

# 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.

#### **FUNDERS**

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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.

# Kansas at a Glance



# Overall 2015 Yearbook Grade

2013

2011

2009







# 2015 Kansas Area Goal Scores

AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers	D+
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	0
Assessing Professional Knowledge	
Student Teaching	•
Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	•
AREA 2: Expanding the Teacher Pool	D-
Alternate Route Eligibility	
Alternate Route Preparation	•
Alternate Route Usage and Providers	
Part-Time Teaching Licenses	•
Licensure Reciprocity	

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers	С
State Data Systems	•
Evaluation of Effectiveness	
Frequency of Evaluations	
Tenure	<b>1</b>
Licensure Advancement	
Equitable Distribution	•
AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	D+
Induction	• •
Professional Development	•
Pay Scales and Performance Pay	
Differential Pay	
Compensation for Prior Work Experience	
AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers	C-
Extended Emergency Licenses	•
Dismissal for Poor Performance	
Reductions in Force	

# **Goal Summary**







Meets Only a Small Part: 8

Does Not Meet: 12

# Progress on Goals Since 2013



Progress Increased: 2



Progress Decreased: 0

# Teacher Policy Priorities for Kansas

# **AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers**

### Admission into Teacher Preparation

■ Limit admission to teacher preparation programs to candidates in the top half of the college-going population. Academic ability can be measured by a test normed to the general college-bound population or a minimum GPA requirement.

### **Elementary Teacher Preparation**

- As a condition of initial licensure, require that all elementary candidates pass a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects and require a meaningful passing score for each area.
- 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.

## Middle School Teacher Preparation

Ensure that 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 social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.
- Ensure 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 career-readiness 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 careerreadiness standards.

## Student Teaching

■ Ensure that student teachers are only placed with cooperating teachers who have demonstrated effectiveness as measured by student learning.

### Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

■ Hold teacher preparation programs accountable by collecting data that connect student achievement gains to programs, as well as other meaningful data that reflect program performance, and by establishing the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.

# AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

## Alternate Routes to Certification

- Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs by setting a high bar for academic proficiency.
- Establish guidelines for alternate route programs that require preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. Ensure programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.
- Broaden alternate route usage, and allow a diversity of providers for alternate route programs.

#### License Reciprocity

 Grant certification to teachers from other states who can demonstrate evidence of effectiveness and/or meet licensure test requirements.

# AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

## State Data Systems

■ Publish data on teacher production.

#### Teacher Evaluation

Require annual evaluations for all teachers.

#### Tenure

■ Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.

#### Licensure Advancement

Base licensure advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license and 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**

### Professional Development

■ Link professional development activities to findings in individual teacher evaluations, and place teachers with less than effective ratings on structured improvement plans.

### Compensation

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

# **AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers**

#### Dismissal for Poor Performance

Make classroom ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal, and 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	+ Grade 2015	Overall State	Overall State	Overall State Grade 2009
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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 North Carolina	C-	C-	C-	D-
Pennsylvania	C-	C C-	D+ 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

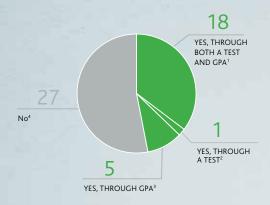
## BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



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



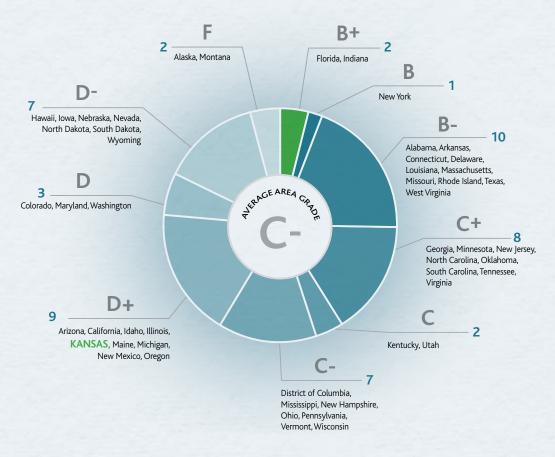
as a comprehensive set of tables and graphs that provide a national overview of the teacher policy landscape.

# **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
KANSAS and other states' admission
into teacher prep
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard



_	
KANSAS Admissio	S Snapshot on into Teacher Prep
<b>₹</b> No A	A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for admission to a teacher preparation program.
	A test of academic proficiency normed to the college-bound population is required prior to admission to a teacher preparation program.

KANSAS Admission into Teacher Prep Characteristics		
Test Requirement	Not required	
GPA Requirement	Not required	

# **RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP POLICIES IN KANSAS**

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

Kansas should require candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, mathematics and writing prior to program admission. Alternatively, the state could require a minimum grade point average to establish that candidates have a strong academic history.

- Require preparation programs to use a common test normed to the general college-bound population.
  - This would allow for the selection of applicants in the top half of their class, as well as facilitate program comparison.
- Consider requiring candidates to pass subject-matter tests as a condition of admission into teacher programs.

In addition to ensuring that programs require a measure of academic performance for admission, Kansas 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

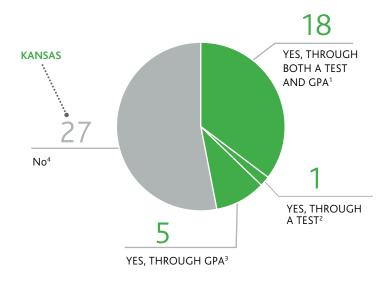
Other admission figures available in the Yearbook National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

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

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

Figure 1

Do states set a high academic bar for admission to teacher preparation programs?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama<sup>5</sup>, Arkansas<sup>5</sup>, Delaware<sup>6</sup>, District of Columbia<sup>5</sup>, Indiana<sup>5</sup>, Louisiana<sup>5</sup>, Michigan<sup>5</sup>, New Jersey<sup>7</sup>, New York<sup>3</sup>, North Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Oklahoma<sup>5</sup>, Oregon<sup>5</sup>, Rhode Island, South Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Tennessee<sup>5</sup>, Utah<sup>6</sup>, Virginia<sup>5</sup>, West Virginia
- 2. Strong Practice: Texas
- 3. Strong Practice: Georgia, Hawaii<sup>8</sup>, Mississippi, Montana, Pennsylvania<sup>9</sup>
- 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
- 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.
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{6}}.$  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.
- 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
KANSAS and other states'
elementary teacher preparation
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

# **Elementary Teacher Preparation**

KANSAS 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 Appli	icable
↑ Progress increased since 2013 ↓ Lost ground since 2013 ♠ Bar raised for this goal	

KANSAS Snapshot Elementary Teacher Preparation				
*	No	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.		

