reading requirements.

DELAWARE Elem	entary Teacher Preparation Characteristics
Elementary Licenses	K-6; Birth to grade 2
Content Tests	Praxis II Multiple Subjects Test (5001) K-6; not required for Birth to grade 2
Science of Reading Requirements	No test required, but science of reading is included in teacher prep standards.
Academic Specialization	Not required
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Partially addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

■ Ensure that early childhood education teachers are adequately prepared to teach at the elementary level.

Delaware should require all early child-hood teacher candidates who teach the elementary grades to pass a content test with separate passing scores for each of the core subject areas including reading/language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

 Require teacher candidates to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

Delaware should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its early childhood and elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared in all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

SUMMARY OF ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

- **Figure 2** Content test requirements
- **Figure 3** Science of reading tests
- Figure 4 Instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards
- Figure 5 Math requirements
- **Figure 6** Requirements for early childhood teachers

Other elementary teacher preparation figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Academic concentrations (p. 8)
- Science of reading preparation and testing requirements (p. 11)
- Early childhood content tests (p. 18)
- Early childhood science of reading tests (p. 19)
- Early childhood math tests (p. 19)
- Early childhood instructional shifts associated with college- and careerreadiness standards (p. 20)

For more information about DELAWARE's elementary teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Ensure that elementary and early childhood teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Although Delaware's early childhood and elementary assessments address some knowledge of informational texts, the framework does not appear to capture the major instructional shifts of college-and career-readiness standards. The state is therefore encouraged to strengthen its teacher preparation requirements and ensure that all candidates who teach the elementary grades have the ability to address the use of informational texts as well as to incorporate complex informational texts into classroom instruction—as a condition of initial licensure.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that elementary school students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Delaware should include specific teacher preparation requirements for all teachers licensed to teach at the elementary level regarding literacy skills and using text as a means to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

Delaware should articulate requirements ensuring that all teachers licensed to teach at the elementary level are prepared to identify and support students who are struggling.

Require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area.

In addition to enhancing content knowledge, this requirement would ensure that prospective teachers in Delaware take higher-level academic coursework.

Examples of Best Practice

Unfortunately, NCTQ cannot award "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of elementary teacher preparation. However, three states—Florida, Indiana and Virginia—are worthy of mention for holding early childhood candidates who are licensed to teach elementary grades to the same standards as all other elementary teachers. Each state requires its early childhood candidates to pass a content test with separately scored subtests, as well as a test of scientifically based reading instruction. Florida also ensures that both early childhood and elementary education teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

California stands out for its focus on elementary teachers' readiness to teach reading and literacy skills. All elementary education candidates must pass a comprehensive assessment that specifically tests the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. California's test frameworks go further than most states in ensuring that elementary teacher candidates have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts, but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates must also show they know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

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.

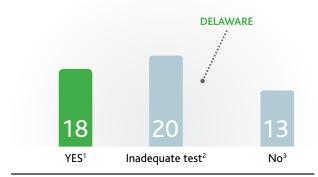
EEMENTARY CONTENT PASSING SCORE FOR ECT Elementary content test for some subjects Elementary content test Figure 2 Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content? Alabama Alaska 1 Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut **DELAWARE** District of Columbia П П П Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho П П Illinois Indiana Iowa П Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine П Maryland П П ____Z Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota П Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire П New Jersey П П New Mexico New York П П North Carolina North Dakota П Ohio 3 Oklahoma Oregon П П Pennsylvania Rhode Island П П South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas П П Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 5 22 9 15

Figure 2

- 1. Alaska does not require testing for initial licensure.
- Massachusetts and North Carolina require a general curriculum test that does not report scores for each elementary subject. A separate score is reported for math.
- 3. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass a content test in Ohio.
- 4. New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.

Figure 3

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

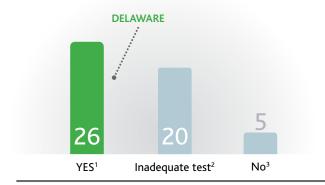


- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee⁶, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming
- 3. Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota
- 4. Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum.
- 5. Teachers have until their second year to pass the reading test.
- 6. New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.

Figure 4 Are states ensuring that new elementary teachers are prepared for the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards? Alabama	Figure 4		TEXT	18 / 18 / 18 / 18 / 18 / 18 / 18 / 18 /
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,	Wisconsin			
	Wyoming			

Figure 5

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee⁴, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska⁵, Hawaii, Iowa, Montana, Ohio⁶
- 4. New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.
- 5. Testing is not required for initial licensure.
- 6. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass a content test in Ohio.

Figure 6

- 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.
- 2. Florida's test consists of three subtests covering language arts and reading, math and science.
- Early childhood candidates may pass either multiple subjects (subscores) or content knowledge (no subscores) test.
- 4. New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.

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Figure 6	7.7	
What do states require	Z Z	/ &
of early childhood	\$ 6	
teachers who teach	PES,	VG;
elementary grades?	CONTENT TET WITH	ADECUATE SCIENCE OF READING TEST
Alabama		
Alaska ¹		
Arizona		
Arkansas ¹		
California ¹		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
DELAWARE		
District of Columbia		
Florida	2	
Georgia ¹		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa Kansas		
Kentucky ¹		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
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For more information about **QELAWARE** and other states' middle school teacher prep policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Middle School **Teacher Preparation**

DELAWARE Ratings

Middle School Teacher Preparation



New middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content and for the ways that college-and career-readiness standards affect instruction.









Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet



♠ Progress increased since 2013



Lost ground since 2013



Bar raised for this goal



DELAWARE Snapshot Middle School Teacher Preparation

*	Yes	Middle school teachers must pass a content test for each subject they are licensed to teach.
	Yes	Middle school teachers must hold a middle grade-specific or secondary license.
*	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for middle school teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

DELAWARE Middle	DELAWARE Middle School Teacher Preparation Characteristics					
Middle School Licenses	6-8					
Content Tests	Praxis II Middle School single-subject tests					
Academic Requirements	No requirements for major or minors					
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Partially addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed					

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

 Ensure that middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and careerreadiness standards for students.

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Although Delaware's English language arts content test for middle school teachers addresses informational texts, the state should strengthen its policy and ensure that teachers are able to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that middle school students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Delaware should include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

Delaware should articulate more specific requirements ensuring that middle school teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

■ Ensure meaningful content tests.

To ensure meaningful middle school content tests, Delaware should make certain that its passing scores reflect high levels of performance.

Examples of Best Practice

Arkansas ensures that all middle school teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach middle school-level content. The state does not offer a K-8 generalist license, requires passing scores on subject-specific content tests and explicitly requires at least two content-area minors. Arkansas also ensures that middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. The state's competencies for the middle grades specify that middle school candidates must have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates must also know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

- Figure 7 Distinctions in licenses between middle and elementary teachers
- **Figure 8** Content test requirements
- Figure 9 Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards

For more information about DELAWARE's
middle school teacher prep policies, including
detailed recommendations, full narrative
analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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^{1.} Offers 1-8 license.

California offers a K-12 generalist license for all self-contained classrooms.
 With the exception of mathematics.

Figure 8			on Rubje	ïes.
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- ${\it 1. Alaska does \ not \ require \ content \ tests \ for \ initial \ licensure.}$
- 2. Candidates teaching multiple subjects only have to pass the elementary test. Single-subject credential does not require content test.
- 3. For K-8 license, Idaho also requires one single-subject test.
- 4. Illinois requires candidates to take a middle level core content test if a test is available. It is not clear that this will result in teachers passing a test in each subject.
- 5. Maryland allows elementary teachers to teach in departmentalized middle schools if not less than 50 percent of the teaching assignment is within the elementary grades.
- 6. New Hampshire requires K-8 candidates to have a core concentration and to pass a middle school content test in a core area. Teachers with a 5-8 license must pass a Praxis II assessment.
- 7. For nondepartmentalized classrooms, generalist in middle childhood education candidates must pass the new assessment with three subtests.
- 8. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.

Are states ensuring that new middle school teachers are	USEOFWEORY.	MCORPORATIVE ITES	SUPPORTIVE
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shifts associated with college-	.¥ }	/ A []	1 8
and career-readiness standards	25/		1 3 3
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Wyoming			

Secondary Teacher Preparation

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
secondary teacher prep policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings Content Knowledge New secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content and for the ways that college-and career-readiness standards affect instruction. General Science and Social Studies Secondary science and social studies teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach. Fully meets Nearly meets Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013 Bar raised for this goal

	DELAW Second	ARE Snapshot ary Teacher Preparation
	Yes	Secondary teachers must pass a content test to teach any single core subject.
₹	No	Only single-subject science certifications are offered or general science license has appropriate requirements to ensure teachers know each included subject.
₹	No	Only single-subject social studies certifications are offered or general social studies license has appropriate requirements to ensure teachers know each included subject.
	Somewhat	A content test is required to add an endorsement to a license.
₹	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for secondary school teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

DELAWARE Secondary Teacher Preparation Characteristics		
Secondary Licenses	9-12	
Content Tests	Praxis II single-subject content test required for initial licensure	
General Science License and Testing Requirements	Integrated Science and Physical Science licenses offered; both require only general science test	
General Social Studies License and Testing Requirements	General social studies license offered; requires only general social studies test	
Endorsement Requirements	Content tests are required to add endorsements; integrated science, physical science and general social studies endorsements only require general content tests	
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Partially addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

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

By allowing general social studies and general science certifications—and only requiring general knowledge exams for each—Delaware is not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge.

SUMMARY OF SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

- Figure 10 Content test requirements
- Figure 11 Instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards

Other secondary teacher preparation figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Endorsement requirements (p. 28)
- Content knowledge of general science teachers (p. 32)
- Content knowledge of general social studies teachers (p. 33)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 Ensure that secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and careerreadiness standards for students.

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Although Delaware's required secondary English language arts content test addresses informational texts, the state should strengthen its policy and ensure that teachers are able to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that secondary students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Delaware should also—either through testing frameworks or standards—include literacy skills and using text as a means to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

Delaware should articulate requirements ensuring that secondary teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

Examples of Best Practice

Missouri requires that secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subjects. Of particular note, 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. In addition, Missouri requires general social studies teachers to pass a multi-content test with six independently scored subtests.

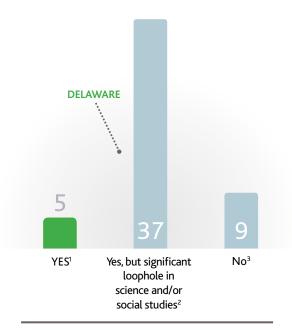
Arkansas also ensures that secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. The state's competencies specify that secondary teacher candidates must have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates must also know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

For more information about DELAWARE's secondary teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 10

Do secondary teachers have to pass a content test in every subject area for licensure?



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, Tennessee⁴
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska⁶, Arizona⁷, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Iowa, Montana, Washington, Wyoming
- New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.
- 5. Teachers may also have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 6. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.
- 7. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.

Figure 11		$\frac{2}{2}$	\$ 5
Are states ensuring that		\$ / 3	
new secondary teachers			13/8
are prepared for the	. 8	1 4	₹ / §
instructional shifts associated	d 🕌		188
with college-and career-	6	1 9 3	PP (PE)
readiness standards?	Š	INCORPOBATING.	\ \rangle \rangle \ \rangle \rangle \ \rangle \ \rangle \ \rangle \ \rangle \ \rangle \rangle \ \rangle \rangl
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Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

Special Education Teacher Preparation

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states' special
education teacher prep policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings	
Content Knowledge New special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	•
Reading Instruction New elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction and understand the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards	•
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013	

	DELAW Special	ARE Snapshot Education Teacher Preparation
*	No	Only discrete elementary and secondary special education licenses are offered.
	Somewhat	Elementary subject-matter test is required for elementary special education license.
	Somewhat	Secondary-level test in at least one subject area is required for secondary special education license.
	No	An adequate test on the science of reading is required for elementary special education teachers.
⇔	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for special education teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

DELAWARE Special Education Teacher Preparation Characteristics		
Special Education License(s)	Birth to grade 2; K-12	
Content Tests	An initial teaching certificate is required at the elementary or secondary level. For the elementary certificate, Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001) testis required. Secondary requires a Praxis II single-subject content test	
Science of Reading Test	Not required	
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career-Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Partially addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

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 Delaware to ensure that a K-12 special education teacher knows all the subject matter he or she is expected to be able to teach. 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.

Delaware should require a rigorous content test that reports separate, meaningful passing scores for each content area to ensure teachers possess requisite content knowledge in each subject area.

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

- Figure 12 Distinctions in licenses between elementary and secondary teachers
- **Figure 13** Content test requirements
- **Figure 14** Instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards

Other special education teacher preparation figures available in the Yearbook National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Science of reading tests (p. 39)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.
 - While it may be unreasonable to expect multi-subject secondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements as single-subject teachers, Delaware's current policy requiring no subject-matter testing is problematic and will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards.
- Require all special education teacher candidates who teach the elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
 - Delaware should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that special education teacher candidates are adequately prepared in all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.
- Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.
 Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, Delaware should spe
 - teacher standards, Delaware should specifically address the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with the state's college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Examples of Best Practice

Unfortunately, NCTQ cannot award "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of special education. However, **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 licensed to teach. These 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 multi-subject 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.

In addition, California ensures that all special education teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and careerreadiness standards for students. All special education candidates must pass a comprehensive assessment that specifically tests the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. California's test frameworks go further than most states and ensure that special education teacher candidates have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates also must know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

*For more information about DELAWARE's special education teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that special education students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Delaware should also include specific requirements regarding literacy skills and using text as a means to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Prepare special education teachers to support struggling readers.

Delaware should articulate requirements ensuring that all special education teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling with reading. With reading difficulties generally representing the primary reason for special education placements, it is essential that all special education teachers have the knowledge and skills to diagnose and support students with literacy needs.

Figure 12

- Missouri offers a K-12 certification but candidates must pass either the Elementary Multi-Content Assessment or the new Middle/Secondary Content Assessment (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) or choose one of the specific content assessment for a specific area of certification.
- Although New Jersey does issue a K-12 certificate, candidates must meet discrete elementary and/or secondary requirements.
- 3. Candidates must meet requirements for both the K-8 and 7-12 special education licenses.

Figure 12	DOESNOT OFFER	Offes K-12 and	iation(s)
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Wyoming			
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Figure 13
Which states require subject-matter testing for special education teachers?

Elementary Subject-Matter Test			
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri¹, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania², Rhode Island, West Virginia³, Wisconsin		
Required for a K-12 special education license	Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, North Carolina ⁴		
Secondary	Subject-Matter Test(s)		
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	Missouri ¹ , New York ⁵ , Wisconsin ⁶		
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania², Rhode Island, West Virginia³		
Required for a K-12 special education license	None		

- 1. Missouri offers a K-12 certification but candidates must pass either the Elementary Multi-Content Assessment or the new Middle/Secondary Content Assessment (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) or choose one of the specific content assessment for a specific area of certification.
- In Pennsylvania, a candidate who opts for dual certification in elementary or secondary special education as a reading specialist does not have to take a content test.
- 3. 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.
- North Carolina gives teachers until their second year to earn a passing score, provided they attempt to pass during their first year.
- 5. New York requires a multi-subject content test specifically geared to secondary special education candidates. It is divided into three subtests.
- Wisconsin requires a middle school level content area test which does not report subscores for each area.

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Washington West Virginia			
West Virginia Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
assessing professional knowledge
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Assessing Professional Knowledge

Pedagogy Test Teachers are required to demonstrate professional knowledge of teaching and learning. Pully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013



Yes All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test.

 DELAWARE Pedagogy Characteristics

 Pedagogy Test
 Unspecified

 Type of Test
 Performance assessment

 Teachers Included
 All new teachers

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE POLICIES IN DELAWARE

 Ensure that performance assessments provide a meaningful measure of new teachers' knowledge and skills.

Since additional research is needed to determine how performance-based assessments compare to other teacher tests as well as whether the test's scores are predictive of student achievement, Delaware should carefully monitor and collect data about the validity of such measures.

