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# District of Columbia

# Summary of District of Columbia Teacher Policies:



2015 | 2013 D+ D+

2011 | 2009

D

D-

Best Practice
 Meets Goal
 Nearly Meets Goal
 Partly Meets Goal
 Meets a Small Part of Goal

Does Not Meet Goal

Progress on Goals Since 2015

Progress Increased: 2

Progress Decreased: 0

A state's progress on policy was tracked solely for goals that remained constant between 2015 and 2017.

AREA 1: General Teacher Preparation	D-
Program Entry	
Teacher Shortages and Surpluses	•
Program Performance Measures	•
Program Reporting Requirements	
Student Teaching/Clinical Practice	
AREA 2: Elementary Teacher Preparation	C-
Content Knowledge	
Teaching Mathematics	
Teaching Reading	
Licensure Deficiencies	
AREA 3: Secondary Teacher Preparation	D+
Middle School Content Knowledge	
Middle School Licensure Deficiencies	
Adolescent Literacy	
Secondary Content Knowledge	
Secondary Licensure Deficiencies	
AREA 4: Special Education Teacher Preparation	F
Content Knowledge	
Teaching Reading	
Licensure Deficiencies	
AREA 5: Alternate Route Teacher Preparation	С
Program Entry	
Preparation for the Classroom	•

AREA 6: Hiring	В
Requirements for Out-of-State Teachers	•
Provisional and Emergency Licensure	• •
AREA 7: Teacher and Principal Evaluation	D-
Measures of Student Growth	•
Measures of Professional Practice	
Frequency of Evaluation and Observation	
Linking Evaluation to Professional Growth	
Data Systems Needed for Evaluation	•
Distributing Teacher Talent Equitably	•
Principal Effectiveness	•
Principal Evaluation and Observation	
AREA 8: Teacher Compensation	D-
Performance	
High-Need Schools and Subjects	
Prior Work	
AREA 9: Retaining Effective Teachers	F
Licensure Advancement	•
Tenure	
Leadership Opportunities	
Dismissal	
Layoffs	



# Teacher Policy Strengths and Areas for Growth **District of Columbia**



POLICY AREA	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S STRENGTHS	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH
AREA 1: GENERAL TEACHER P	REPARATION	
Program Entry		The District of Columbia should require that all teacher preparation programs limit admission to applicants with either a minimum 3.0 GPA or those who have scored in the top half of all college-going students on tests of academic proficience.
Teacher Shortages and Surpluses		The District of Columbia should publish data on teacher production that connect program completion, certification, and district hiring statistics, and also provide guidance regarding program acceptance numbers.
Program Performance Measures		The District of Columbia should collect student growth data and other objective, meaningful data to measure teacher preparation program performance for all districts, not just those voluntarily participating in the DC Staffing Data Collaborative
Program Reporting Requirements		The District of Columbia should hold teacher preparation programs accountable for teacher quality by outlining consequences for programs that do not meet standards, including loss of program approval.
Student Teaching/ Clinical Practice		The District of Columbia should require that cooperating teachers are selected based on evidence of effectiveness and that the clinical practice experience is at least 10 weeks, full time, and takes place in the setting of the license sought.
AREA 2: ELEMENTARY TEACHE	ER PREPARATION	
Content Knowledge	The District of Columbia requires elementary teacher candidates to pass a content test with individually scored subtests in each of the core content areas.	
Teaching Mathematics	The District of Columbia's elementary content test includes an independently scored math subtest.	
Teaching Reading		The District of Columbia should require that: elementary teacher candidates pass a science of reading test to ensure knowledge of effective reading instruction, teacher preparation programs address this critical topic, and candidates are fully prepared to meet the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.
Licensure Deficiencies		The District of Columbia should require early childhood education teachers who are eligible to teach elementary grades to pass an elementary content test with individually scored subtests in each of the core content areas, pass a science o reading test, and be fully prepared to meet the instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards.
AREA 3: SECONDARY TEACHE	R PREPARATION	
Middle School Content Knowledge	The District of Columbia requires middle school teachers to pass a rigorous single-subject content test.	
Middle School Licensure Deficiencies	The District of Columbia does not allow middle school teachers to teach on a K-8 generalist license.	
Adolescent Literacy		The District of Columbia should require that all middle school and secondary candidates are fully prepared to meet the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.
Secondary Content Knowledge	The District of Columbia requires all secondary teachers to pass a single-subject content test as a condition of initial licensure.	
Secondary Licensure Deficiencies		The District of Columbia should require secondary general science teachers and secondary social studies teachers to pa a single-subject content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.
AREA 4: SPECIAL EDUCATION	TEACHER PREPARATION	
Content Knowledge		The District of Columbia should require elementary special education teachers to pass the same content test as genera elementary education teachers and that secondary special education teachers demonstrate content knowledge in core subjects at the secondary level.