KANSAS Elementary Teacher Preparation Characteristics		
Elementary Licenses	K-6; Birth to grade 3	
Content Tests	Praxis II Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (5017) K-6; not required for birth to grade 3	
Science of Reading Requirements	Not required	
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 KANSAS

- Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all subjects including reading/language arts, math, science and social studies. Kansas should require a rigorous content
  - Kansas should require a rigorous content test with separate, meaningful passing scores for each core academic area to assure elementary teachers have adequate knowledge in each subject area they are licensed to teach.
- Require teacher candidates to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

Kansas 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 KANSAS'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 Kansas' 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. Kansas is therefore encouraged to strengthen its teacher preparation requirements and ensure that all teachers licensed to teach at the elementary level have the ability to adequately incorporate complex informational text 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, Kansas 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.

Kansas 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 Kansas 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.

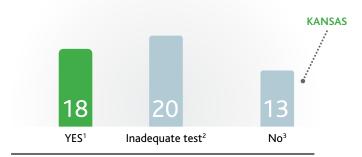
EEMENTARY CONTENT PASSING SCORE FOR EACH Elementary content test for some subjects Elementary content test Figure 2 Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content? Alabama Alaska 1 Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia П П П Florida Georgia Hawaii 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 П Texas П П Utah П 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?

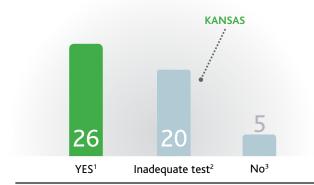


- Strong Practice: Alabama<sup>4</sup>, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee<sup>6</sup>, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District 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	epared work	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	SUPPORTING STRUGGLING
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Oregon			
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Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
Fully addresses instructional component	Partially add	dresses inst	tructional componer

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, Tennessee<sup>4</sup>, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska<sup>5</sup>, Hawaii, Iowa, Montana, Ohio<sup>6</sup>
- 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.

Arizona Arkansas¹ California¹ Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia¹ Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa KANSAS Kentucky¹ Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan¹ Minnesota Mississippi¹ Missouri Montana¹ Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina¹ North Dakota Ohio¹ Oklahoma		
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For more information about KANSAS 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**

# **KANSAS** 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



Bar raised for this goal



# KANSAS 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.
<b>₹</b>	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for middle school teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

KANSAS Middle School Teacher Preparation Characteristics		
Middle School Licenses	5-8	
Content Tests	Praxis II Middle School single-subject tests	
Academic Requirements	Candidates must complete a subject-matter major or its equivalent.	
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 KANSAS

 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 Kansas' 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, Kansas should include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

Kansas 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, Kansas 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 KANSAS's middle school teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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Offers 1-8 license.
 California offers a K-12 generalist license for all self-contained classrooms.
 With the exception of mathematics.

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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.

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# Secondary Teacher Preparation

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

KANSAS 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 • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet	
↑ Progress increased since 2013 ↓ Lost ground since 2013 ♠ Bar raised for this goal	

	KANSAS Snapshot Secondary Teacher Preparation				
*	Yes	Secondary teachers must pass a content test to teach any single core subject.			
*	Yes	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.			

KANSAS Secondary Teacher Preparation Characteristics		
Secondary Licenses	6-12	
Content Tests	Praxis II single-subjects tests required for initial licensure	
General Science License and Testing Requirements	Not offered	
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; general social studies endorsement only requires general social studies test	
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 KANSAS

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

By allowing a general social studies certification—and only requiring a general knowledge social studies exam—Kansas is not ensuring that its secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. The state's required assessment combines all subject areas (e.g., history, geography, economics) but does not report separate scores for each subject area.

 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 Kansas's required second-

## 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**

ary 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, Kansas should also 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.

Kansas 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.

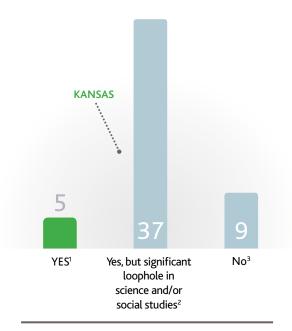
Arkansas also ensures that secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. The state's competencies specify that secondary teacher candidates must have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through 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 KANSAS'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, Tennessee<sup>4</sup>
- 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 Carolina<sup>5</sup>, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska<sup>6</sup>, Arizona<sup>7</sup>, 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.

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# Special Education Teacher Preparation

For more information about

KANSAS and other states' special

education teacher prep policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

KANSAS 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		
<ul> <li>Fully meets → Nearly meets → Partially meets → Meets only a small part → Does not meet</li> <li>↑ Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013</li> </ul>		

	KANSA Special	<b>S</b> Snapshot Education Teacher Preparation
*	No	Only discrete elementary and secondary special education licenses are offered.
*	No	Elementary subject-matter test is required for elementary special education license.
*	No	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.

KANSAS Special Education Teacher Preparation Characteristics		
Special Education License(s)	K-6; 5-8; 6-12; K-12	
Content Tests	Not required	
Science of Reading Test	Not required	
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards  Complex informational text: Not addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed		

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN KANSAS

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 Kansas 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.

Kansas should requiring 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 careerreadiness 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, Kansas's current policy of 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 elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
   Kansas should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that special education teacher candidates are adequately proposed in all five instructional.
  - 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, Kansas 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-readi-
- Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

ness standards for students.

Kansas 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.

# **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 KANSAS's special education teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

#### 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.
- 2. 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.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

Prepare special education teachers to support struggling readers.

Kansas 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.

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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 <sup>4</sup>		
Secondary Subject-Matter Test(s)			
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	Missouri <sup>1</sup> , New York <sup>5</sup> , Wisconsin <sup>6</sup>		
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		

- 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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#### For more information about

KANSAS and other states' assessing professional knowledge policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

# Assessing Professional Knowledge





# KANSAS Snapshot Pedagogy

Yes

All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test.

KANSAS Pedagog	gy Characteristics
Pedagogy Test	Praxis II
Type of Test	Multiple choice
Teachers Included	All new teachers

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE POLICIES IN KANSAS

 Verify that commercially available tests of pedagogy actually align with state standards.

Kansas should ensure that its selected test of professional knowledge measures the knowledge and skills the state expects new teachers to have.

# **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.

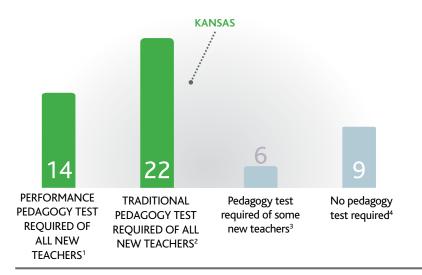
# SUMMARY OF ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE FIGURES

Figure 15 Pedagogy tests

For more information about KANSAS'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, Illinois<sup>5</sup>, Iowa<sup>6</sup>, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Tennessee<sup>6</sup>, Washington, Wisconsin
- 2. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina<sup>7</sup>, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia
- 3. Connecticut, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Utah<sup>8</sup>
- 4. Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming
- 5. All new teachers must also pass a traditional pedagogy test.
- 6. 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

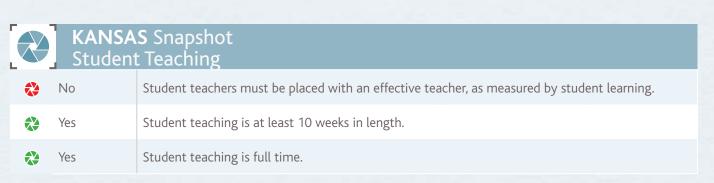
For more information about

KANSAS and other states' student

teaching policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





KANSAS Student Teaching Characteristics			
Duration of Student Teaching	At least 12 weeks		
Selection of Cooperating Teachers Connected to Effectiveness	No specific requirements		
Other Criteria for Selection of Cooperating Teachers	Must teach in an "cooperating accredited or approved educational [agency]"		

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES IN KANSAS

- Ensure that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.
  In addition to the ability to mentor an adult, cooperating teachers in Kansas should also be carefully screened for their capacity to further student achievement.
- 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 full-time 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 KANSAS's student teaching policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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Figure 16	TEACHER	STUDENT TEACHING
Do states ensure a	ASE,	15 EX
high-quality student	\$ 50 E	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
teaching experience?		STUD. 4STS
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California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
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Illinois Indiana		
lowa		
KANSAS		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
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Massachusetts		
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Minnesota		
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Montana		
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New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
-	13	34

For more information about
KANSAS and other states' teacher
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. Partially meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet

Lost ground since 2013

	KANSA Teache	S Snapshot r Prep Program Accountability
		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.
	No	Minimum standards for program performance have been established.
	No	Report cards showing program performance are available to the public.
4	Yes	The state maintains full authority over program approval.

Prep Program Accountability Characteristics
None
Employer surveys
None
None
State maintains authority over teacher preparation program approval

### RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY POLICIES IN KANSAS

Collect data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.

Kansas should consider the academic achievement gains of students taught by programs' graduates, averaged over the first three years of teaching and disaggregated by specific preparation programs. Alabama should report all collected data at the program level for accountability purposes.

■ Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

While Kansas does collect some measures of program performance, the state's accountability system should include other objective measures that show how well programs are preparing teachers for the classroom. These measures could include candidate's evaluation results from the first and/or second year of teaching, candidates' average raw scores on licensing tests including academic proficiency, subject matter and professional knowledge tests and five-year retention rates.

# 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)

### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

- Establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.

  Kansas should establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data, which programs should be held accountable for meeting.
- state's website.

  Kansas should produce an annual report card on individual teacher preparation programs, which should be published on the state's website at the program level and presented in a manner that clearly conveys whether programs have met per-

formance standards.

Publish an annual report card on the

# **Examples of Best Practice**

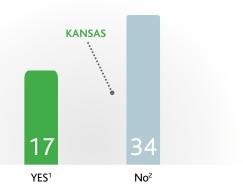
**Delaware** and **Florida** have made great strides in teacher preparation program accountability policies in the past few years and now stand out as leaders in this area. In Delaware and Florida, preparation programs report and are held accountable to a number of measures, including the effectiveness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

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

Figure 18	OBJECTIVE PROCERM.	MINIMUM STANDARDS	DATA PUBLICY AVAILABLE ON US.
Do states hold teacher	\$ \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\pi}{2}	NAN NAN	
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Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
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Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			3
KANSAS			
Kentucky			4
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland	5		
Massachusetts			
Michigan		1	1
Minnesota			
Mississippi	1		
Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada	1	1	
New Hampshire			
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
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia	<u></u> 1		
Washington			
West Virginia	1 m		
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	37	10	25

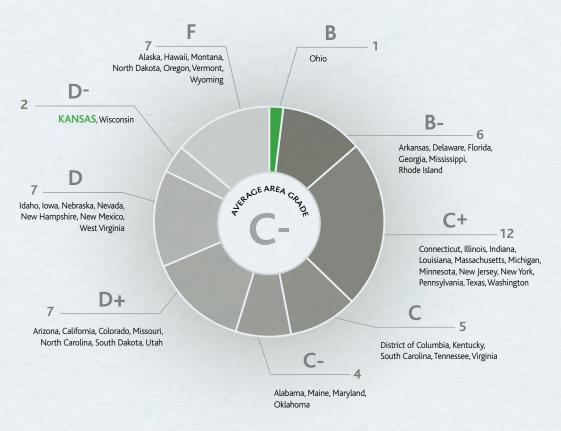
- $1. \ For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$
- ${\it 2. Report\ cards\ only\ include\ limited\ data.}$
- 3. Report cards are at the institution rather than the program level.
- ${\it 4.\ Non-university\ based\ alternate\ route\ programs\ are\ not\ included}.$
- $5. \ For \ alternate \ route \ programs \ only.$
- 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

KANSAS and other states' alternate

routes to certification policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

KANSAS Ratings	
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.	
<ul> <li>Fully meets → Nearly meets → Partially meets → Meets only a small part → Does not meet</li> <li>Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013</li> </ul>	

	<b>KANSA</b> Alterna	S Snapshot te Routes to Certification
*	No	A rigorous academic standard is required for program entry.
	Yes	A subject-matter test is required for admission.
*	No	Subject-matter test can be used in lieu of a major to demonstrate content knowledge.
	No	A practice teaching opportunity is required prior to becoming teacher of record.
	No	Intensive mentoring is required to support new teachers.
	No	Coursework requirements are streamlined.
*	No	Coursework requirements are limited to relevant topics.
	No	Alternate routes are offered without limitation by grades, subjects or geographic areas.
<b>*</b>	No	Providers other than institutions of higher education are permitted.

KANSAS Alternat	e Routes to Certification Characteristics				
Name of Route(s)	Restricted Teacher License Alternative Pathway				
Academic Requirements for Entry	Minimum GPA of 2.75 in the last 60 semester credit hours				
Subject-Matter Requirements for Entry	Subject-matter exam and a degree or equivalent coursework in intended teaching field; coursework requirement can be waived for heritage language speakers training to teach their native language				
Coursework Requirements	None				
Practice Teaching/Mentoring Requirements	Mentoring required; no practice teaching opportunity required				
Usage	Certification for secondary content teachers and a limited number of K-12 subject-area teachers only				
Eligible Providers	Colleges and universities only				

### **RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION POLICIES IN KANSAS**

■ Increase academic requirements for admission.

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

Offer flexibility in fulfilling coursework requirements.

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

### 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)

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

### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

- Establish coursework guidelines for all alternate route preparation programs.
  - Kansas should ensure that coursework requirements are manageable and contribute to the immediate needs of new teachers, through exposure to topics like methodology in the content area, classroom management, assessment and scientifically based early reading instruction.
- Strengthen the induction experience for new teachers.
  - Although Kansas requires all new teachers to work with a mentor, there are insufficient guidelines indicating that the mentoring program is structured for new teacher success. The state should consider strategies like practice teaching prior to teaching in the classroom or intensive mentoring with full classroom support in the first few weeks or months of school.
- Broaden usage for all alternate routes.

  Kansas should reconsider grade-level and subject-area restrictions on its alternate route, as a way to expand the teacher pipeline throughout the state.
- Encourage diversity of alternate route providers.
  - Kansas should specifically authorize alternate route programs run by local school districts and nonprofits, as well as institutions of higher education.

# **Examples of Best Practice**

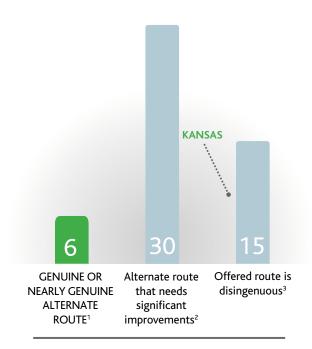
No state can be singled out for its overall alternate route policies. There are, however, states that offer best practices in individual alternate route policy areas.

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. Alaska<sup>4</sup>, 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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lternate routes?	PREREQUISITE OF PERFOM, AGAIN	VERIFICATION OF KNOWN F.	AVAILABILITY OF TE	STREAMLINED	RELEVANT COLL	PRACTICE TEAC.	INTENSIVE ME.	BROAD USAGE	DIVERSITY OF PRO.
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Connecticut	*			*	*	*		*	*
Delaware		*		*	*	*	*		*
District of Columbia	<b>*</b>	*	*			*	*	<b>★</b>	<b>★</b>
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Georgia Hawaii									
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New Jersey	*	*		*	*		*	*	
New Mexico		*				*		*	
New York	*	*						*	*
North Carolina			*					*	*
North Dakota									
Ohio		*	*	*		*		*	*
Oklahoma		<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>					<b>*</b>
Oregon		*						*	<u></u> ★
Pennsylvania Rhode Island	*		<b>*</b>	<u></u> ★		<u></u> ★		*	*
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Vermont						*		*	
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West Virginia		*	â		*		ô	ô	*
Wisconsin									<b>*</b>
Wyoming									

For more information about
KANSAS 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 ■ Lost ground since 2013



# **KANSAS** Snapshot Part-Time Teaching Licenses

**\*** 

Somewhat

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

KANSAS Part-Time Teaching Licenses Characteristics							
Name of License	Visiting Scholar, for individuals who demonstrate "exceptional talent or outstanding distinction in one or more subjects or fields"						
Subject-Matter Requirements	Documentation of two of the three following items, all of which must be relevant in the field of licensure being requested: completion of an advanced course of study or training; verification of awards, published works or other honors; evidence of significant recent occupational experience						
Other Requirements	Official transcripts and written verification of employment						

### RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES POLICIES IN KANSAS

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

It is unclear whether the Visiting Scholar license serves as a vehicle for individuals with deep subject-area knowledge to teach a limited number of courses without fulfilling a complete set of certification requirements. It appears that may be the intent of the license; however, state policy does not describe the conditions of employment, whether it is for part-time or full-time teaching or requirements that candidates must fulfill.

■ Require applicants to pass a subjectmatter test.

While documentation required to apply for this license may show evidence of expertise in a particular field, only a subject-matter test ensures that Visiting Scholar teachers know the specific content they will need to teach.

# **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 KANSAS's part-time teaching licenses policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Do states offer a license		Restricted or Var.	973
Do states offer a license with minimal requirements		\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	ایو⊄
that allows content experts		ρ <sub>φ</sub> υ,	e /
to teach part time?	6	stri <sub>e</sub>	
to teach part time:	YES	/ 🎖 🥲 ,	/ -
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Virginia			
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West Virginia			
Wisconsin			ſ
Wyoming			

# Licensure Reciprocity

For more information about
KANSAS and other states' reciprocity
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard



	KANSA Recipro	S Snapshot city
*	No	Evidence of effective teaching is required in reciprocity policy.
*	Yes	Out-of-state teachers may apply for a comparable standard license.
*	No	Out-of-state teachers must meet licensing test requirements.
*	No	No other strings are attached for reciprocity, such as additional coursework or recency requirements.
*	Yes	Transcript analysis is not explicitly required.
	No	Alternate route teachers receive equal treatment.

KANSAS Reciprocity Characteristics							
License Available to Fully Certified Out-of-State Teachers	Professional						
Effectiveness Requirements	None						
Testing Requirements	Waiver available with a standard license and either passing test scores from another state or three years of recent experience or five years of experience. Waiver also available for secondary teachers who have an offer for hire.						
Coursework and/or Recency Requirements	One year of recent accredited experience or eight semester hours of recent credit.						
Additional Alternate Route Requirements	Must submit case to the Licensure Review Committee.						

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RECIPROCITY POLICIES IN KANSAS

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

To facilitate the movement of effective teachers between states, Kansas should require that evidence of teacher effectiveness, as determined by an evaluation that includes objective measures of student growth, be considered for all out-of-state candidates.

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

Kansas should insist that out-of-state teachers meet its own testing requirements, and it should not provide any waivers of its teacher tests unless an applicant can provide evidence of a passing score under its own standards.

### **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 KANSAS's reciprocity policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

- Offer a standard license to certified out-of-state teachers, absent unnecessary requirements.
  - Kansas should reconsider its recency requirement regarding coursework and/ or experience, as it may deter talented teachers from applying for certification.
- Accord the same license to out-of-state alternate route teachers as would be accorded to traditionally prepared teachers.
  - Regardless of whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route, all certified out-of-state teachers should receive equal treatment.

# **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.

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Alaska	other states?	EVIL EFFE	Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z	\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \
Arizona	Alabama			
Arkansas  California  Colorado  Connecticut  Delaware  District of Columbia  Florida  Georgia  Hawaii  Idaho  Illinois  Illinois  Indiana  Iowa  KANSAS  Kentucky  Louisiana  Maine  Maryland  Massachusetts  Michigan  Minnesota  Mississippi  Missouri  Montana  Nebraska  Newada  New Hampshire  New Jersey  New Mexico  New York  North Carolina  North Dakota  Ohio  Oklahoma  Oregon  Pennsylvania  Rhode Island  South Carolina  South Dakota  Tennessee  Texas  T	Alaska		2	
California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa KANSAS Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Wassington Wisconsin Wisconsin Wyoming	Arizona			
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Obstacles include transcript analysis, recency and/or coursework requirements, and additional requirements for teachers certified through alternate routes.

<sup>2.</sup> Alaska allows up to three years to meet testing requirements.

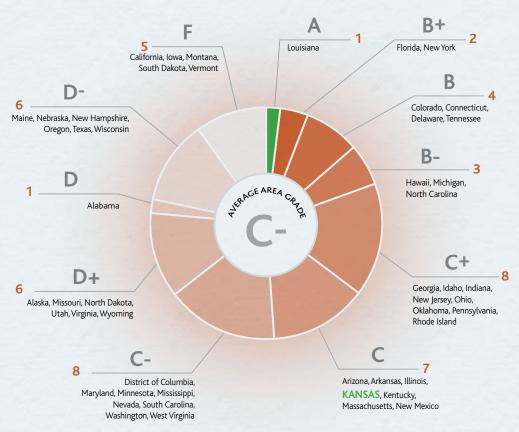
<sup>3.</sup> Allows up to three years to submit passing scores.

# **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

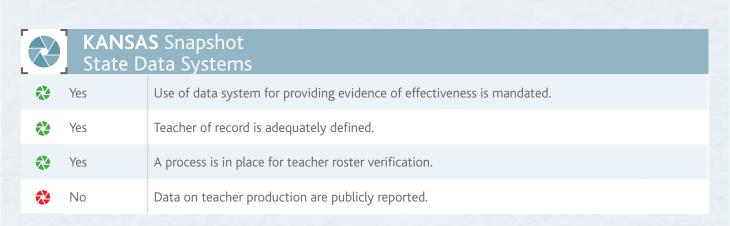
For more information about

KANSAS and other states' data

systems policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

# KANSAS 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 Bar raised for this goal



KANSAS 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	A licensed educator who is responsible for students' academic goals within a course					
Other Characteristics	Roster verification; Ability to connect multiple teachers to a single student					
Teacher Production Data/ Hiring Statistics	Not reported					

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STATE DATA SYSTEM POLICIES IN KANSAS

■ Publish data on teacher production.

Kansas 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 KANSAS's state data system policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 23		0 /	2 × 7
Do states' data systems		1 S S	8/8
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<sup>1.</sup> Lacks capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time.

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

# **Teacher Evaluation**

KANSAS Ratings	
Evaluation of Effectiveness Instructional effectiveness is the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.	•
Frequency of Evaluations All teachers receive annual evaluations.	•
<ul> <li>Fully meets → Nearly meets → Partially meets → Meets only a small part → Does not meet</li> <li>Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013</li> </ul>	

	KANSA Teacher	<b>S</b> Snapshot Evaluation
*	Yes	Objective student data is the preponderant or a significant criterion of teacher evaluations.
	No	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.
<b>\$</b>	Yes	Surveys (student, parent, peer) are explicitly required or allowed.

KANSAS Teacher Evaluation Characteristics					
Use of Student Achievement Data in Evaluation	Significant criterion.				
Types of Required Student Data	Multiple measures must include state assessment results for grades and subjects in which such assessments are administered.				
Other Required Measures	Observations				
Number of Rating Categories	3				
Frequency of Evaluations	For the first two years, new teachers must be evaluated once per semester; no later than the 60th day of the semester. During the third and fourth years, teachers must be evaluated annually. After the fourth year, teachers are evaluated once every 3 years, not later than February 15 of that particular school year.				
Number of Observations	Required as a part of each evaluation				
System Structure	State provides presumptive evaluation model for districts; approval required to use alternate district-designed system.				
Surveys (Parent, Student, Peer)	Student/parent surveys explicitly allowed				
Evaluator Requirements	None				

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER EVALUATION POLICIES IN KANSAS

 Require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.

Kansas's requirement falls short by failing to require that evidence of student learning be the most significant criterion, and the state's vague language leaves room for interpretation as to the actual measure of "significant" in the overall evaluation score. Kansas should strengthen its policy by ensuring a teacher is unable to receive an effective rating if found to be ineffective in the classroom.

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

### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

Require annual formal evaluations for all teachers.

All teachers in Kansas should be evaluated annually, as a means to reward good teachers, help average teachers improve and hold weak teachers accountable for poor performance.

 Base evaluations on multiple observations.

To guarantee that annual evaluations are based on an adequate collection of information, Kansas should require multiple observations for all teachers.

 Ensure that classroom observations specifically focus on and document the effectiveness of instruction.

Kansas should ensure that the primary component of a classroom observation be quality of instruction, as measured by student time on task, student grasp or mastery of the lesson objective and efficient use of class time.

### 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.

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CO ANCTO STATE TEACHER DOLLOW VEARDOOK 2015 TEACHER EVALUATION LIVA

 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.

Figure 25		O HERS
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to evaluate all teachers	44	} / <u>*</u> \$\delta \
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Wyoming		
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# **Tenure**

For more information about

KANSAS and other states' tenure

policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





KANSAS Tenure Characteristics					
Consideration of Teacher Effectiveness	Evidence of effectiveness not considered.				
Length of Probationary Period	N/A; only annual contracts are awarded.				

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TENURE POLICIES IN KANSAS

 Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.

Kansas should make evidence of effectiveness the most significant factor in determining whether a teacher remains in the classroom. Although the state has effectively eliminated tenure by eliminating due process rights, this policy appears disconnected from teacher effectiveness.

# **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

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

Figure 26	ž.	. VO//	bed /	. /
How are tenure	2	, E / ;		ireally
decisions made?	27.2	( <u>1</u> / 8		fer / s
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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.

How long before a teacher							
earns tenure?							
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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.
- 8. 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
KANSAS and other states' licensure
advancement policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

# 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

	KANSAS Snapshot Licensure Advancement						
<	No	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.					
*	Yes	An advanced degree is not a requirement for license advancement.					

KANSAS Licensure Advancement Characteristics				
Performance Requirements to Advance from a Probationary to Professional License	None			
Other Requirements for Advancement	Professional: Must complete an induction and mentoring program. Accomplished: National Board certification.			
Initial Certification Period	2 years			
Performance Requirements to Renew a Professional License	None			
Other Requirements for Renewal	Must earn 120 professional development points if teacher has a graduate degree, or 160 professional development points if teacher does not have a graduate degree, including at least 80 points for college credit.			
Renewal Period	5 years			

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT POLICIES IN KANSAS

- Require evidence of effectiveness as a part of teacher licensing policy.
  Kansas should require evidence of teacher effectiveness to be a factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license.
- Discontinue license requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Kansas'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 KANSAS's
licensure advancement policies, including
detailed recommendations, full narrative
analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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Wyoming			
	4	12	29

Georgia does not require evidence of effectiveness for each year of renewal period.

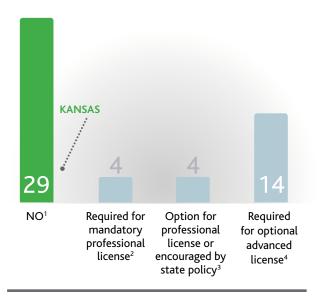
<sup>2.</sup> Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.

<sup>3.</sup> Uses objective evidence for advancement, not renewal.

 $<sup>{\</sup>bf 4.}\,{\bf An}\,\,{\bf optional}\,\,{\bf license}\,\,{\bf requires}\,\,{\bf evidence}\,\,{\bf of}\,\,{\bf effectiveness}.$ 

<sup>5.</sup> 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 .**KANSAS** and other states' equitable 💪 🖫 distribution of teachers policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

# **KANSAS** 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



# KANSAS 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.
<b>₹</b>	Yes	School-level data on percentage of highly qualified teachers are reported.
*	Yes	School-level data on percentage of teachers with emergency credentials are reported.

# KANSAS Equitable Distribution of Teachers Characteristics

Public Reporting of Teacher Effectiveness Data	Not reported
Other Public Reporting Related to Teacher Distribution	Reports percentage of highly qualified teachers for each school. Also reports percentage of teachers not licensed, not qualified or teaching on a waiver or provisional certificate by school. Compares the average percentage of highly qualified teachers in high- and low-poverty schools.

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS POLICIES IN KANSAS

Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

Kansas 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.

Kansas 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.

Kansas 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.

### **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

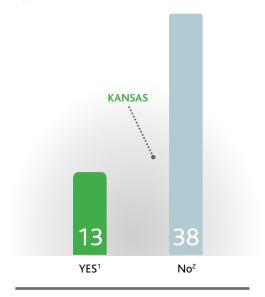
Other equitable distribution of teachers figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Data reporting requirements (p. 99)

For more information about KANSAS'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?



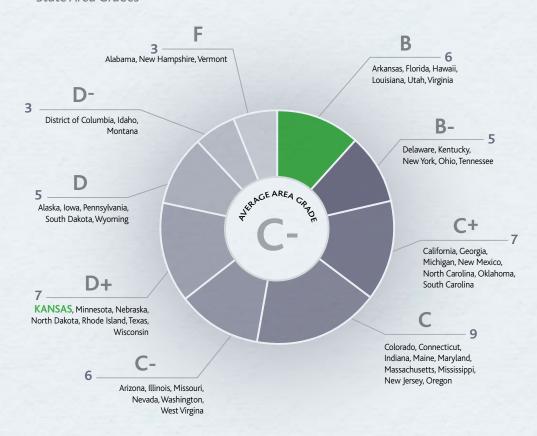
- Strong Practice: Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania
- Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island<sup>3</sup>, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah<sup>3</sup>, 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 **KANSAS** and other states' new teacher induction policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

## **KANSAS** Ratings

#### Induction

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





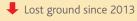




Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet



↑ Progress increased since 2013





# KANSAS Snapshot New Teacher Induction

*	Yes	All new teachers receive mentoring.
<b>*</b>	Yes	Mentoring is of sufficient frequency and duration.
*	Yes	Mentors are carefully selected.
**	Yes	Induction programs are evaluated.
*	No	Induction programs include a variety of effective strategies.

## **KANSAS** New Teacher Induction Characteristics

Induction Program	All new teachers participate in a yearlong mentoring program.
Requirements for Mentor/ New Teacher Contact	Mentors and teachers must have contact at least once per week.
Selection Criteria for Mentors	3 years of employment in the same school district; exemplary teaching ability as indicated by the board's most recent evaluation of the teacher
Other Mentor Requirements	Completion of mentor training program; endorsement areas, grade levels and building assignments are taken into consideration when matching mentors to new teachers
Required Induction Strategies Other than Mentoring	Not specified

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE NEW TEACHER INDUCTION POLICIES IN KANSAS

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

Kansas should make certain that induction includes strategies such as intensive mentoring, matching new teachers and mentors by grade level and/or subject area and a reduced teaching load and/or frequent release time to observe other teachers.

### **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

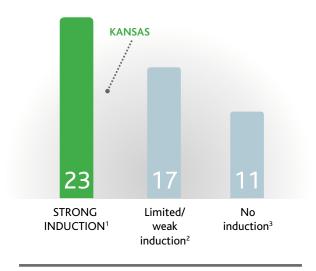
Other new teacher induction figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Elements of induction (p. 104)

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

# Professional Development

## **KANSAS** Ratings

### **Professional Development**

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











♠ Progress increased since 2013





# KANSAS Snapshot Professional Development

*	Yes Teachers must receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations.							
*	Somewhat Professional development must be aligned with evaluation results.							
*	No	Teachers with unsatisfactory/ineffective ratings are placed on improvement plans.						

## **KANSAS** Professional Development Characteristics

Connection Between Evaluation and Professional Development	Districts must explain how feedback from evaluations guides professional development.
Evaluation Feedback	Copy of evaluation is provided; post-observation meetings; end-of-year conference
Improvement Plan	Not required

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN KANSAS

 Ensure that professional development is aligned with findings from teachers' evaluations.

While Kansas demonstrates an intent to customize professional development based on evaluations, the state should strengthen its policy and specifically ensure that districts utilize teacher evaluation results in determining professional development needs and activities.

 Ensure that teachers receiving less than effective ratings are placed on a professional improvement plan.

Kansas should adopt a policy requiring that teachers who receive even one unsatisfactory evaluation be placed on structured improvement plans that focus on performance areas directly connected to student learning.

### **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)

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

Figure 32		)RNS	17 / SE
Do states ensure that		ک \ الله الله الله الله الله الله الله ال	\$ \\\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \
evaluations are used to	FRS		
help teachers improve?	£.	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	8 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
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Wyoming			

<sup>1.</sup> Does not require improvement plans for all less-than-effective teachers; just those in the lowest rating category.

<sup>2.</sup> South Dakota requires improvement plans only for teachers rated unsatisfactory who have been teaching for four years or more.

# Compensation

For more information about

KANSAS and other states'

compensation policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

k	KANSAS Ratings	
W	Ay Scales and Performance Pay \( \overline{\chi} \)  (hile local districts are given the authority over pay scales, performance pay is supported, but in a canner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.	•
	ifferential Pay ifferential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas is supported.	
	ompensation for Prior Work Experience istricts 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	
1	Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013 Bar Raised for this Goal	

	KANSA Compe	<b>S</b> Snapshot nsation
*	Yes	Districts have flexibility to determine pay structure and scales.
**	No	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.
*	No	Teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching in high-need schools.
*	No	Districts are encouraged to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.

KANSAS Compensation Characteristics					
Authority for Salary Schedule	Controlled by local districts				
Performance Pay Initiatives None					
Role of Experience and Advanced Degrees in Salary Schedule	Not explicitly discouraged				
Differential Pay for Shortage Subjects	None				
Differential Pay for High-Need Schools	None				
Pay for Prior Work Experience	None				

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION POLICIES IN KANSAS

 Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees and/or experience.

While still leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scales, Kansas 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.

 Support a performance pay plan that recognizes teachers for their effectiveness.

Kansas should ensure that performance pay structures thoughtfully measure classroom performance and connect student achievement to teacher effectiveness.

### **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 both subjectshortage areas and high-need schools.
  Kansas 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.

Teachers who are National Board Certified are eligible to receive a \$1,000 annual incentive bonus. This differential pay could be an incentive to attract some of Kansas's most effective teachers to low-performing schools.

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

Kansas should encourage districts to incorporate mechanisms such as starting these teachers at a higher salary than other new teachers. Such policies would be attractive to career changers with related work experience, such as in the STEM subjects.

### **Examples of Best Practice**

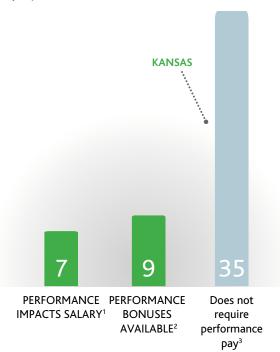
Florida allows local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from prioritizing elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. Local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest salary adjustment 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 KANSAS'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, Tennessee<sup>4</sup>
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona<sup>5</sup>, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho<sup>6</sup>, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky<sup>7</sup>, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri<sup>6</sup>, Montana, Nebraska<sup>7</sup>, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon<sup>7</sup>, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia<sup>7</sup>, 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.
- Idaho does offer a master teacher premium, but it is dependent on years of experience.
- 7. Performance bonuses are available, but not specifically tied to teacher effectiveness
- 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		\$\ \$\ \	7 /	Requires compensation for
Do states prevent districts	9		)   []	
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Figure 35		HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	- /
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<sup>1.</sup> 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.

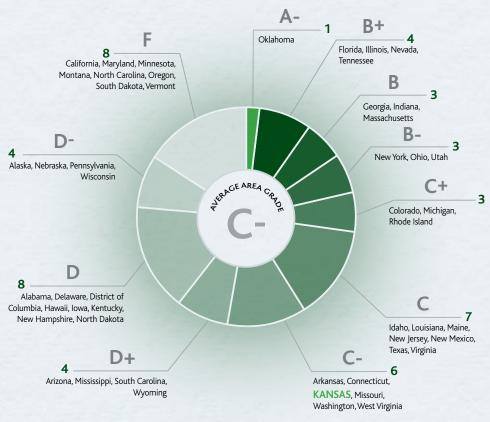
<sup>3.</sup> South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in highneed schools.

# **Area 5 Summary**



# How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers





## Topics Included In This Area

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

# **Extended Emergency Licenses**

For more information about

KANSAS and other states' extended
emergency license policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





KANSAS Extended Emergency License Characteristics							
Emergency License	One-year nonrenewable teaching license; Exchange Teaching; Unlicensed teachers						
Minimum Requirements	One-year nonrenewable teaching license: Program completion except licensure tests Exchange Teaching: Teachers who have completed an approved teacher education program can teach for two years while completing any licensure deficiencies, including subject-matter assessments.  Unlicensed teachers: 6 innovative school districts are allowed to hire unlicensed teachers for hard to fill teaching positions						
Duration	One-year nonrenewable teaching license: 1 year Exchange Teaching: 2 years Unlicensed teachers: 1 year						
Renewal Requirements	One-year nonrenewable teaching license: Nonrenewable Exchange Teaching: Nonrenewable Unlicensed teachers: Renewable with approval from the local board of education						

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSE POLICIES IN KANSAS

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

While Kansas's policy offering teachers who have not met all requirements licenses for one year minimizes the risks brought about by having teachers in classrooms who lack sufficient or appropriate subject-matter knowledge, the state could take its policy a step further and require all teachers to meet subject-matter licensure requirements prior to entering the classroom. Allowing out-of-state teachers who have not passed licensure tests to remain in the classroom for up to two years creates additional risk for students. (See Licensure Reciprocity p. 48)

### **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 KANSAS's extended emergency licenses policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see <a href="http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard">http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard</a>

Figure 36		/	/	/
How long can new teachers		/		
practice without passing		/	/	3 years or more
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	9	18	6	18

- 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 KANSAS and other states' dismissal 🛫 policies, including full narrative and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

# Dismissal for Poor Performance

## **KANSAS** 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



# KANSAS Snapshot Dismissal

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

## **KANSAS** Dismissal Characteristics

Dismissal for Ineffectiveness	Does not explicitly make teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal		
Due Process Rights of Teachers	In an effort to eliminate teacher tenure, the law was repealed that gave teachers who face dismissal after three years in the classroom the right to an independent review of their cases. Teacher contracts are entered into for one year and are deemed to continue for the next succeeding school year unless written notice for any reason is served.		
Length of Appeals Process	No appeals process		

# RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE DISMISSAL POLICIES IN KANSAS

Specify that classroom ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

Kansas should rethink its policy and instead make an explicit link between dismissal and ineffectiveness in the classroom. Specifically, any teacher who receives two consecutive ineffective evaluations or two such ratings within five years should be formally eligible for dismissal.

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

By eliminating a teacher's right to an independent review of his/her case, Kansas has equated reasonable due process with no due process. A teacher who is terminated for poor performance should have an opportunity to appeal. In the interest of both the teacher and the school district, the state should ensure that this appeal occurs within a reasonable time frame.

### **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)

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

Figure 37		/
Do states articulate that	YES THOUGH DISMISALANDY	
ineffectiveness is grounds	35	[ <b>₹</b> /
for dismissal?	12 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	<del>?</del> /
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California		
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District of Columbia		
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Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
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KANSAS		1
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New Hampshire		
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Tennessee		
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Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
VVISCOTISITI		
Wyoming		

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 KANSAS and other states' reductions 🦫 in force policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

## **KANSAS** 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 O Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet

♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



# **KANSAS** 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.

## **KANSAS** 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 KANSAS

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

Kansas 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, Kansas 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	SEMPRITY 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/I	186
	PERFORMANCE MUST	SENIC
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
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Indiana		
lowa		
KANSAS		
Kentucky Louisiana		
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NCTQ is available to work with individual states to improve teacher policies.

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