

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.

West Virginia at a Glance



Overall 2015 Yearbook Grade

2013

2011

2009







2015 West Virginia Area Goal Scores

8				
AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers	B-			
Admission into Teacher Preparation	* ••			
Elementary Teacher Preparation				
Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction				
Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics				
Early Childhood Teacher Preparation				
Middle School Teacher Preparation				
Secondary Teacher Preparation				
Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science and Social Studies				
Special Education Teacher Preparation				
Special Education Preparation in Reading				
Assessing Professional Knowledge				
Student Teaching				
Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	1			
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	C-
State Data Systems	*
Evaluation of Effectiveness	
Frequency of Evaluations	•
Tenure	0
Licensure Advancement	
Equitable Distribution	•
AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	C-
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



Fully Meets: 3 Nearly Meets: 9

Partially Meets: 6

Meets Only a Small Part: 5

Does Not Meet: 7

Progress on Goals Since 2013



Progress Increased: 3



Progress Decreased: 1

Teacher Policy Priorities for West Virginia

AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Elementary Teacher Preparation

- 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 careerreadiness standards.
- Establish equivalent requirements for teachers who may teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, including a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects.

Middle School Teacher Preparation

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

Secondary Teacher Preparation

- Require secondary 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

Ensure that all new special education candidates are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text and incorporating literacy into all content areas associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

Student Teaching

■ Ensure that student teachers are only placed with cooperating teachers who have demonstrated effectiveness as measured by student learning and require at least 10 weeks of student teaching.

Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

■ Hold teacher preparation programs accountable by ensuring that student achievement gains are connected to programs, by collecting 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.

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

Teacher Evaluation

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

Tenure

■ Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the most important factor 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

New Teacher Induction

Require effective induction for all new teachers, including mentoring, reduced teaching load, frequent release time to observe effective teachers and seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area.

Compensation

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

AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Dismissal for Poor Performance

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

Reductions in Force

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

Indiana	Figure A	+ Grade State	rall State	Overall State	Overall State Grade 2009
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New York	Louisiana	В	В		C-
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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

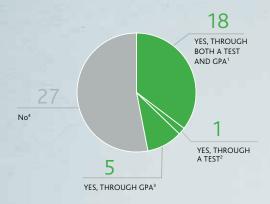
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



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



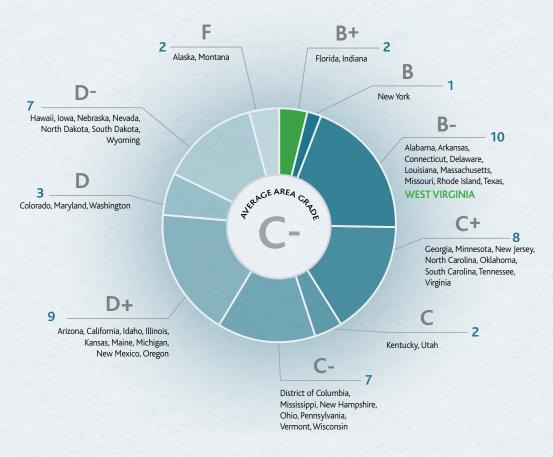
as a comprehensive set of tables and graphs that provide a national overview of the teacher policy landscape.

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

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings Admission into Teacher Prep Preparation programs only admit candidates with strong academic records. ★ Best Practice Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013

	WEST V Admissi	/IRGINIA Snapshot ion into Teacher Prep
•	Yes	A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for admission to a teacher preparation program.
•	Yes	A test of academic proficiency normed to the college-bound population is required prior to admission to a teacher preparation program.

WEST VIRGINIA Admission into Teacher Prep Characteristics					
Test Requirement	In 2016-2017, the group average performance on nationally normed ability/achievement assessments such as ACT, SAT or GRE must be in the top 50 percent.				
GPA Requirement	3.0				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

 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, West Virginia 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

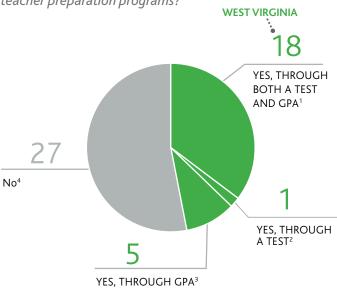
Figure 1 Academic proficiency requirements

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 WEST
VIRGINIA'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?

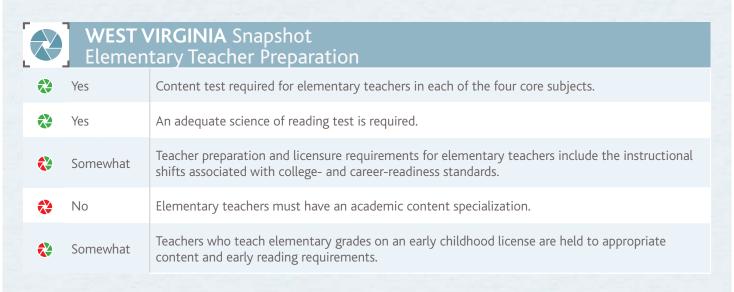


- Strong Practice: Alabama⁵, Arkansas⁵, Delaware⁶, District of Columbia⁵, Indiana⁵, Louisiana⁵, Michigan⁵, New Jersey⁷, New York⁵, North Carolina⁵, Oklahoma⁵, Oregon⁵, Rhode Island, South Carolina⁵, Tennessee⁵, Utah⁶, Virginia⁵, West Virginia
- 2. Strong Practice: Texas
- 3. Strong Practice: Georgia, Hawaii⁸, Mississippi, Montana, Pennsylvania⁹
- 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.
- 9. Candidates can also be admitted with a combination of a 2.8 GPA and qualifying scores on the basic skills test or SAT/ACT.

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

Elementary Teacher Preparation

WEST VIRGINIA 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 Appl Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013 → Bar raised for this goal 	icable



WEST VIRGINIA I	Elementary Teacher Preparation Characteristics
Elementary Licenses	K-6; K-4
Content Tests	Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001) K-6; not required for K-4
Science of Reading Requirements	Praxis II Teaching Reading: Elementary Education (5203) K-6, K-4
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: Fully addressed

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

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

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 WEST
VIRGINIA'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.

West Virginia is 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, West Virginia 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.

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 West Virginia 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.

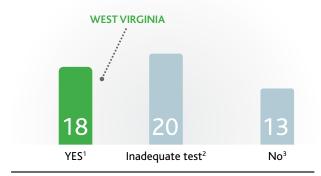
EEMENTARY CONTENT PASSING SCORE FOR EACH Elementary content test for some subjects Elementary content test Figure 2 Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content? Alabama Alaska 1 Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia П П П Florida Georgia Hawaii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

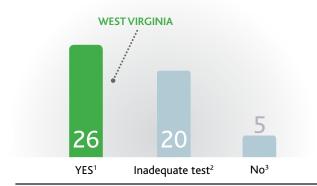


- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee⁶, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky,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

Figure 4	epared www.	TEXT /	SUPPORTING STRUGGING
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Fully addresses instructional component	Partially add	lresses inst	tructional compone

Figure 5

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



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

Figure 6

- These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades, or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.
- 2. Florida's test consists of three subtests covering language arts and reading, math and science.
- Early childhood candidates may pass either multiple subjects (subscores) or content knowledge (no subscores) test.
- 4. New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.

Figure 6		/
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For more information about WEST .VIRGINIA 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**

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings

Middle School Teacher Preparation



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









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



♠ Progress increased since 2013



Lost ground since 2013



Bar raised for this goal



WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Middle School Teacher Preparation

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

WEST VIRGINIA	WEST VIRGINIA Middle School Teacher Preparation Characteristics					
Middle School Licenses	5-9					
Content Tests	Praxis II Middle School single-subject tests					
Academic Requirements	Two subject area minors are 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 MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

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

Support struggling readers.

West Virginia 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 that its middle school content tests are meaningful, West Virginia should reevaluate its passing scores so that all tests reflect high levels of performance. For example, the passing score for the Praxis II Middle School English Language Arts test is set just below the 7th percentile.

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

Figure 7	K-8 LICENSE NC	K-8 license of free for	coms
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^{1.} Offers 1-8 license.

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

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- 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.

Figure 9 Are states ensuring that new	al de la	MCORPORATMELTER SKILLSINTO	SUPPORT
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Wyoming			

Secondary Teacher Preparation

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

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

	Seconda	IRGINIA Snapshot ary 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.
* S	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.

WEST VIRGINIA	Secondary Teacher Preparation Characteristics
Secondary Licenses	10-12
Content Tests	Praxis II single-subject content test required for initial licensure
General Science License and Testing Requirements	General science license offered, but teachers with this license may only teach general science courses
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 WEST VIRGINIA

 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—West Virginia is not ensuring that its secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge.

SUMMARY OF SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

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

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that secondary students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, West Virginia should 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.

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

Examples of Best Practice

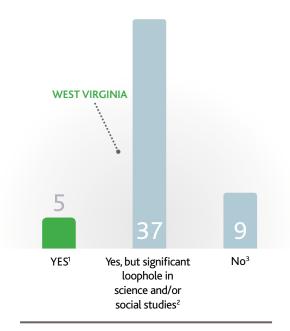
Missouri requires that secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subjects. Of particular note, Missouri ensures that its secondary science teachers know the content they teach by taking a dual approach to general secondary science certification. The state offers general 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 WEST
VIRGINIA's secondary teacher prep policies,
including detailed recommendations, full
narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 10

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



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

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Special Education Teacher Preparation

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

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings

Content Knowledge
New special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Reading Instruction
New elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction and understand the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

Fully meets
Nearly meets
Progress increased since 2013
Lost ground since 2013

WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Special Education Teacher Preparation Yes Only discrete elementary and secondary special education licenses are offered. Yes Elementary subject-matter test is required for elementary special education license. Yes Secondary-level test in at least one subject area is required for secondary special education license. Yes An adequate test on the science of reading is required for elementary special education teachers. Somewhat Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for special education teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

WEST VIRGINIA S	Special Education Teacher Preparation Characteristics
Special Education License(s)	K-6; 5-12
Content Tests	K-6: Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001) test or Praxis II Education of Young Children (5024) test 5-12: Praxis II single-subject content test or Praxis II Reading Specialist (5301) test 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.
Science of Reading Test	Praxis II Teaching Reading: Elementary Education (5203) test
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Partially addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Fully addressed (K-6); Not addressed (5-12)

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

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

 Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

While West Virginia is on the right track in requiring dual certification in a secondary content area, which would ensure content knowledge in at least one subject area, the state allows teachers who opt for dual certification in reading specialist to not pass any content tests. While it may be unreasonable to expect multi-subject sec-

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

Science of reading tests (p. 39)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

ondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements as single-subject teachers, West Virginia's current policy will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards.

- Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction. West Virginia has taken a step in the right direction with its adoption of the Multiple Subjects test, which mentions knowledge of informational texts. The state is encouraged to strengthen its teacher preparation requirements and ensure that all elementary special education candidates have the ability to adequately incorporate complex informational text into classroom instruction. Further, although West Virginia's required secondary English language arts content test addresses informational texts, the state should strengthen its policy and ensure, too, that secondary special education teachers are able to challenge
- Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

plexity.

students with texts of increasing com-

To ensure that special education students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, West Virginia should also—either through testing frameworks or teacher standards—include literacy skills and using text 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 WEST
VIRGINIA's special education teacher prep
policies, including detailed recommendations,
full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 12	DOESNOTOFER	Offers K-12 and	ication(s)
Do states distinguish	FER		ertif, K-72
between elementary	0		1 / 2/2 2 / 2/2
and secondary special	5 VC	3 K	Son
education teachers?	POE K-12 C) Brade,	Offers only a K-12
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
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lowa			
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Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
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Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri	1	П	$\overline{\Box}$
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Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	2		
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			3
Virginia			
Washington			
WEST VIRGINIA			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

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.

Figure 13
Which states require subject-matter testing for special education teachers?

Elementary Subject-Matter Test					
Eterneritary Subject Matter lest					
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri ¹ , New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania ² , Rhode Island, WEST VIRGINIA ³ , Wisconsin				
Required for a K-12 special education license	Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, North Carolina ⁴				
Secondary Subject-Matter Test(s)					
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	Missouri ¹ , New York ⁵ , Wisconsin ⁶				
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania², Rhode Island, WEST VIRGINIA³				
Required for a K-12 special education license	None				

- 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.

re states ensuring that new sp		MCORPORATING!	SUPPORTING STRICTS READERS STRICTS
ducation teachers are prepare	ed for the		
structional shifts associated w	vith college-	\\ \(\frac{1}{2} \)	19 A
nd career-readiness standards	5?	/ \ \ \	8 3
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts		П	
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			- Ē
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
WEST VIRGINIA			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

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

Assessing Professional Knowledge





WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Pedagogy

Yes

All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test.

WEST VIRGINIA	Pedagogy Characteristics
Pedagogy Test	Praxis II
Type of Test	Multiple choice
Teachers Included	All new teachers

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

West Virginia 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.

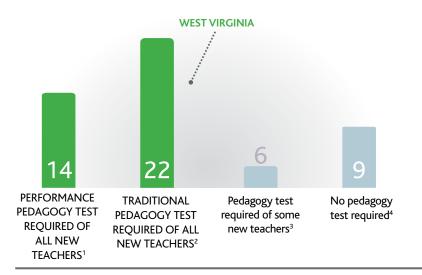
SUMMARY OF ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE FIGURES

Figure 15 Pedagogy tests

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

Figure 15

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



- 1. Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois⁵, Iowa⁶, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Tennessee⁶, Washington, Wisconsin
- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina⁷, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia
- 3. Connecticut, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Utah⁸
- 4. Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming
- 5. All new teachers must also pass a traditional pedagogy test.
- 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 WEST
VIRGINIA and other states' student
teaching policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





WEST VIRGINIA Student Teaching Characteristics		
Duration of Student Teaching	12 weeks unless the candidate is able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the college supervisor and the cooperating public school supervisor that she or he "has achieved the proficiency level in less than the specified time"	
Selection of Cooperating Teachers Connected to Effectiveness	No specific requirements	
Other Criteria for Selection of Cooperating Teachers	No specific requirements	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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 West Virginia should also be carefully screened for their capacity to further student achieve-

ment.

Require teacher candidates to spend at least 10 weeks student teaching.
West Virginia should require a full-time, summative clinical experience for all prospective teachers; this ensures both adequate classroom experience and exposure to a variety of ancillary professional activities.

 Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting

candidates from completing this

requirement abroad.

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 WEST
VIRGINIA's student teaching policies,
including detailed recommendations, full
narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 16	TEACHER	STUDENT TEACHING
Do states ensure a	ASE, TWC	
high-quality student	7 2 2 5 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	
teaching experience?		37.5
Alabama		~ 2
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		Щ
Florida		
Georgia Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas	Ä	
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		
Washington		
WEST VIRGINIA		
Wyoming		
Wyoming		
	13	34

For more information about
WEST VIRGINIA and other states'
leacher prep program accountability
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Teacher Prep Program Accountability

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings Program Accountability The approval process for teacher preparation programs holds programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce. ● Fully meets ● Nearly meets ● Partially meets ● Meets only a small part ● Does not meet ● Progress increased since 2013 ● Lost ground since 2013

WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Teacher Prep Program Accountability					
*	No	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.			
*	No	The state maintains full authority over program approval.			

WEST VIRGINIA Teacher Prep Program Accountability Characteristics				
Use of Student Achievement Data	Indicators of teacher effectiveness are required, per CAEP standard but there is no specific requirement for objective evidence of student achievement gains			
Other Data Collected	Employer surveys including retention and employment milestones; completer surveys; program graduation rates, licensing and hiring data; and student loan default rates			
Performance Standards for Data Collected	None			
Program Report Cards	No publicly available reports			
Role of National Accreditation	National accreditation required			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

Ensure that data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs is collected.

While current West Virginia policy allows for this data to be collected, student achievement growth measures are not specifically required. West Virginia should consider the academic achievement gains of students taught by programs' graduates, averaged over the first three years of teaching.

Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

While West Virginia does collect survey and retention data, the state's accountability system should include other objective measures in addition to student growth that show how well programs are preparing teachers for the classroom. Data could include candidate's evalua-

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

tion results from the first and/or second year of teaching and average raw scores on licensing tests including academic proficiency, subject matter and professional knowledge tests.

- Establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.
 - West Virginia should establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data, which programs should be held accountable for meeting.
- Publish an annual report card on the state's website.

West Virginia 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 performance standards.

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

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

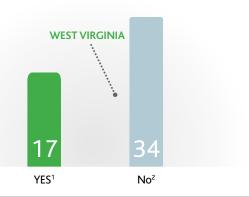
Examples of Best Practice

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

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

Figure 17

Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



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

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

Figure 18	OBJECTIVE PROCERM.	FOR PERFORMANDARDS	DATA PUBLICLY AVAILABLE CO
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Do states hold teacher	74.P	188	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
preparation programs	FC]	PERF	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
accountable?	18 8 /		44
Alabama		1	
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			2
Hawaii			
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	1		
Washington			
WEST VIRGINIA	1		
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

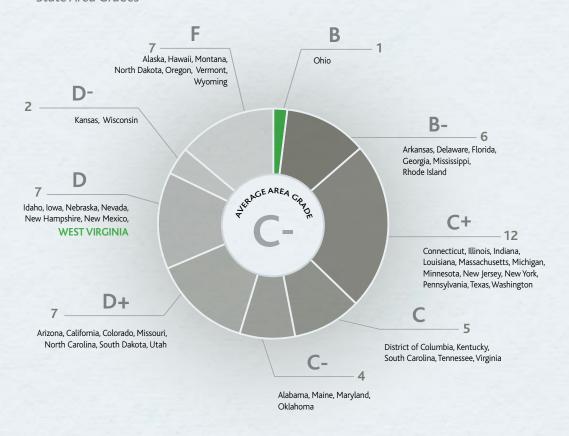
- $1. \ For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$
- 2. Report cards only include limited data.
- 3. Report cards are at the institution rather than the program level.
- ${\it 4.\ Non-university\ based\ alternate\ route\ programs\ are\ not\ included}.$
- $5. \ For \ alternate \ route \ programs \ only.$
- 6. University-based programs only; state does not distinguish between alternate route programs and traditional programs in public reporting.

Area 2 Summary



How States are Faring in Expanding the Pool of Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- Alternate Routes to Certification
- Part-Time Teaching Licenses

Licensure Reciprocity

Alternate Routes to Certification

For more information about
WEST VIRGINIA and other states'
alternate routes to certification
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

WEST VIRGINIA 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.

Fully meets

Nearly meets

Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013

WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot <u>Alternate Routes to Certification</u> A rigorous academic standard is required for program entry. No A subject-matter test is required for admission. Yes 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 No Coursework requirements are streamlined. Yes Coursework requirements are limited to relevant topics. Alternate routes are offered without limitation by grades, subjects or geographic areas. No Providers other than institutions of higher education are permitted. Yes

WEST VIRGINIA Alternate Routes to Certification Characteristics				
Name of Route(s)	Transition to Teaching (TtT)			
Academic Requirements for Entry	Minimum 2.5 GPA			
Subject-Matter Requirements for Entry A subject-matter exam and a major or previous work experience in the intended teaching area				
Minimum of six semester hours of coursework or six staff development hours in or or more of the areas of early literacy, student assessment, development and learni curriculum, classroom management, the use of educational computers and other technology, and special education and diversity				
Practice Teaching/Mentoring Requirements	Mentoring required			
Usage	Alternate routes can be used for certification to teach in any area but candidates are only considered when positions cannot be filled by traditionally prepared teachers			
Eligible Providers	Local universities, colleges, school districts, consortia of schools, the West Virginia Department of Education and regional educational service agencies			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

Increase academic requirements for admission.

West Virginia 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.

West Virginia 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 WEST
ViRGINIA's alternate routes to certification
policies, including detailed recommendations,
full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- Ensure that new teachers are not burdened by excessive requirements.
 - West Virginia should ensure that programs do not overburden the new teacher by requiring multiple courses to be taken simultaneously during the school year.
- Strengthen the induction experience for new teachers.
 - Although West Virginia 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.

 West Virginia should reconsider grade-level and subject-area restrictions on its alternate route, as a way to expand the teacher pipeline throughout the state.

Examples of Best Practice

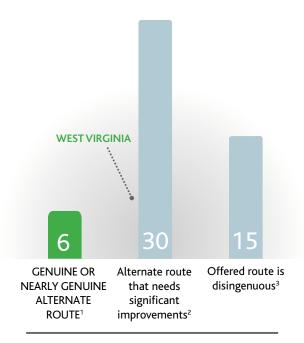
No state can be singled out for its overall alternate route policies. There are, however, states that offer best practices in individual alternate route policy areas.

With regard to admissions into alternate routes, the **District of Columbia** and **Michigan** have established a high bar. Both require candidates to demonstrate strong academic performance as a condition of admission with a minimum 3.0 GPA. In addition, neither requires a content-specific major; subjectarea knowledge is demonstrated by passing a test, making their alternate routes flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates. Also worthy of note is new policy in **New York** that significantly raises the bar by requiring that all graduate-level teacher preparation programs adopt entrance standards that include a minimum score on the GRE or an equivalent admission exam and a cumulative minimum GPA of 3.0 in the candidate's undergraduate program.

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

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

Figure 19
Do states provide real alternative pathways to certification?



^{1.} Strong Practice: Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, New Jersey, Rhode Island

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

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For more information about
WEST VIRGINIA and other states'
part-time teaching licenses policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Part-Time Teaching Licenses

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings Part-Time Teaching Licenses A license with minimal requirements is offered that allows content experts to teach part time. Pully meets Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013



No

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

West Virginia should permit individuals with deep subject-area knowledge to teach a limited number of courses without fulfilling a complete set of certification requirements. The state should verify content knowledge through a rigorous test and conduct background checks as appropriate, while waiving all other licensure requirements.

Examples of Best Practice

Georgia offers a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time. Individuals seeking this license must pass a subjectmatter test and are assigned a mentor.

SUMMARY OF PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES FIGURES

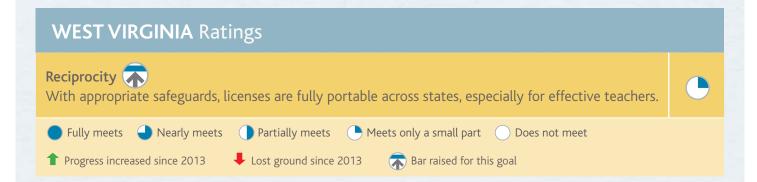
■ Figure 21 Part-time licenses

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

		Restricted or Var.	er i
Do states offer a license		/ %	» /
with minimal requirements		ορ _υ	<i>a</i>
that allows content experts		trict Seo	
to teach part time?	YES /	Res /	/ &
Alabama			
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South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont Virginia			
Washington			
WEST VIRGINIA			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

Licensure Reciprocity

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



	WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Reciprocity					
	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.				
₹	Yes	No other strings are attached for reciprocity, such as additional coursework or recency requirements.				
<	Yes	Transcript analysis is not explicitly required.				
	Yes	Alternate route teachers receive equal treatment.				

	WEST VIRGINIA Reciprocity Characteristics			
	License Available to Fully Certified Out-of-State Teachers	Permanent professional, with five years' experience		
Effectiveness Requirements None		None		
	Testing Requirements	Waiver with three years of teaching experience within the last seven years.		
	Coursework and/or Recency Requirements	None		
	Additional Alternate Route Requirements	None		

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RECIPROCITY POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

To facilitate the movement of effective teachers between states, West Virginia 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.

West Virginia should insist that outof-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 WEST
VIRGINIA's reciprocity policies, including
detailed recommendations, full narrative
analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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.

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

What do states require of			7 / 7
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other states?	EV	\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \	/ <u>\$</u>
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Obstacles include transcript analysis, recency and/or coursework requirements, and additional requirements for teachers certified through alternate routes.

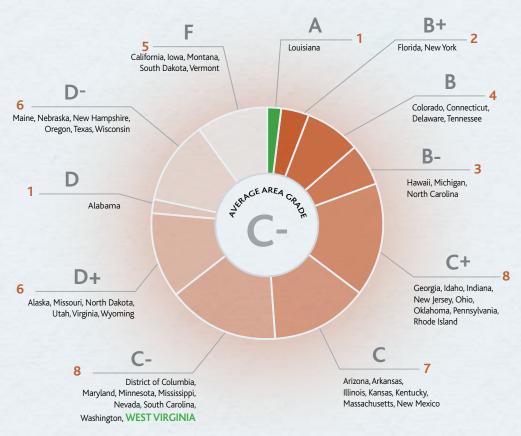
^{2.} Alaska allows up to three years to meet testing requirements.

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
WEST VIRGINIA and other states'
data systems policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings State Data Systems The state's data system contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness. Best Practice 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

	WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot State Data Systems					
*	Yes	Use of data system for providing evidence of effectiveness is mandated.				
*	Yes	Teacher of record is adequately defined.				
*	Yes	A process is in place for teacher roster verification.				
**	Yes	Data on teacher production are publicly reported.				

WEST VIRGINIA :	WEST VIRGINIA 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	The educator who is responsible for a significant portion of a student's instructional time within a given subject or course that is aligned to a state assessment, or other relevant assessment in grades/subjects that do not have a state assessment; explicitly linked to evaluation policy.					
Other Characteristics	Roster verification; Ability to connect multiple teachers to a single student					
Teacher Production Data/ Hiring Statistics	Publishes an annual Personnel Data Report, which provides information regarding supply and employment, broken down by both specialization and by district. These reports also outline the reasons positions have not been filled, such as lack of qualified applicants and/or current fiscal restraints.					

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STATE DATA SYSTEM POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

As a result of West Virginia's strong state data systems policies, no recommendations are provided.

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

Figure 23		0 /	7 × /
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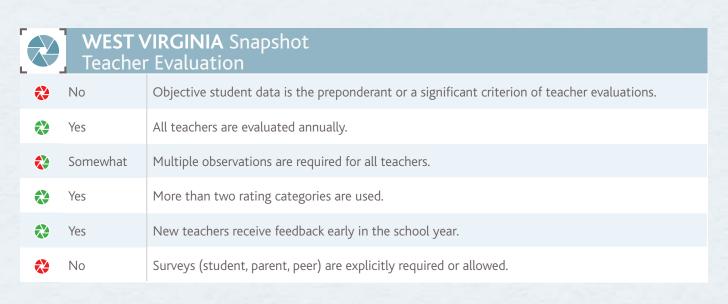
^{1.} Lacks capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time.

For more information about WEST .VIRGINIA and other states' teacher 🖫 evaluation policies, including full harrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Teacher Evaluation

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



WEST VIRGINIA	Teacher Evaluation Characteristics
Use of Student Achievement Data in Evaluation	Must be 20 percent of evaluation score
Types of Required Student Data	15 percent of a teacher's summative evaluation score is based on student growth as measured by student learning goals and 5 percent is based on student learning growth measured by the schoolwide score on the state summative assessment.
Other Required Measures	80 percent is based on an appraisal of the teacher's ability to perform to the established professional standards.
Number of Rating Categories	4
Frequency of Evaluations	Annual for all teachers
Number of Observations	First 3 years: 4 times annually, with the first one occurring by November 1 Fourth and fifth years: 2 times, with the first before November 1 Once a teacher has six-plus years of experience, observations are only conducted if requested by a principal.
System Structure	Single statewide system
Surveys (Parent, Student, Peer)	Not mentioned
Evaluator Requirements	Training

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER EVALUATION POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

West Virginia's policy falls short by failing to require that evidence of student learning be the most significant criterion. The state should strengthen its policy by ensuring a teacher is unable to receive an effective rating if found to be ineffective in the classroom.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 Strengthen formal evaluation requirements for nonprobationary teachers.

West Virginia should strengthen its policy regarding teachers with six-plus years of experience. Observation of professional practice is important for all teachers, even for those with experience; therefore, teacher evaluation instruments should include factors that combine both professional judgment and objective measures of student learning.

 Base evaluations on multiple observations.

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

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

West Virginia 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.

Figure 24	REQUIRES THAT STUDENT	Requires that student definitions of the student	Requires that student sindent with sample specific to the sample student student sindent sinde	Property of the state of the st	Student achieventer
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Vermont					
Virginia		3			
Washington					
WEST VIRGINIA					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	16	11	8	8	8

^{58 :} NCTO STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2015 | TEACHER EVALUATION | WEST VIRGINIA

 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	:	CHERS
Do states require districts	A STA	ZE S
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WEST VIRGINIA		
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	27	45

Tenure

For more information about WEST VIRGINIA and other states' tenure policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings Tenure Tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness. Fully meets • Nearly meets

Lost ground since 2013



WEST VIRGINIA Tenure Characteristics		
Consideration of Teacher Effectiveness	Evidence of effectiveness not considered.	
Length of Probationary Period	3 years	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TENURE POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

- End the automatic awarding of tenure.

 The decision to grant tenure should be a deliberate one, based on consideration of a teacher's commitment and actual evidence of classroom effectiveness.
- Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.

West Virginia should make evidence of effectiveness, rather than number of years in the classroom, the most significant factor when determining this leap in professional standing.

 Articulate a process that local districts must administer when deciding which teachers get tenure.

West Virginia should require a clear process, such as a hearing, to ensure that the local district reviews a teacher's performance before making a determination regarding tenure.

■ Require a longer probationary period.

West Virginia should extend its probationary period, ideally to five years. This would allow sufficient time to collect data that adequately reflect teacher performance.

Examples of Best Practice

Colorado, Connecticut and New York appropriately base tenure decisions on evidence of teacher effectiveness. In Connecticut, tenure is awarded after four years and must be earned on the basis of effective practice as demonstrated in evaluation ratings. Colorado requires ratings of either effective or highly effective for three consecutive years to earn tenure status, which can then be lost with two consecutive years of less-than-effective ratings. New York has extended its probationary period to four years and requires teachers to be rated effective or highly effective for three of those years. All three states require that student growth be the preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations.

SUMMARY OF TENURE FIGURES

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

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

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Figure 26	EX.	FRION /	cher red	/ ح
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Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
WEST VIRGINIA				
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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."
- 4. No state-level policy.
- Oklahoma has created a loophole by essentially waiving student learning requirements and allowing the principal of a school to petition for career-teacher status.

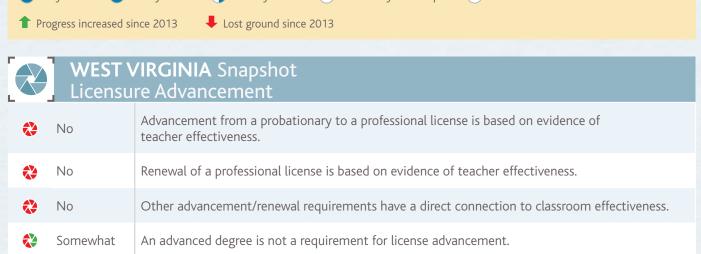
Figure 27 How long before a teacher earns tenure?							, e
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Delaware							
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Ohio						5	
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WEST VIRGINIA							
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, ,	_						
	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 WEST
VIRGINIA and other states' licensure
advancement policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings Licensure Advancement Licensure advancement is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness. Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet



WEST VIRGINIA Licensure Advancement Characteristics				
Performance Requirements to Advance from a Probationary to Professional License	None			
Other Requirements for Advancement	Professional: Complete 6 semester hours of college coursework. Permanent (optional): Must complete two 5-year renewal processes, or one 5-year renewal process and obtain a master's degree.			
Initial Certification Period	3 years			
Performance Requirements to Renew a Professional License	None			
Other Requirements for Renewal	Must complete one of the following: 6 semester hours of coursework, or verification of a salary classification of a master's degree plus 30 additional hours (MA+30), or documentation of age 60 with a superintendent's recommendation.			
Renewal Period	Professional: 5 years; Permanent: none			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

West Virginia should require evidence of teacher effectiveness to be a factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license. The state's current policy is further compromised by the issuance of lifetime Permanent Teaching Certificates, with no requirements for renewal.

 Discontinue license requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

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

 End requirement tying teacher advancement to obtaining master's degrees.

West Virginia should remove its mandate that teachers obtain a master's or doctorate degree for any level of license advancement, as research is conclusive that master's degrees do not have any significant correlation to performance.

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 WEST VİRGINIA's licensure advancement policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 28		Some objective evid	ه / ره	\$ \$ \$ /
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Georgia does not require evidence of effectiveness for each year of renewal period.

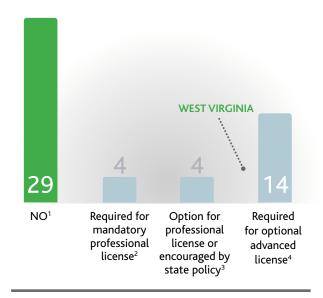
^{2.} Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.

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

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

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

Figure 29
Do states require teachers to earn advanced degrees before conferring professional licenses?



Strong Practice: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming

- 2. Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, New York
- 3. Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Oregon
- 4. Alabama, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia

Equitable Distribution of Teachers

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

WEST VIRGINIA 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





WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Equitable Distribution of Teachers

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

WEST VIRGINIA 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, educational attainment of teachers and average years of teaching experience for each school.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

West Virginia 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.

West Virginia 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.

Providing comparative data for schools with similar poverty and minority populations would yield an even more comprehensive picture of gaps in the equitable distribution of teachers in West Virginia.

■ Ensure that data are current.

It is important to keep data updated and current in order to provide the public with an accurate picture of teacher distribution across schools in districts.

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

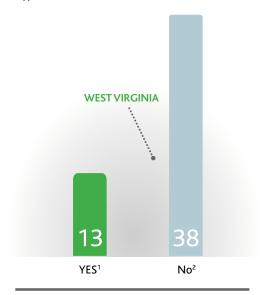
Other equitable distribution of teachers figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Data reporting requirements (p. 99)

VIRGINIA'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?



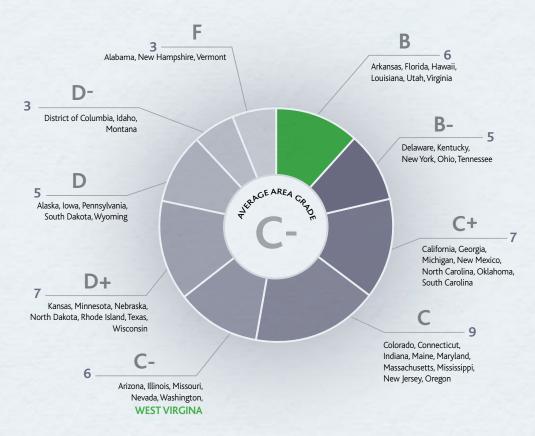
- Strong Practice: Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania
- Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland,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

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

New Teacher Induction

Compensation

· Professional Development

New Teacher Induction

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

WEST VIRGINIA 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





WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot New Teacher Induction

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

WEST VIRGINIA New Teacher Induction Characteristics

Induction Program	Reports percentage of highly qualified teachers, educational attainment of teachers and average years of teaching experience for each school.
Requirements for Mentor/ New Teacher Contact	Determined at the local level
Selection Criteria for Mentors	Mentors must be selected "based on demonstrated superior performance and competence."
Other Mentor Requirements	Determined at the local level
Required Induction Strategies Other than Mentoring	Determined at the local level

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE NEW TEACHER INDUCTION POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

Ensure that a high-quality mentoring experience is available to all new teachers, especially those in lowperforming schools.

West Virginia should ensure that all new teachers—especially any teacher in a low-performing school—receive mentoring support, especially in the first critical weeks of school.

■ Set more specific parameters.

West Virginia should ensure that all teachers receive high-quality mentoring by specifying how long the program lasts for a new teacher, who selects the mentors and a requirement for program evaluation.

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

Prior regulations required beginning teachers and mentors to schedule joint planning periods and have weekly meetings to discuss performance. Also, mentors were required to participate in professional development training and were entitled to release time.

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

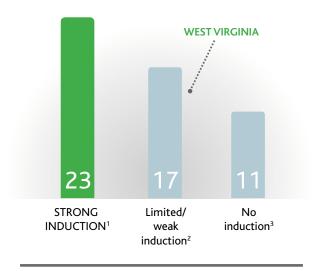
Other new teacher induction figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Elements of induction (p. 104)

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

Professional Development

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings

Professional Development

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





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



♠ Progress increased since 2013





WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Professional Development

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

WEST VIRGINIA	Professional Development Characteristics
Connection Between Evaluation and Professional Development	Evaluations must "serve as a basis for professional development that specifically targets the area(s) identified for professional growth."
Evaluation Feedback	Provides postobservation conferences to "exchange reflection and feedback and identify strategies and resources;" end-of-year conference
Improvement Plan	Two plans: a focused support plan when there is an area of concern; a corrective action plan for unsatisfactory performance

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FIGURES

Figure 32 Connecting teacher evaluation to continuous improvement

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

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

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

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

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

Compensation

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

WEST VIRGINIA Ratings	
Pay Scales and Performance Pay While local districts are given the authority over pay scales, performance pay is supported, but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.	
Differential Pay Differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas is supported.	4
Compensation for Prior Work Experience Districts are encouraged to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.	•
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet	
↑ Progress increased since 2013 ↓ Lost ground since 2013 ♠ Bar Raised for this Goal	

	WEST \ Compe	/IRGINIA Snapshot nsation
*	No	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.
*	Yes	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.

WEST VIRGINIA	Compensation Characteristics
Authority for Salary Schedule	State provides a minimum salary schedule
Performance Pay Initiatives	None
Role of Experience and Advanced Degrees in Salary Schedule	Minimum salary schedule is based on teachers' years of experience and earned advanced degrees.
Differential Pay for Shortage Subjects	None; loan forgiveness offered; up to \$3,000 annually, with an overall cap of \$15,000
Differential Pay for High-Need Schools	A teacher mentoring increment is available for teachers with National Board certification who teach and mentor at persistently low-performing schools. Loan forgiveness also available; up to \$3,000 annually, with an overall cap of \$15,000.
Pay for Prior Work Experience	None

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

 Give districts flexibility to determine their own pay structure and scales.

While West Virginia may find it appropriate to articulate the starting salary that a teacher should be paid, it should not require districts to adhere to a state-dictated salary schedule.

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

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

SUMMARY OF COMPENSATION FIGURES

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

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

 Expand differential pay initiatives for teachers in shortage-subject areas.

West Virginia should expand its loan repayment program to include those who are already part of the teaching pool, as a salary differential is an attractive incentive for every teacher, not just those with education debt.

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

West Virginia 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.

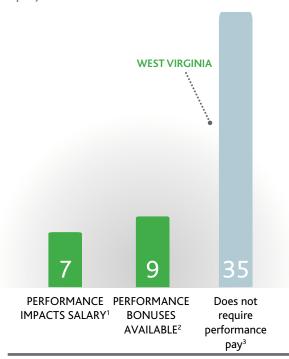
In addition, Indiana and Utah both articulate compensation policies that reward effective teachers by requiring performance to be the most important factor in deciding a teacher's salary. Louisiana supports differential pay by offering up to \$3,000 per year, for four years, to teach math, biology, chemistry,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

VIRGINIA's compensation policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 33

Do states ensure pay is structured to account for performance?



- Strong Practice: Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Nevada, Utah
- 2. Strong Practice: Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee⁴
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona⁵, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho⁶, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky⁷, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri⁶, Montana, Nebraska⁷, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon⁷, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia⁷, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. A performance component is not required. Districts must differentiate teacher compensation based on at least one of the following criteria: additional roles or responsibilities, hard-to-staff schools or subject areas, and performance based on teacher evaluations.
- Arizona allocates funds for teacher compensation increases based on performance and employment related expenses; there is no clear requirement for compensation connected to evidence of effectiveness.
- 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		<i>y</i> ≥≥ /	/ 4 /	Requires compensation
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Do states provide incentives to teach in high-need schools or shortage subject areas? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois	Figure 35		HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	/
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^{1.} Iowa provides state assistance to supplement salaries of teachers in high-need schools.

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

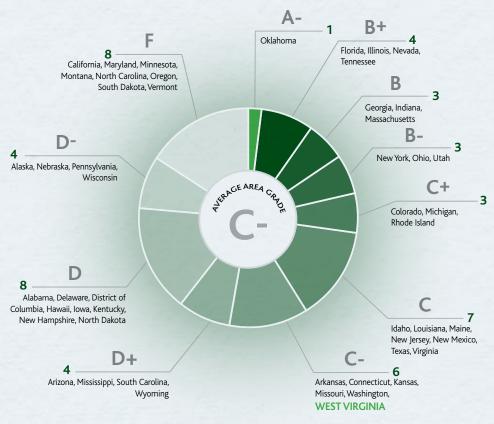
^{3.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in highneed schools.

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers

State Area Grades



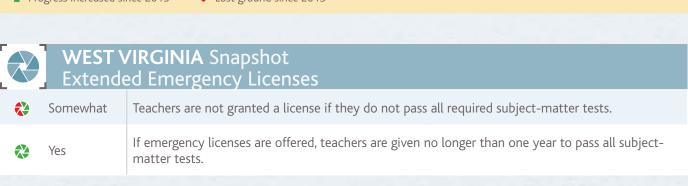
Topics Included In This Area

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

Extended Emergency Licenses

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





WEST VIRGINIA	WEST VIRGINIA Extended Emergency License Characteristics					
Emergency License	Temporary Certificate					
Minimum Requirements	Generally no emergency licenses, but temporary certificate available to out-of-state teachers who have met all requirements except licensing tests					
Duration	1 year					
Renewal Requirements	Nonrenewable					

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSE POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

 Ensure that all teachers—including out of state teachers—meet West Virginia's subject-matter licensing standards.

Allowing out-of-state teachers who have not passed licensure tests to remain in the classroom for up to one year neglects the needs of 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 WEST
VIRGINIA's extended emergency licenses
policies, including detailed recommendations,
full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 36		/	/	/
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- 1. Teachers can have up to two additional years to pass licensing tests in the event of "extraordinary extenuating circumstances."
- 2. Out-of-state teachers can teach on a non-renewable license until all requirements are met.
- 3. Tennessee does not offer emergency licenses but candidates for initial practitioner license have three years to pass licensure tests.
- 4. Permits can be extended without passing licensing tests if districts receive hardship approval.

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

Dismissal for Poor Performance

WEST VIRGINIA 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

- ♠ Progress increased since 2013
- Lost ground since 2013



WEST VIRGINIA Snapshot Dismissal

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

WEST VIRGINIA Dismissal Characteristics If after remediation for an unsatisfactory evaluation a teacher's rating remains Dismissal for Ineffectiveness unsatisfactory, the evaluator "may recommend the dismissal of the professional." Process is the same regardless of the grounds for cancellation, which include: "immorality, incompetency, cruelty, insubordination, intemperance, willful neglect of duty, Due Process Rights of Teachers unsatisfactory performance, the conviction of a felony or a guilty plea or a plea of nolo contendere to a felony charge" Multiple opportunities to appeal: After written notice, the teacher may, within five days, request a level three hearing. No time frame specified for the hearing, just that the Length of Appeals Process administrative law judge must issue a decision within 30 days of the hearing's conclusion.

The decision may be appealed to the circuit court.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE DISMISSAL POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

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

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

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF DISMISSAL FIGURES

Figure 37 Dismissal due to ineffectiveness

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

Dismissal appeals (p. 130)

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

Figure 37		/
Do states articulate that	7 3	85
	\$ ₹	
ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal?	7.8.5 0.7.5 0.7.5	<u> </u>
for dismissal?	YES THROUGH EVALUATION OF	
Alabama	7 4	/ &
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		<u></u> 1
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland Massachusetts		
Michigan		
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Nebraska		
Nevada		2
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		
Washington		
WEST VIRGINIA Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
wyoning		
	28	23

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

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

Reductions in Force

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

WEST VIRGINIA 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



WEST VIRGINIA 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.

WEST VIRGINIA Reductions in Force Characteristics Performance not considered Use of Teacher Performance Use of Seniority Sole factor Other Factors None

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE REDUCTIONS IN FORCE POLICIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

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

West Virginia should give districts the flexibility to determine their own lay-off 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.

Although it may be useful to consider seniority among other criteria, West Virginia's current policy puts adult interests before student needs.

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)

For more information about WEST VIRGINIA's reductions in force policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see ... http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 38	5	SEWORITY CANNOT BE
Do states prevent districts	FMC	/ <u>\$</u> \$
from basing layoffs solely	ERE ERE	7 2 2
on "last in, first out"?	VS/C	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
	PERFORMANCE MUST	SENIC THE OL
Alabama	7 1	
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia Florida		
Georgia Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky	Ē	Ī
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
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Nebraska		
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New Mexico New York		
North Carolina		
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Ohio		
Oklahoma		
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Rhode Island		
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Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
WEST VIRGINIA		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	19	22





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NCTQ is available to work with individual states to improve teacher policies.

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