Teaching Reading		The District of Columbia should require that all new special education teachers who teach elementary grades pass a rigorous elementary test of scientifically based reading instruction and be fully prepared to meet the instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards.
Licensure Deficiencies		The District of Columbia should require elementary or secondary special education certification.
AREA 5: ALTERNATE ROUTE T	EACHER PREPARATION	
Program Entry	The District of Columbia maintains high academic standards for admission to alternate route programs, including by requiring all alternate route candidates to pass a subject-matter test prior to admission.	
Preparation for the Classroom		The District of Columbia should require that all alternate route programs prepare new teachers through manageable and relevant coursework and a supervised practice teaching experience.
AREA 6: HIRING		
Requirements for Out-of-State Teachers	The District of Columbia requires out-of-state teachers to provide evidence of effectiveness, undergo full criminal background checks, and be eligible for standard licenses without unnecessary requirements.	
Provisional and Emergency Licensure	The District of Columbia does not offer emergency licenses.	
AREA 7: TEACHER AND PRINC	CIPAL EVALUATION	
Measures of Student Growth		The District of Columbia should ensure objective evidence of student growth is the determinative factor in teacher evaluations.
Measures of Professional Practice	The District of Columbia requires that all teacher evaluations include observations, and be conducted by trained and certified evaluators; student survey data are explicitly allowed.	
Frequency of Evaluation and Observation	The District of Columbia requires that all teachers are evaluated annually.	
Linking Evaluation to Professional Growth		The District of Columbia should require that teachers are supported with adequate evaluation feedback, aligned professional development, and improvement plans (for ineffective teachers), under a system with at least three rating categories.
Data Systems Needed for Evaluation		The District of Columbia should formalize its definition of teacher of record and its process for teacher roster verification, and publish teacher mobility data.
Distributing Teacher Talent Equitably	The District of Columbia reports school-level data about teacher performance to help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent.	
Principal Effectiveness		The District of Columbia should require that principal effectiveness is determined, in part, by objective measures of student growth and teacher effectiveness/instructional leadership, and that ineffective principals participate in improvement planning.
Principal Evaluation and Observation		The District of Columbia should evaluate all principals annually, require multiple observations/site visits for all principals, and require principal evaluators to be trained and certified.
AREA 8: TEACHER COMPENSA	ATION	
Performance		The District of Columbia should support performance pay based on evidence of effectiveness.
High-Need Schools and Subjects		The District of Columbia should support additional pay for working in high-need schools and teaching in shortage subject areas.
Prior Work		The District of Columbia should encourage additional compensation for new teachers with relevant prior work experience.
AREA 9: RETAINING EFFECTIV	E TEACHERS	
Licensure Advancement		The District of Columbia should base licensure advancement and renewal on teacher effectiveness.
Tenure		The District of Columbia should connect tenure decisions to evidence of teacher effectiveness.
Leadership Opportunities		The District of Columbia should support teacher leadership opportunities.
Dismissal		The District of Columbia should enable ineffective classroom performance to be a basis for dismissal, and not allow multiple appeals for teachers who are dismissed.
Layoffs		The District of Columbia should require districts to consider evidence of effectiveness when determining which teachers to lay off during reductions in force.
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State Grades 2009 – 2017	5009	2011	2073	2015	2017
ALABAMA	C-	C-	C-	D+	c
ALASKA	D	D	D	D-	D-
ARIZONA	D+	D+	C-	C-	D
ARKANSAS CALIFORNIA	C-	C	B-	B-	C+
COLORADO	D+ D+	D+	D+	D	D+ D+
CONNECTICUT	D+	C C-	C+ B-	C B-	C+
DELAWARE	D	C	C+	B-	B-
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	D-	D	D+	D+	D+
FLORIDA	С	В	B+	B+	B+
GEORGIA	C-	С	B-	B-	В-
HAWAII	D-	D-	D+	D+	D+
IDAHO	D-	D+	D+	C-	С
ILLINOIS	D+	C	C+	C+	C+
INDIANA	D	C+	B-	В	B-
IOWA	D	D	D	D	D+
KANSAS	D-	D	D	D+	D+
KENTUCKY	D+	D+	С	C	C-
LOUISIANA	C-	C-	В	В	B+
MAINE	F	D-	C-	C-	D+
MARYLAND	D	D+	D+	D+	D+
MASSACHUSETTS	D+	C C	B-	B-	В-
MICHIGAN	D-	C+	B-	C+	C
MINNESOTA	D-	C-	C-	C-	C-
MISSISSIPPI	D+	D+	С	С	С
MISSOURI	D	D	C-	C-	С
MONTANA	F	F	F	F	F
NEBRASKA	D-	D-	D-	D	D
NEVADA	D-	C-	C-	C-	C-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	D-	D-	D	D	D+
NEW JERSEY	D+	D+	B-	C+	В
NEW MEXICO	D+	D+	D+	С	С
NEW YORK	D+	С	B-	В	В
NORTH CAROLINA	D+	D+	С	C-	C+
NORTH DAKOTA	D-	D	D	D	D
OHIO	D+	C+	B-	B-	B-
OKLAHOMA	D+	B-	B-	B-	D+
OREGON	D-	D-	D	D	D-
PENNSYLVANIA	D	D+	C-	C-	С
RHODE ISLAND	D	B-	В	B-	В
SOUTH CAROLINA	C-	C-	C-	С	C+
SOUTH DAKOTA	D	D	D-	D-	F
TENNESSEE	C-	B-	В	В	В
TEXAS	C-	C-	C-	C-	B-
UTAH	D	C-	С	C+	С
VERMONT	F	D-	D-	D-	D
VIRGINIA	D+	D+	C+	C+	C+
WASHINGTON	D+	C-	C-	C-	C-
WEST VIRGINIA	D+	D+	C-	C-	C+
WISCONSIN	D	D	D+	D	D+
WYOMING	D-	D	D	D	D