Examples of Best Practice

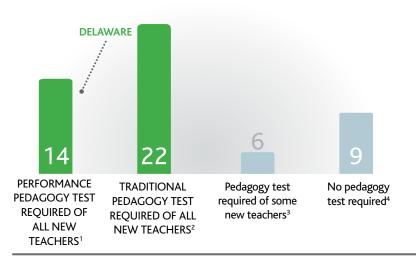
Although no state stands out for its pedagogy test policy, eight states are worthy of mention for the licensing test they require to verify that all new teachers meet state standards. Arizona, Florida, Indiana, Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma and Texas ensure that all new teachers take a pedagogy test that specifically is aligned with each state's own professional standards.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE FIGURES

Figure 15 Pedagogy tests

ror more information about DELAWARE's assessing professional knowledge policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 15 Do states measure new teachers' knowledge of teaching and learning?

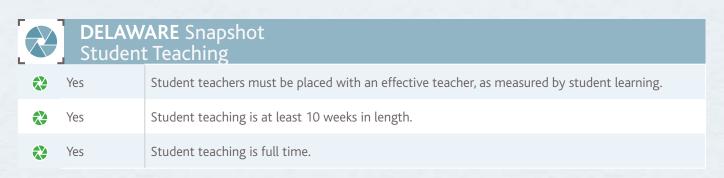


- 1. Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois⁵, Iowa⁶, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Tennessee⁶, Washington, Wisconsin
- 2. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina⁷, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia
- 3. Connecticut, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Utah⁸
- 4. Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming
- 5. All new teachers must also pass a traditional pedagogy test.
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{6}}.\ensuremath{\mathsf{Teachers}}$ have the option of the edTPA or a traditional Praxis pedagogy test.
- 7. North Carolina teachers have until their second year to pass if they attempt to pass during their first year.
- 8. Not required in Utah until a teacher advances from a Level One to a Level Two license.

Student Teaching

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states' student
teaching policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





DELAWARE Student Teaching Characteristics				
Duration of Student Teaching	A minimum of 10 weeks			
Selection of Cooperating Teachers Connected to Effectiveness	Must have received at least a satisfactory rating on each component of the Delaware Performance Appraisal System II			
Other Criteria for Selection of Cooperating Teachers	Must have completed training in mentoring			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES IN **DELAWARE**

Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting candidates from completing this requirement abroad.

Outsourcing 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.

Examples of Best Practice

Rhode Island and Tennessee not only require teacher candidates to complete at least 10 weeks of fulltime student teaching, but they also require that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning. Further, both of these states ensure that student teaching is completed locally, which better ensures teacher training on relevant state instructional frameworks and allows a higher degree of program oversight and feedback to the teacher candidate.

SUMMARY OF STUDENT TEACHING FIGURES

Figure 16 Student teaching requirements

Other student teaching figures available in the Yearbook National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Effectiveness as a factor in selection of cooperating teachers (p. 44)
- Student teaching duration (p. 45)

For more information about DELAWARE's student teaching policies, including detailed and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 16	TEACH.	STUDENT TEACHING
Do states ensure a	ASE C	\$\$\frac{75}{8}\\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
high-quality student	F 68	
teaching experience?		1975
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Tennessee		
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Virginia		
Washington		
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For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
leacher prep program accountability
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

↑ Progress increased since 2013

Teacher Prep Program Accountability

Program Accountability The approval process for teacher preparation programs holds programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce. Pully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet

Lost ground since 2013

	DELAW Teacher	ARE Snapshot Prep Program Accountability
*	Yes	Data are collected that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.
	Yes	Other objective data related to the performance of teacher preparation programs are collected.
	Yes	Minimum standards for program performance have been established.
	Yes	Report cards showing program performance are available to the public.
*	No	The state maintains full authority over program approval.

DELAWARE Teacher Prep Program Accountability Characteristics					
Use of Student Achievement Data	Program performance based in part on graduates' average DPAS-II teacher evaluation ratings, including the student growth component				
Other Data Collected	Number of program completers and noncompleters, placement in Delaware schools by subject area, grade level and LEA, pass rates on program performance assessments, measures of employer or supervisor satisfaction and five-year retention rates				
Performance Standards for Data Collected	Minimum standards have been established for data categories				
Program Report Cards	Annual, publicly accessible report cards				
Role of National Accreditation	National accreditation is required for program approval				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY POLICIES IN DELAWARE

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

Delaware 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.

SUMMARY OF TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY FIGURES

- Figure 17 Use of student achievement data
- Figure 18 Accountability requirements

Other teacher prep program accountability figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

National accreditation (p. 49)

For more information about DELAWARE's teacher prep program accountability policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

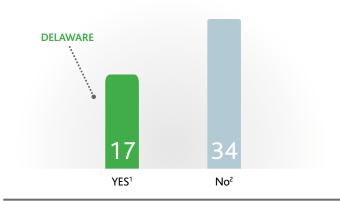
Examples of Best Practice

Delaware and **Florida** have made great strides in teacher preparation program accountability policies in the past few years and now stand out as leaders in this area. In Delaware and Florida, preparation programs report and are held accountable to a number of measures, including the effectiveness of program graduates as measured by student achievement, as well as placement and retention rates of program graduates.

Delaware has developed minimum standards of performance for each data category and has released the first of its program report cards, which make preparation program data accessible and transparent. In Florida, the state applies specific cut-scores in various data categories to decide on continued program approval. In addition, after two years of initial employment, any program completer in Florida who receives an unsatisfactory evaluation rating must be provided additional training by the preparation program at no additional cost to the teacher.

Figure 17

Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



Strong Practice: Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Figure 18	OBJECTIVE PROGRAM.	FOR PERFORMANCES	DATA PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON IN.
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New Jersey	1		1
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina	6		6
North Dakota			
Ohio	1		1
Oklahoma			
Oregon Pennsylvania	1		
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			3
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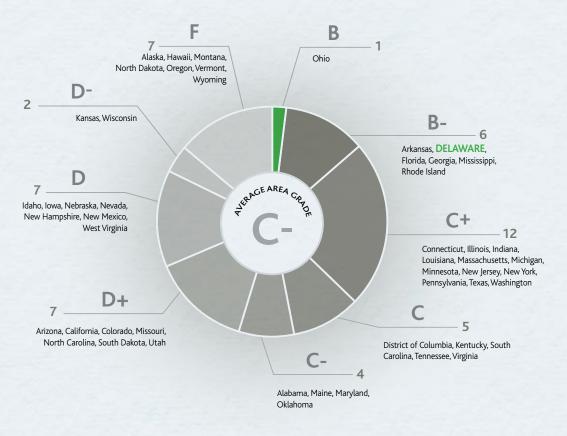
- $1. \ For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$
- 2. Report cards only include limited data.
- 3. Report cards are at the institution rather than the program level.
- ${\it 4.\ Non-university\ based\ alternate\ route\ programs\ are\ not\ included}.$
- $5. \ For \ alternate \ route \ programs \ only.$
- 6. University-based programs only; state does not distinguish between alternate route programs and traditional programs in public reporting.

Area 2 Summary



How States are Faring in Expanding the Pool of Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- Alternate Routes to Certification
- Part-Time Teaching Licenses

• Licensure Reciprocity

Alternate Routes to Certification

For more information about DELAWARE and other states' alternate routes to certification policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Eligibility Alternate route programs only admit candidates with strong academic records while also providing flexibility for nontraditional candidates. Preparation Alternate route programs provide efficient preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers, as well as adequate mentoring and support. Usage and Providers Alternate routes are free from limitations on usage, and a diversity of providers is allowed. Fully meets Nearly meets Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013

Somewhat A rigorous academic standard is required for program entry.	
Somewhat A subject-matter test is required for admission.	
No Subject-matter test can be used in lieu of a major to demons	strate content knowledge.
Yes A practice teaching opportunity is required prior to becoming	g teacher of record.
Yes Intensive mentoring is required to support new teachers.	
Yes Coursework requirements are streamlined.	
Yes Coursework requirements are limited to relevant topics.	
Somewhat Alternate routes are offered without limitation by grades, sub	bjects or geographic areas.
Yes Providers other than institutions of higher education are perr	mitted.

DELAWARE Alternate Routes to Certification Characteristics					
Name of Route(s)	Alternative Route for Licensure and Certification (ARTC); Delaware Transition to Teaching Partnership (DT3P); Masters Plus Certification Program (MPCP) in special education; Teach For America (TFA); Ninety-one Days in Lieu of Student Teaching; Relay Graduate School of Education's Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)				
Academic Requirements for Entry	ARTC, DT3P, Relay MAT: 3.0 GPA; MPCP, TFA and Ninety-one Days in Lieu of Student Teaching: no requirements				
Subject-Matter Requirements for Entry	ARTC: a major or 30 credits and pass a subject-matter exam; MPCP: subject-matter exam; DT3P: major or 30 credits, a grade of C or better in each course taken in science, engineering/technology, English or math, and a subject-matter exam; TFA & Ninety-one Days in Lieu of Student Teaching: no requirements; Relay MAT: 30 credits in subject area				
Coursework Requirements	ARTC: 120 hours of seminar/practicum that include professional development and introduction of basic teaching skills through a supervised teaching experience, as well as 200 hours of coursework in the areas of curriculum, student development and learning, and classroom management; TFA: five-week intensive training that includes leadership, instructional planning and delivery, classroom management, diversity, learning theory and literacy development; DT3P: three-week intensive training and four courses at the University of Delaware; Relay MAT: two-year master's program with coursework including learning skills in data-driven instruction, unit planning and incorporating literacy across content areas				
Practice Teaching/Mentoring Requirements	ARTC: intensive induction provided during the first 10 weeks of school and mentoring provided for at least 30 weeks up to two years; TFA: mentoring and practice teaching required during the summer training; DT3P: 40 hours of on-site coaching required during candidates' first year in program; MPCP: practice teaching required; Relay: practice teaching embedded into the program structure				
Usage	ARTC, DT3P and MPCP limit the grades and subjects offered				
Eligible Providers	Diverse providers allowed				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

■ Screen candidates for academic ability.

Delaware should require that candidates to all its alternate routes provide some evidence of good academic performance, such as the GRE or a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

For more information about DELAWARE's alternate routes to certification policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Require applicants to pass a subjectmatter test for admission.

Delaware should ensure all alternate route programs require candidates to pass a subject-matter test prior to program admission.

Offer flexibility in fulfilling coursework requirements.

Delaware should allow any candidate who already has the requisite knowledge and skills to demonstrate such by passing a rigorous test.

■ Broaden usage for all alternate routes.

Delaware should reconsider grade-level and subject-area restrictions on the ARTC, MPCP and DT3P, as a way to expand the teacher pipeline throughout the state.

SUMMARY OF ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION FIGURES

- Figure 19 Quality of alternate routes
- Figure 20 Alternate route requirements

Other alternate routes to certification figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Admission requirements (p. 54)
- Minimum GPA for admission (p. 55)
- Flexibility in demonstrating content knowledge (p. 56)
- Preparation requirements (p. 59)
- Diversity of usage and providers (p. 62)
- Providers of alternate route programs (p. 62)

Examples of Best Practice

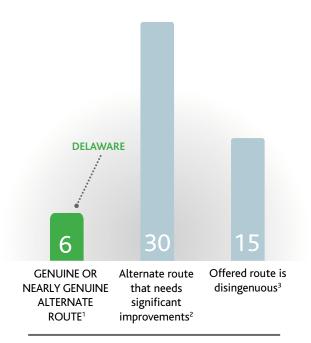
No state can be singled out for its overall alternate route policies. There are, however, states that offer best practices in individual alternate route policy areas.

With regard to admissions into alternate routes, the **District of Columbia** and **Michigan** have established a high bar. Both require candidates to demonstrate strong academic performance as a condition of admission with 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. Also worthy of note is new policy in **New York** that significantly raises the bar by requiring that all graduate-level teacher preparation programs adopt entrance standards that include a minimum score on the GRE or an equivalent admission exam and a cumulative minimum GPA of 3.0 in the candidate's undergraduate program.

Delaware has policies that help to ensure that alternate routes provide efficient preparation that meets the needs of new teachers. The state requires a manageable number of credit hours, relevant coursework, intensive mentoring and a practice teaching opportunity.

Most states offer alternate routes that are widely available across grades, subjects and geographic areas and permit alternate route providers beyond higher education institutions. NCTQ commends all states that permit both broad usage and a diversity of providers for their alternate routes.

Figure 19
Do states provide real alternative pathways to certification?



- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, New Jersey, Rhode Island
- Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia
- 3. Alaska⁴, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Alaska no longer offers an alternate route to certification.

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DELAWARE and other states' parttime teaching licenses policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Part-Time Teaching Licenses

Part-Time Teaching Licenses A license with minimal requirements is offered that allows content experts to teach part time. Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013 Description Does not meet



No

A part-time license with minimal requirements is available for those with subject-matter expertise.

DELAWARE Part-Time Teaching Licenses Characteristics					
Name of License	Not offered				
Subject-Matter Requirements	Not applicable				
Other Requirements	Not applicable				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES POLICIES IN DELAWARE

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

Delaware should 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.

Examples 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 subjectmatter test and are assigned a mentor.

SUMMARY OF PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES FIGURES

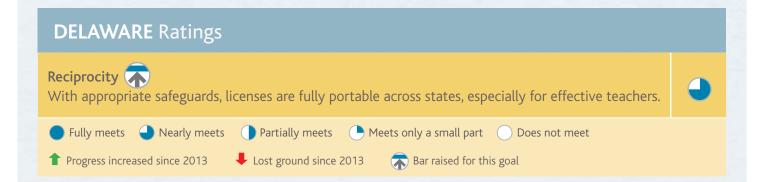
Figure 21 Part-time licenses

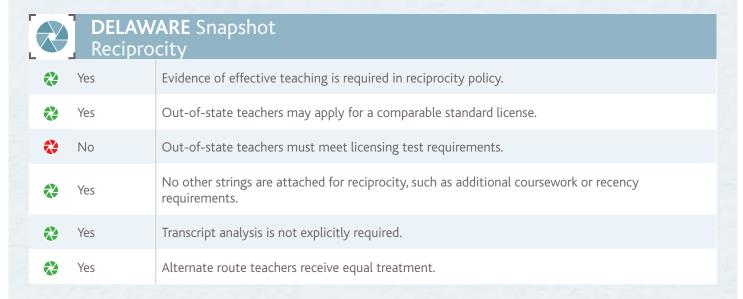
: For more information about DELAWARE's part-time teaching licenses policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Do states offered!		Restricted or Van.	sue
Do states offer a license with minimal requirements		/ 6	Per
that allows content experts		Paj	<i>"</i> /
to teach part time?	6	stri nse	
to teach part time:	YES	/ &	/ :
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Licensure Reciprocity

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
reciprocity policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





DELAWARE Reciprocity Characteristics					
License Available to Fully Certified Out-of-State Teachers	Continuing				
Effectiveness Requirements	Must have at least three years of "successful" experience; may demonstrate successful experience by submitting two satisfactory evaluations equivalent to Delaware's summative evaluations.				
Testing Requirements	A waiver is available with a passing score in a previous state.				
Coursework and/or Recency Requirements	None				
Additional Alternate Route Requirements	None				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RECIPROCITY POLICIES IN DELAWARE

 Require evidence of effective teaching when determining eligibility for full certification.

Delaware is commended for articulating that successful teaching experience may be demonstrated by two satisfactory evaluations if comparable to its own evaluation system, which requires measures of student growth to be the preponderant criterion. The state should strengthen this policy and require that evidence of teacher effectiveness be considered for all candidates who come from states that similarly make student growth the most significant factor of a teacher evaluation.

SUMMARY OF RECIPROCITY FIGURES

Figure 22 Requirements for licensing teachers from other states

Other reciprocity figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Licensure tests (p. 70)
- Evidence of effectiveness (p. 71)
- Traditional versus alternate route requirements (p. 72)

For more information about DELAWARE's
reciprocity policies, including detailed
recommendations, full narrative analysis
and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

To uphold standards, require that out-of-state teachers without proof of effectiveness meet testing requirements.

Although it is reasonable to allow outof-state teachers with proven records of effectiveness to earn Delaware certification without meeting the state's testing requirements, Delaware should strengthen its policy and insist that those without proof of effectiveness meet its requirements.

Examples of Best Practice

Although no state stands out for its overall reciprocity policies, two states are worthy of mention for their connection of reciprocal licensure to evidence of teacher effectiveness. When determining eligibility for full certification, both **Delaware** and **Idaho** consider teacher evaluations from previous employment that include objective measures of student growth. NCTQ also commends **Indiana**, **Massachusetts**, **Mississippi**, **North Carolina**, **Ohio**, **Pennsylvania**, **Rhode Island** and **Texas** for appropriately supporting licensure reciprocity by requiring that certified teachers from other states meet their own testing requirements, and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate route teachers.

Figure 22		PASSAGE OF LICE	NO OTHER OBSTACES
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Obstacles include transcript analysis, recency and/or coursework requirements, and additional requirements for teachers certified through alternate routes.

^{2.} Alaska allows up to three years to meet testing requirements.

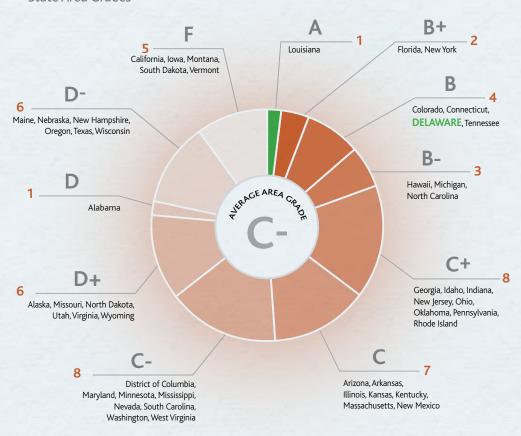
^{3.} Allows up to three years to submit passing scores.

Area 3 Summary



How States are Faring in Identifying Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

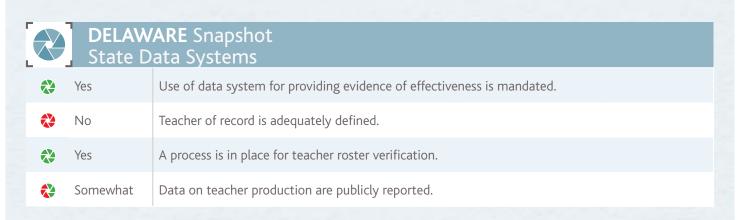
- State Data Systems
- Teacher Evaluation
- Tenure

- · Licensure Advancement
- · Equitable Distribution of Teachers

State Data Systems

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states' data
systems policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings State Data Systems The state's data system contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness. ■ Fully meets ■ Nearly meets ■ Partially meets ■ Meets only a small part ■ Does not meet ■ Progress increased since 2013 ■ Lost ground since 2013 ■ Bar raised for this goal



DELAWARE State Data System Characteristics				
Teacher Student Data Link	Capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time			
Teacher of Record Definition	Not adequately connected to providers of instruction.			
Other Characteristics	Roster verification; Ability to connect multiple teachers to a single student			
Teacher Production Data/ Hiring Statistics	Publishes an annual report that includes some information on teacher production, but no connection is made between these data and district-level hiring statistics.			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STATE DATA SYSTEM POLICIES IN DELAWARE

- Develop a definition of "teacher of record" that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.
 Delaware should articulate a definition of teacher of record that reflects instruction.
- Publish data on teacher production.

 Delaware should look to Maryland's "Teacher Staffing Report" as a model whose primary purpose is to determine teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus.

Examples of Best Practice

Hawaii and West Virginia are leaders in using their state data systems to support the identification and supply of effective teachers. Both states have all three elements needed to assess teacher effectiveness, and both states have also 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 West Virginia publish teacher production data. Maryland remains worthy of mention 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.

SUMMARY OF STATE DATA SYSTEMS FIGURES

■ Figure 23 Using data system elements to assess teacher effectiveness

Other state data systems figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Teacher production data (p. 77)

For more information about DELAWARE's state data system policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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^{1.} Lacks capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time.

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states' teacher
evaluation policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Teacher Evaluation



	DELAW Teacher	ARE Snapshot Evaluation
*	Yes	Objective student data is the preponderant or a significant criterion of teacher evaluations.
*	Yes	All teachers are evaluated annually.
	Somewhat	Multiple observations are required for all teachers.
*	Yes	More than two rating categories are used.
*	Yes	New teachers receive feedback early in the school year.
*	No	Surveys (student, parent, peer) are explicitly required or allowed.

DELAWARE Teach	ner Evaluation Characteristics
Use of Student Achievement Data in Evaluation	Preponderant criterion. Cannot be rated effective unless growth targets are met.
Types of Required Student Data	For tested grades and subjects, scores on state assessments and other measures of student learning, provided they are rigorous and comparable across classrooms. For nontested grades and subjects, alternative measures of student learning and performance are used, such as student scores on pretests and end-of-course tests, student performance on English language proficiency assessments, and other measures of student achievement that are rigorous and comparable across classrooms.
Other Required Measures	Observations
Number of Rating Categories	4
Frequency of Evaluations	Annual for all teachers
Number of Observations	Teachers with highly effective rating: 1 per year; All other nonprobationary teachers: 2 per year; New teachers: 3 per year; first must occur prior to October 31
System Structure	Single statewide system
Surveys (Parent, Student, Peer)	Not mentioned
Evaluator Requirements	Training; certification

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER EVALUATION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

 Ensure that teachers meet student growth requirements to be rated effective.

Delaware now allows a discretionary measure that allows evaluators to rate teachers "effective" who have earned "highly effective" ratings in at least two of the four appraisal components with no "ineffective" ratings, and an "unsatisfactory" rating in the student improvement component. The state is encouraged to rethink its decision and only allow teachers with at least a satisfactory rating in the student improvement component to be rated effective overall.

 Base evaluations on multiple observations.

While it may be practical to reduce the number of observations for the highest-performing teachers, Delaware should require teachers with just an effective rating to have multiple observations. These teachers may otherwise be denied sufficient feedback that can help them grow and excel.

SUMMARY OF TEACHER EVALUATION FIGURES

- Figure 24 Use of student learning data
- **Figure 25** Frequency of evaluations

Other teacher evaluation figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Use of surveys (p. 81)
- Rating categories (p. 81)
- State role in evaluations (p. 82)
- Evaluator requirements (p. 83)
- Annual evaluations (p. 85)
- Classroom observation requirements (p. 87)
- Observation frequency (p. 87)
- Timing of observations for new teachers (p. 88)

Examples of Best Practice

Tennessee requires that objective measures of student growth be the preponderant criterion of all evaluations. All teachers in the state must be evaluated annually, and multiple observations are required, with a postobservation conference scheduled after each to discuss performance. The state's observation schedule ensures that new teachers receive feedback early in the year. Tennessee also requires the use of five performance rating categories.

Idaho, New Jersey and Washington also require annual evaluations and multiple observations for all teachers, and they ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback during the first half of the school year.

For more information about DELAWARE's teacher evaluation policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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^{60 :} NCTO STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2015 | TEACHER EVALUATION | DELAWAR

 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.

In 2014-15, student achievement was 10% of the total evaluation rating; for 2015-16, it is 20%. This appears connected to test transition rather than permanent lowering of student growth percentage.

3. Explicitly defined for 2014-15 school year.

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Tenure

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states' tenure
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





DELAWARE Tenure Characteristics			
Consideration of Teacher Effectiveness	Must show 2 years of satisfactory student growth evidenced by satisfactory ratings in the student improvement component of the teacher appraisal process within a 3-year period.		
Length of Probationary Period	3 years		

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TENURE POLICIES IN DELAWARE

Ensure that the probationary period is adequate.

Delaware should consider extending the time before teachers can earn tenure and requiring that probationary teachers earn at least three consecutive effective ratings prior to the award of tenure.

Examples of Best Practice

Colorado, Connecticut and New York 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. Colorado requires ratings of either effective or highly effective for three consecutive years to earn tenure status, which can then be lost with two consecutive years of less-than-effective ratings. New York has extended its probationary period to four years and requires teachers to be rated effective or highly effective for three of those years. All three states require that student growth be the preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations.

SUMMARY OF TENURE FIGURES

- Figure 26 Tenure and teacher effectiveness
- Figure 27 Length of probationary period

For more information about DELAWARE's tenure policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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- Florida only awards annual contracts; decisions are connected to effectiveness.
- 2. Kansas only awards annual contracts; decisions are not connected to effectiveness.
- 3. North Carolina generally awards only one-year contracts, except that teachers can be awarded a two- or four-year contract if they have "shown effectiveness as demonstrated by proficiency on the evaluation instrument." However, no student growth measures required.
- 4. No state-level policy.
- Oklahoma has created a loophole by essentially waiving student learning requirements and allowing the principal of a school to petition for career-teacher status.

Figure 27 How long before a teacher earns tenure? 3 Years 1 Year Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas П П California Colorado Connecticut **DELAWARE** District of Columbia Florida 1 Georgia П П П П Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana П П П Iowa Kansas 3 Kentucky Louisiana Maine П Maryland Massachusetts П П П П П П Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri П Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey П New Mexico **New York** П П П П П 4 North Carolina North Dakota Ohio 5 Oklahoma **1**6 П П П Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas П П П П Utah Vermont Virginia Washington П 8 West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 2 1 3 31 5 6 3

- 1. Florida only awards annual contracts.
- 2. Idaho limits teacher contract terms to one year.
- 3. Kansas has eliminated due process rights associated with tenure.
- 4. North Carolina teachers can be awarded a two- or four-year contract if they have "shown effectiveness as demonstrated by proficiency on the evaluation instrument." However, no student growth measures required.
- 5. In Ohio, teachers must hold an educator license for at least 7 years, and have taught in the district at least 3 of the last 5 years.
- Oklahoma 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.
- 7. In Virginia, local school boards may extend up to five years.
- In Washington, 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.

Licensure Advancement

For more information about

DELAWARE and other states' licensure
advancement policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings Licensure Advancement Licensure advancement is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness. ● Fully meets ● Nearly meets ● Partially meets ● Meets only a small part ● Does not meet ● Progress increased since 2013 ● Lost ground since 2013

	DELAWARE Snapshot Licensure Advancement				
(2)	Yes	Advancement from a probationary to a professional license is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.			
₹>	No	Renewal of a professional license is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.			
*	No	Other advancement/renewal requirements have a direct connection to classroom effectiveness.			
4 2	Yes	An advanced degree is not a requirement for license advancement.			

DELAWARE Licensure Advancement Characteristics				
Performance Requirements to Advance from a Probationary to Professional License	Must demonstrate satisfactory annual summative evaluations for the period of initial licensure; must not receive more than one unsatisfactory annual evaluation.			
Other Requirements for Advancement	Continuing: Mentoring program. Advanced (optional): National Board certification			
Initital Certification Period	3 years			
Performance Requirements to Renew a Professional License	None			
Other Requirements for Renewal	Must complete 90 clock hours of professional development or 6 semester hours of graduate school credit.			
Renewal Period	5 years			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT POLICIES IN DELAWARE

 Require evidence of effectiveness for licensure decisions.

Although Delaware connects its evaluation system to licensure advancement, the state should consider whether its current policy, which allows advancement even if a teacher has a single ineffective rating, is appropriate and sufficient. Delaware should also factor evaluation evidence into decisions about renewal.

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

While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Delaware's general, nonspecific coursework requirements for license advancement and renewal do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.

Examples of Best Practice

Both **Rhode Island** and **Louisiana** are integrating certification, certification renewal and educator evaluations. In Rhode Island, 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 are eligible for a special license designation. Louisiana requires its teachers to meet the standard for effectiveness for three years during their initial certification or renewal period to be issued a certificate or have their certificate renewed.

SUMMARY OF LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT FIGURES

- Figure 28 Evidence of effectiveness for license advancement
- Figure 29 Advanced degree requirements

Other licensure advancement figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Coursework requirements (p. 96)
- Lifetime licenses (p. 96)

For more information about DELAWARE's licensure advancement policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 28	OBJECTIVE EVIDENCE	Some objective evid	Consideration given to	dassroom effectivenes Performance not consist.
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Georgia does not require evidence of effectiveness for each year of renewal period.

^{2.} Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.

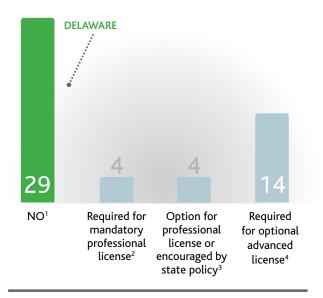
^{3.} Uses objective evidence for advancement, not renewal.

 $^{{\}bf 4.}\,{\bf An}\,\,{\bf optional}\,\,{\bf license}\,\,{\bf requires}\,\,{\bf evidence}\,\,{\bf of}\,\,{\bf effectiveness}.$

^{5.} Teachers have the option of using evaluation ratings as a factor in license advancement or renewal.

Figure 29

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



Strong Practice: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, 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, New York
- 3. Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Oregon
- 4. Alabama, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia

Equitable Distribution of Teachers

For more information about **DELAWARE** and other states' equitable distribution of teachers policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings

Equitable Distribution

Districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools is publicly reported to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged students.



Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet





♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



DELAWARE Snapshot Equitable Distribution of Teachers

*	No	School districts must publicly report aggregate school-level data about teacher performance.
**	No	A school-level teacher-quality index is used to demonstrate the academic backgrounds of a school's teachers and the ratio of new to veteran teachers.
*	No	School-level data on teacher absenteeism or turnover rates are reported.
*	Yes	School-level data on percentage of highly qualified teachers are reported.
*	No	School-level data on percentage of teachers with emergency credentials are reported.

DELAWARE Equitable Distribution of Teachers Characteristics

Public Reporting of Teacher Effectiveness Data	Not reported
Other Public Reporting Related to Teacher Distribution	Reports school-level data on the percentage of highly qualified teachers and years of teaching experience of the staff. Compares the percentage of highly qualified teachers at high- and low-poverty schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS POLICIES IN DELAWARE

 Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

Delaware should make aggregate school-level data about teacher performance—from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness—publicly available.

 Publish other data that facilitate comparisons across schools.

Delaware should collect and report other school-level data that reflect the stability of a school's faculty, including the rates of teacher absenteeism and turnover.

Provide comparative data based on school demographics.

Delaware should provide comparative data for schools with similar poverty and minority populations, as this would yield a more comprehensive picture of gaps in the equitable distribution of teachers.

Ensure that ideas outlined in the Equity Plan evolve into state policy.

Delaware's 2015 Equity Plan outlines the state's intention to further report on the equitable distribution of its teachers throughout the state. However, because adherence is voluntary, Delaware is strongly encouraged to follow through with its public reporting plan.

Examples of Best Practice

Although not awarding "best practice" honors for this topic, NCTQ commends the 13 states that give the public access to teacher performance data aggregated to the school level. This transparency can help shine a light on how equitably teachers are distributed across and within school districts and help to ensure that all students have access to effective teachers.

SUMMARY OF EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS FIGURES

Figure 30 Reporting of teacher effectiveness data

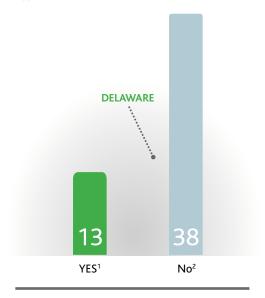
Other equitable distribution of teachers figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Data reporting requirements (p. 99)

For more information about DELAWARE's equitable distribution of teachers policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 30

Do states require public reporting of school-level data about teacher effectiveness?



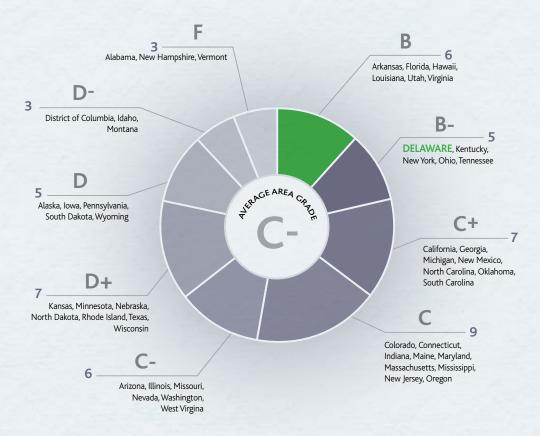
- Strong Practice: Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island³, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah³, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Reports data about teacher effectiveness at the district level.

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

New Teacher Induction

Compensation

Professional Development

New Teacher Induction

For more information about **DELAWARE** and other states' : new teacher induction policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings

Induction

Effective induction is available for all new teachers, with special emphasis on teachers in high-need schools.









Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet



↑ Progress increased since 2013





DELAWARE Snapshot New Teacher Induction

*	Yes	All new teachers receive mentoring.
	Somewhat	Mentoring is of sufficient frequency and duration.
(2)	No	Mentors are carefully selected.
**	No	Induction programs are evaluated.
(2)	Yes	Induction programs include a variety of effective strategies.

DELAWARE New Teacher Induction Characteristics

Induction Program	New Educator Mentoring Program
Requirements for Mentor/ New Teacher Contact	New teachers and mentors must meet for at least 30 documented hours during the first year of employment.
Selection Criteria for Mentors	Not specified
Other Mentor Requirements	Mentors complete training and coaching development classes.
Required Induction Strategies Other than Mentoring	Workshops and other activities

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE NEW TEACHER INDUCTION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

Expand guidelines to include other key areas.

Delaware should articulate minimum guidelines for a high-quality induction experience. The state should set a timeline in which mentors are assigned to new teachers, ideally soon after the commencing of teaching, to offer support during those critical first weeks of school. Of particular importance is that mentors themselves are effective teachers. Teachers without evidence of effectiveness should not be able to serve as mentors.

Ensure that mentoring is of sufficient duration and frequency.

Delaware requires just 30 contact hours between new teachers and their mentors over the course of the school year. The state should consider whether the time requirement ensures that new teachers receive adequate support, especially in the first critical weeks of school.

Examples 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.

Arkansas, Illinois, Maryland and New Jersey are also worthy of mention for their requirements related to mentor selection. Arkansas, Illinois and New Jersey require that all mentors must be rated in one of the top two rating categories on their most recent evaluation. Maryland also requires mentors, who are either current or retired teachers, to have obtained effective evaluation ratings.

SUMMARY OF NEW TEACHER INDUCTION FIGURES

Figure 31 Quality of induction policies

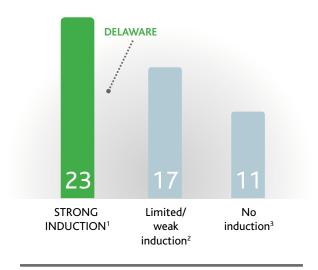
Other new teacher induction figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Elements of induction (p. 104)

For more information about DELAWARE's
new teacher induction policies, including
detailed recommendations, full narrative
analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 31

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



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

For more information about **DELAWARE** and other states' professional development policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Professional Development

DELAWARE Ratings

Professional Development

Teachers receive feedback about their performance, and professional development is based on needs identified through teacher evaluations.





Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet



♠ Progress increased since 2013





DELAWARE Snapshot Professional Development

*	Yes	Teachers must receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations.
*	Yes	Professional development must be aligned with evaluation results.
*	Yes	Teachers with unsatisfactory/ineffective ratings are placed on improvement plans.

DELAWARE Professional Development Characteristics

Connection Between Evaluation and Professional Development	Findings shared during the summative evaluation conference are used to inform future professional development.
Evaluation Feedback	End-of-year conference
Improvement Plan	Required for teachers rated ineffective or needs improvement on the summative evaluation, or for teachers earning a rating of unsatisfactory on any appraisal component regardless of the overall rating.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN DELAWARE

As a result of Delaware's strong professional development policies, no recommendations are provided.

Examples of Best Practice

Louisiana and Massachusetts 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 be 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.

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FIGURES

Figure 32 Connecting teacher evaluation to continuous improvement

Other professional development figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Evaluation feedback (p. 109)
- Evaluations and professional development (p. 109)

professional development policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 32 Do states ensure that evaluations are used to help teachers improve? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut DELAWARE District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Ilowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Miniesotri Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Newada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Texas Tennessee Texas Texas Tennessee Texas Tennessee Texas Texas Tennessee Texas Texas Tennessee Texas Tex	Figure 32		DRMS	ALL HERS
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Does not require improvement plans for all less-than-effective teachers; just those in the lowest rating category.

^{2.} South Dakota requires improvement plans only for teachers rated unsatisfactory who have been teaching for four years or more.

Compensation

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
compensation policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings	
Pay Scales and Performance Pay While local districts are given the authority over pay scales, performance pay is supported, but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.	•
Differential Pay Differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas is supported.	•
Compensation for Prior Work Experience Districts are encouraged to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.	•
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet	
↑ Progress increased since 2013 ↓ Lost ground since 2013 ♠ Bar Raised for this Goal	

	DELAW Compe	ARE Snapshot nsation
*	No	Districts have flexibility to determine pay structure and scales.
₹	Yes	Effective teachers can receive performance pay.
<	No	Districts are discouraged from tying compensation to advanced degrees.
*	No	Teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching shortage subjects.
<	Yes	Teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching in high-need schools.
	Somewhat	Districts are encouraged to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.

DELAWARE Comp	pensation Characteristics
Authority for Salary Schedule	State provides a minimum salary schedule
Performance Pay Initiatives	One stipend is for "gaining skills and knowledge that lead to more effective instruction," and must be between 2 percent and 6 percent of the teacher's base salary. The other is "for accepting additional responsibility assignments that impact student achievement," and must be between \$750 and \$1,500. Also, highly effective teachers at high-need schools can receive up to an additional \$20,000 over two years, provided by the Delaware Talent Cooperative.
Role of Experience and Advanced Degrees in Salary Schedule	The minimum salary schedule is based on teachers' years of experience and earned advanced degrees.
Differential Pay for Shortage Subjects	None
Differential Pay for High-Need Schools	Up to an additional \$20,000 over two years for highly effective teachers at high-need schools, provided by the Delaware Talent Cooperative
Pay for Prior Work Experience	Awards credit for subject-related professional experience to teachers of trade and industry; year-to-year basis

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION POLICIES IN DELAWARE

- Give districts flexibility to determine their own pay structure and scales.
 Delaware may find it appropriate to articulate the starting salary that a teacher should be paid, but it should not require districts to adhere to a state-dictated salary schedule.
- Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees and/or experience.

While still leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scales, Delaware should articulate policies that definitively discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees as well as determining the highest steps on the pay scale solely by seniority.

SUMMARY OF COMPENSATION FIGURES

- Figure 33 Compensation for performance
- Figure 34 Compensation for advanced degrees
- Figure 35 Differential pay

Other compensation figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- State role in teacher pay (p. 112)
- State support for performance pay (p. 114)
- Differential pay for shortage subjects or high-need schools (p. 119)
- Compensation for prior work experience (p. 121)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

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

 Consider tying National Board supplements to teaching in high-need schools.

Delaware teachers who are National Board Certified are eligible to receive an annual 12 percent increase in base pay. This differential pay could be an incentive to attract some of the most effective teachers to low-performing schools.

 Expand policy to encourage local districts to compensate all new teachers with relevant prior work experience.

Delaware should not limit this policy to teachers of trade and industry. Such compensation would be attractive to career changers in other fields, such as in the STEM subjects.

Examples of Best Practice

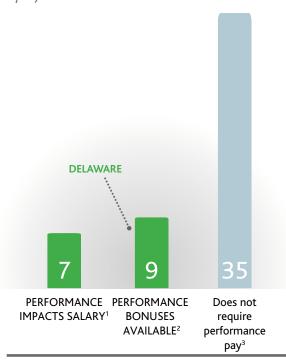
Florida allows local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from prioritizing elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. Local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest salary adjustment available. Florida also supports differential pay by providing salary supplements for teachers in both high-need schools and shortage subject areas.

In addition, Indiana and Utah both articulate compensation policies that reward effective teachers by requiring performance to be the most important factor in deciding a teacher's salary. Louisiana supports differential pay by offering up to \$3,000 per year, for four years, to teach math, biology, chemistry, physics and special education, and up to an additional \$6,000 per year, up to four years, to teach in low-performing schools. 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.

For more information about DELAWARE's compensation policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 33

Do states ensure pay is structured to account for performance?



- Strong Practice: Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Nevada, Utah
- 2. Strong Practice: Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee⁴
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona⁵, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho⁶, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky⁷, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri⁶, Montana, Nebraska⁷, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon⁷, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia⁷, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. A performance component is not required. Districts must differentiate teacher compensation based on at least one of the following criteria: additional roles or responsibilities, hard-to-staff schools or subject areas, and performance based on teacher evaluations.
- Arizona allocates funds for teacher compensation increases based on performance and employment related expenses; there is no clear requirement for compensation connected to evidence of effectiveness.
- 6. Idaho does offer a master teacher premium, but it is dependent on years
- 7. Performance bonuses are available, but not specifically tied to teacher offsetiveness
- 8. Performance bonuses are available for teachers in schools deemed "academically deficient."

Figure 34

- Louisiana allows districts to set salary schedules based on three criteria: effectiveness, experience and demand. Advanced degrees may be included only as part of demand.
- 2. Only discouraged for those districts implementing $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Q}}$ Comp.
- 3. For advanced degrees earned after April 2014.
- 4. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training".
- Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.

Figure 34		PROHIBITS ADDITION	, ¥ /	Requires compensation for
Do states prevent districts	28.7		<u> </u>	itio)
from basing teacher pay on	, RF			e Sens
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advanced degrees?	\$5	Z [8] Z	S \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	. \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
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Do states provide incentives to teach in high-need schools or shortage subject areas? Alabama	Figure 35		HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	/
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Indiana	Idaho					
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^{1.} Iowa provides state assistance to supplement salaries of teachers in high-need schools.

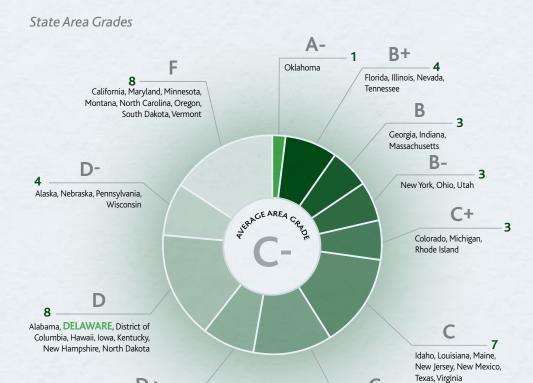
Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in shortage subject areas.

^{3.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in highneed schools.

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers



Topics Included In This Area

Arizona, Mississippi, South Carolina,

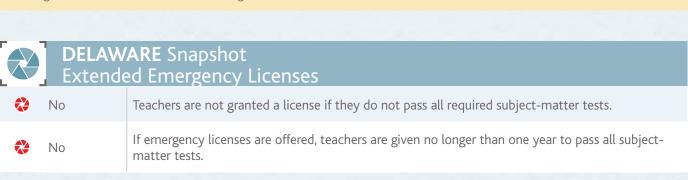
- Extended Emergency Licenses
- Dismissal for Poor Performance
- · Reductions in Force

Arkansas, Connecticut, Kansas, Missouri, Washington, West Virginia

Extended Emergency Licenses

For more information about
DELAWARE and other states'
Extended emergency license policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings Emergency Licenses Teachers who have not met licensure requirements may not continue teaching. ● Fully meets ● Nearly meets ● Partially meets ● Meets only a small part ● Does not meet ● Progress increased since 2013 ● Lost ground since 2013



DELAWARE Exter	DELAWARE Extended Emergency License Characteristics					
Emergency License Emergency certificate						
Minimum Requirements	Emergency certificate requires all certification requirements except licensing tests					
Duration	Up to 3 years					
Renewal Requirements Satisfactory evaluation on the Delaware Performance Appraisal System and documentary of the emergency-certificate holder's progress toward meeting certification requirements						

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSE POLICIES IN DELAWARE

■ Ensure that all teachers pass required subject-matter licensing tests before they enter the classroom.

All students are entitled to teachers who know the subject matter they are teaching. Permitting individuals who have not yet passed state licensing tests to teach neglects the needs of students, instead extending personal consideration to adults who may not be able to meet minimal state standards.

Limit exceptions to one year.

There might be limited and exceptional circumstances under which conditional or emergency licenses need to be granted. Delaware's current policy puts students at risk by allowing teachers to teach on emergency certificates for three years without passing required subject-matter tests.

Examples of Best Practice

Mississippi, **New Jersey** and **Rhode Island** require all new teachers to pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.

SUMMARY OF EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSES FIGURES

Figure 36 Time to pass licensure tests

Other extended emergency licenses figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Emergency licenses (p. 127)

For more information about DELAWARE's extended emergency licenses policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

igure 36		/	/	/
How long can new teachers				
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^{1.} Teachers can have up to two additional years to pass licensing tests in the event of "extraordinary extenuating circumstances."

^{2.} Out-of-state teachers can teach on a non-renewable license until all requirements are met.

^{3.} Tennessee does not offer emergency licenses but candidates for initial practitioner license have three years to pass licensure tests.

^{4.} Permits can be extended without passing licensing tests if districts receive hardship approval.

For more information about **DELAWARE** and other states' 🖫 dismissal policies, including full arrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Dismissal for Poor Performance

DELAWARE Ratings

Dismissal

Ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.



- Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet

- ↑ Progress increased since 2013
- Lost ground since 2013



DELAWARE Snapshot Dismissal

4	Yes	Teacher ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.
•	No	Terminated teachers have one opportunity to appeal.
4	No	Appeals process occurs within a reasonable timeframe.
4	No	The due process rights of teachers dismissed for ineffective performance are different from those facing license revocation.

DELAWARE Dism	DELAWARE Dismissal Characteristics				
Dismissal for Ineffectiveness	May be dismissed for incompetency, which the state defines as "a pattern of ineffective teaching"				
Due Process Rights of Teachers	Same regardless of the grounds for cancellation, which include "immorality, misconduct in office, incompetency, disloyalty, neglect of duty, willful and persistent insubordination, a reduction in the number of teachers required as a result of decreased enrollment, or a decrease in education services."				
Length of Appeals Process	Multiple opportunities to appeal: After notice, the teacher has 10 days to file the first appeal, which is scheduled up to 21 days after receipt of the request. The teacher may then file an additional appeal with the superior court. Time frame of this appeal is not specified.				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE DISMISSAL POLICIES IN DELAWARE

Ensure that teachers terminated for poor performance have the opportunity to appeal within a reasonable time frame.

Delaware should ensure that the opportunity to appeal occurs only once and only at the district level so that a conclusion is reached within a reasonable time frame.

 Distinguish the process and accompanying due process rights between dismissal for classroom ineffectiveness and dismissal for morality violations, felonies or dereliction of duty.

While nonprobationary teachers should have due process for any termination, Delaware should differentiate between loss of employment and issues with far-reaching consequences that could permanently affect a teacher's right to practice. Appeals related to effectiveness should only be decided by those with educational expertise.

Examples of Best Practice

New York now allows charges of incompetence against any teacher who receives two consecutive ineffective ratings; charges must be brought against any teacher who receives three consecutive ineffective ratings. Due process rights for teachers dismissed for ineffective performance are distinguishable from those facing other charges, and an expedited hearing is required. For teachers who have received three consecutive ineffective ratings, that timeline must not be longer than 30 days.

SUMMARY OF DISMISSAL FIGURES

Figure 37 Dismissal due to ineffectiveness

Other dismissal figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Dismissal appeals (p. 130)

dismissal policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 37		. /
Do states articulate that	Ŧ	8 <u>5</u>
ineffectiveness is grounds	24	~ / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /
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	28	23

Kansas has repealed the law that gave tenured teachers who faced dismissal the right to an independent review of their cases.

In Nevada, a teacher reverts to probationary status after two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations, but the state does not articulate that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

Reductions in Force

For more information about **DELAWARE** and other states' reductions in force policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

DELAWARE Ratings

Reductions in Force

Districts must consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off when a reduction in force is necessary.



Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet

♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



DELAWARE Snapshot Reductions in Force



No

Districts must consider classroom performance when determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force.



No

Seniority cannot be the only/primary factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

DELAWARE Reductions in Force Characteristics Use of Teacher Performance Consideration of performance not required Use of Seniority Determined by districts Other Factors Determined by districts

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE REDUCTIONS IN FORCE POLICIES IN DELAWARE

 Require that districts consider performance in determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force.

Delaware can still leave districts flexibility in determining layoff policies, but it should do so within a framework that ensures that classroom performance is considered.

 Ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

Unlike some states, Delaware does not require that districts consider seniority; however, the state should do more to prevent districts from making decisions solely on this basis

Examples of Best Practice

Colorado and **Florida** 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.

SUMMARY OF REDUCTIONS IN FORCE FIGURES

■ Figure 38 Layoff criteria

Other reductions in force figures available in the Yearbook National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Performance in layoffs (p. 132)
- Emphasis on seniority in layoffs (p. 133)

reductions in force policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 38	55	SEMORITY CANNOT BE
Do states prevent districts	JW Q	/ <u>*</u>
from basing layoffs solely	ZAVC ERE	7 2 2
on "last in, first out"?	NS/L	NET Y
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NCTQ is available to work with individual states to improve teacher policies.

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