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## **Best Practices**

#### **AREA 1: General Teacher Preparation**

Program Entry - None

Teacher Shortages and Surpluses - None

Program Performance Measures - Alabama, Florida

Program Reporting Requirements - Delaware, Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas

Student Teaching/Clinical Practice - Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Tennessee

#### AREA 2: Elementary Teacher Preparation

Content Knowledge - None

**Teaching Mathematics - Massachusetts** 

Teaching Reading - Arkansas, California

Licensure Deficiencies - None

#### AREA 3: Secondary Teacher Preparation

Middle School Content Knowledge - Arkansas, Georgia, Ohio

Middle School Licensure Deficiencies - None

Adolescent Literacy - Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana

Secondary Content Knowledge - Indiana, Minnesota

Secondary Licensure Deficiencies - Minnesota

#### AREA 4: Special Education Teacher Preparation

Content Knowledge - None

**Teaching Reading -** California

Licensure Deficiencies - None

## AREA 5: Alternate Route Teacher Preparation

Program Entry - Illinois, Michigan

Preparation for the Classroom - Delaware, New Jersey

#### AREA 6: Hiring

 ${\bf Requirements\ for\ Out-of-State\ Teachers\ -}\ None$ 

Provisional and Emergency Licensure - Mississippi, New Jersey, Rhode Island, South Carolina

#### AREA 7: Teacher and Principal Evaluation

Measures of Student Growth - Indiana

**Measures of Professional Practice -** *Iowa* 

Frequency of Evaluation and Observation - Idaho, New Jersey, Washington

Linking Evaluation to Professional Growth - Louisiana, New York, North Carolina

Data Systems Needed for Evaluation - Georgia

Distributing Teacher Talent Equitably - None

**Principal Effectiveness -** Connecticut, Florida, South Dakota

Principal Evaluation and Observation - New York

#### AREA 8: Teacher Compensation

Performance - None

High-Need Schools and Subjects - Florida, New Mexico, Utah

Prior Work - Louisiana, North Carolina

#### **AREA 9: Retaining Effective Teachers**

Licensure Advancement - Louisiana

**Tenure** - Hawaii, Indiana, Nevada, New York

Leadership Opportunities - Ohio, Utah

Dismissal - Nevada, New York

Layoffs - Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana