2013 State Teacher Policy Yearbook

Rhode Island





Acknowledgments

STATES

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

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National Council on Teacher Quality

Executive Summary

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

Rhode Island at a Glance



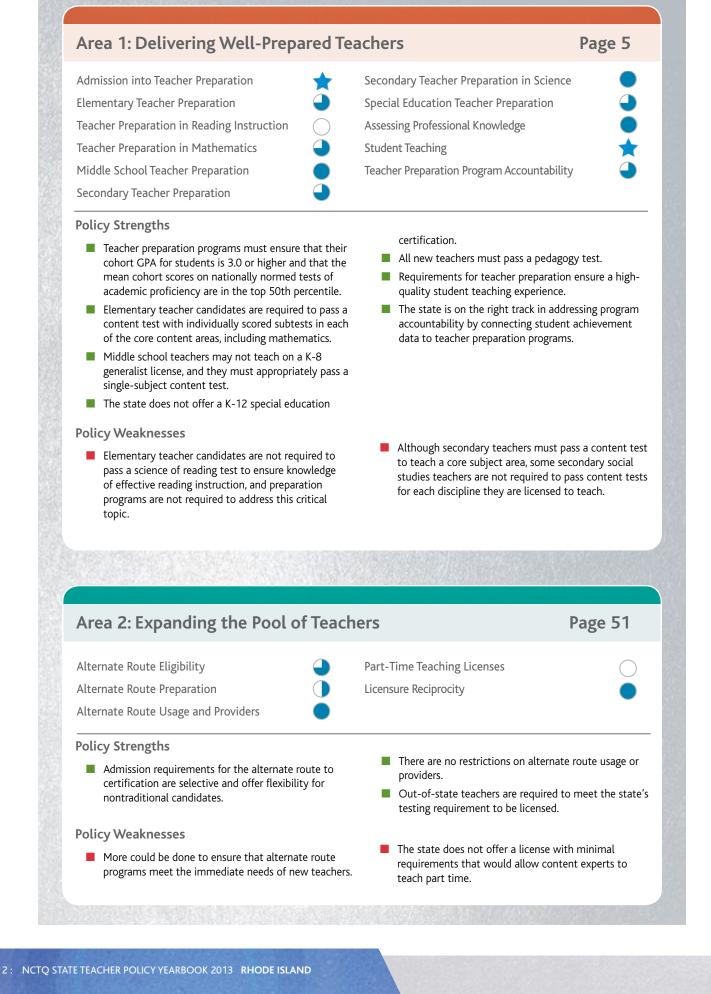
Overall 2013 Yearbook Grade

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

Goal Breakdown	2013	Progress on Goals
🚖 Best Practice	3	Since 2011
Fully Meets	8	Progress has increased 11
Nearly Meets	12	No change in progress 20
Partially Meets	1	
Meets Only a Small Part	2	Progress has decreased0
O Does Not Meet	5	

¹ State teacher pension policy is no longer included in the State Teacher Policy Yearbook. So that Area 4 grades can be compared, 2011 grades have been recalculated to exclude the pension goals. Overall 2011 grades were not recalculated, as the impact was negligible.



How is Rhode Island Faring?

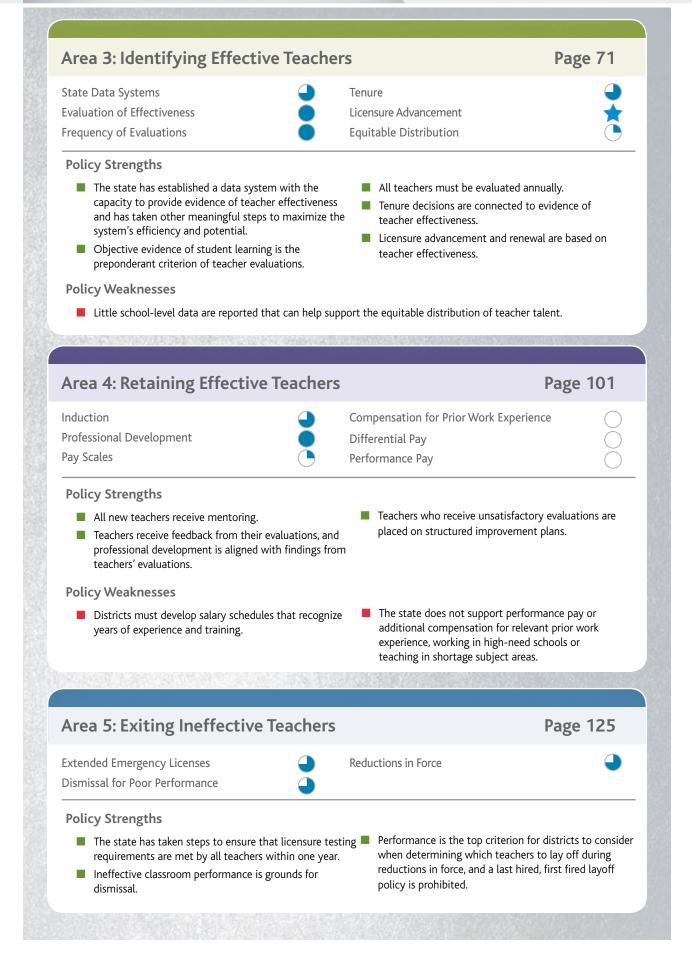


Figure A	Overall _{State} Grade 20 ₁₃	Overall _{State} Grade 2017	Overall State Grade 2009
Florida	B+	В	С
Louisiana	B	C-	C-
RHODE ISLAND	В	B-	D
Tennessee	В	B-	C-
Arkansas	B-	C	C-
Connecticut	B-	C-	D+
Georgia	B-	C	C-
Indiana	B-	C+	D
Massachusetts	B-	С	D+
Michigan	B-	C+	D-
New Jersey	B-	D+	D+
New York	B-	С	D+
Ohio	B-	C+	D+
Oklahoma	B-	B-	D+
Colorado	C+	С	D+
Delaware	C+	С	D
Illinois	C+	С	D+
Virginia	C+	D+	D+
Kentucky	С	D+	D+
Mississippi	С	D+	D+
North Carolina	С	D+	D+
Utah	С	C-	D
Alabama	C-	C-	C-
Arizona	C-	D+	D+
Maine	C-	D-	F
Minnesota	C-	C-	D-
Missouri	C-	D	D
Nevada	C-	C-	D-
Pennsylvania	C-	D+	D
South Carolina	C-	C-	C-
Texas	C-	C-	C-
Washington	C-	C-	D+
West Virginia	C-	D+	D+
California	D+	D+	D+
District of Columbia	D+	D	D-
Hawaii	D+	D-	D-
Idaho	D+	D+	D-
Maryland	D+	D+	D
New Mexico	D+	D+	D+
Wisconsin	D+	D	D
Alaska	D	D	D
lowa	D	D	D
Kansas	D	D	D-
New Hampshire	D	D-	D-
North Dakota	D	D	D-
Oregon	D	D-	D-
Wyoming Nebraska	D	D	D-
South Dakota	D- D-	D- D	D- D
Vermont	D- D-	D-	F
		D- F	F
Montana	F	F	Г

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
\bigcirc	Does Not Meet

PROGRESS INDICATOR

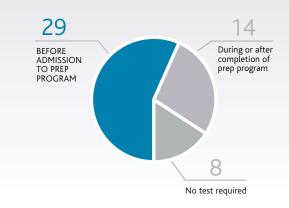
Whether the state has advanced on the goal, policy has remained unchanged or the state has lost ground on that topic:

\mathbf{O}	Goal progress has increased since 2011
\bigcirc	Goal progress has decreased since 2011
Ð	Goal progress has remained the same since 2011

BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL *Indicates the criteria to meet the goal have been raised since the 2011* Yearbook.

READING CHARTS AND TABLES:

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

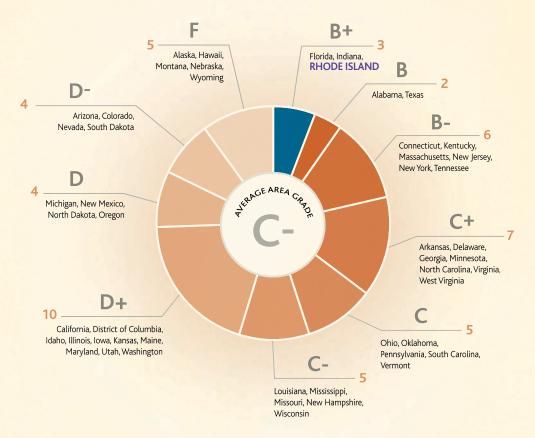




Area 1 Summary

How States are Faring on Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

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

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

Goal A – Admission into Teacher Preparation

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

Goal Components

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

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

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

Background

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

Figure 1

How States are Faring in Admission Requirements

- 2 Best Practice States Delaware 1, RHODE ISLAND 1
 1 State Meets Goal Texas
 - 3 States Nearly Meet Goal Mississippi¹, New Jersey¹, Utah¹
- 11 States Partly Meet Goal Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky¹, North Carolina, South Carolina¹, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 13 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alabama 1, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois 1, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan 1, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire 1, Oklahoma 1, Oregon 1, Pennsylvania

21 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:12 ↔:38 ↓:1



ANALYSIS

New policy in Rhode Island requires approved undergraduate teacher preparation programs ensure that their cohort GPA is 3.0 or higher and the cohort mean score on nationally normed tests such as the ACT, SAT or GRE are in the top 50th percentile in 2016. By 2020 the mean cohort score on these nationally normed tests must be in the top 33rd percentile.

Individual candidates must meet a GPA requirement and meet the current year's threshold on nationally normed tests. Students not meeting the current year threshold, must achieve at least the previous year's threshold and meet Rhode Island's score requirements on the Praxis I.

Further, the state allows programs, in rare instances and with state approval, to offer conditional acceptance to candidates not meeting this requirement, provided they receive appropriate support.

Supporting Research

Assessment of Pre-Professional Skills Update

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/ Educator-Certification/Becoming-an-Educator/Final-2012-Basic-Skills-Memo-for-posting.pdf

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

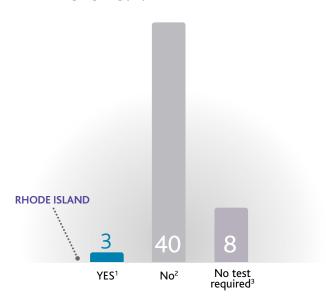
Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 2

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



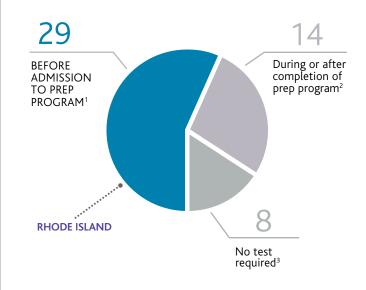
1. Strong Practice: Delaware, Rhode Island, Texas

2. Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Wyoming

Figure 3

When do states test teacher candidates' academic proficiency?



 Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

 Alaska, California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Vermont

3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Wyoming

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Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	3	26	14	8

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

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



1. Strong Practice: Delaware, Mississippi⁶, New Jersey⁶, Oklahoma⁷, Pennsylvania⁸, Rhode Island⁶, Utah

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

^{2.} Kentucky, Texas

Goal B – Elementary Teacher Preparation

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

Goal Components

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

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



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

Background

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

Figure 6

How States are Faring in Elementary Teacher Preparation



Best Practice State Indiana

- 2 States Meet Goal Connecticut¹, New Hampshire¹
- 11 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama⁺, Arkansas⁺, District of Columbia⁺, Florida⁺, Idaho⁺, Kentucky⁺, New Jersey⁺, RHODE ISLAND⁺, Texas⁺, Utah⁺, Virginia⁺
- 14 States Partly Meet Goal California, Delaware , Georgia, Maine , Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York , North Carolina , Oklahoma, Oregon , Pennsylvania , South Carolina , Vermont , West Virginia
 - 5 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona 1, Colorado, Mississippi, New Mexico, Washington
 - 18 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio¹, South Dakota, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:24 ↔:27 ↓:0

1-B Analysis: Rhode Island

State Nearly Meets Goal 🔿 Bar Raised for this Goal 🕥 Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island has adopted the Common Core State Standards, which represent an effort to significantly raise the standards for the knowledge and skills American students will need for college readiness and global competitiveness. The state is on the right track in ensuring that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach the rigorous content associated with these standards.

Rhode Island now requires all elementary teacher candidates to pass the Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects test, which is comprised of four subtests with individual scores in math, reading and language arts, science and social studies. Candidates must pass each subtest to be eligible for licensure.

Early childhood education (PK-2) candidates must pass either the Praxis II Early Childhood: Content Knowledge test or the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects test.

Rhode Island does not require its elementary teacher candidates to earn an academic content specialization.

Supporting Research Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org Requirements for Elementary Certificate http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/ Educator-Certification/Cert-Requirements/Elem-Req.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that content tests adequately measure sufficient knowledge in all subjects.

Rhode Island should ensure that its new subject-matter test for elementary teacher candidates is well aligned with the Common Core State Standards, which represent an effort to significantly raise the standards for the knowledge and skills American students will need for college readiness and global competitiveness. To make the test meaningful, Rhode Island should also ensure that the passing scores on each subtest reflect high levels of performance.

Further, although requiring content testing for early childhood education teacher candidates is a sound requirement, Rhode Island should strengthen its policy and require separate, meaningful passing scores for each area on the test.

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 Rhode Island take higher-level academic coursework. The requirement also provides an important safeguard in the event that candidates are unable to successfully complete clinical practice requirements. With an academic concentration (or better still a major or minor), candidates who are not ready for the classroom and do not pass student teaching can still be on track to complete a degree.

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

Rhode Island should either articulate a more specific set of standards or establish comprehensive coursework requirements for elementary teacher candidates that align with the Common Core State Standards to ensure that candidates will complete coursework relevant to the common topics in elementary grades. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours in the

core subject areas of English, science, social studies and fine arts. Rhode Island has adopted NCATE/ CAEP's Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) standards for approving its elementary programs. However, ACEI standards fall far short of the mark by offering no mention of world and American history; world, British and American literature; American government; or grammar and composition. ACEI standards do mention important topics in science, but even in those areas, the standards consist mainly of extremely general competencies that programs should help teacher candidates to achieve. The testing framework for Rhode Island's newly adopted Praxis II elementary content test is also far from complete, leaving gaps in a number of important areas such as American, world, British and children's literature; and art history.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	19	9	19	4

EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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

1. Alaska does not require testing for initial licensure.

- 2. The required test is a questionable assessment of content knowledge, instead emphasizing methods and instructional strategies.
- 3. 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.

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

Do states require early teach elementary grades to pass a content knowledge test?

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Alaska					
Arizona					
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Colorado					
Connecticut					
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	5				1.5

1. 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. May pass either multiple subjects (subscores) or content knowledge (no subscores) test.

Figure 9		ENGLISH	/	SCIENCE		SOCIAL STUDIES	/ FINE ARTS
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Wyoming							
						Subject mentioned	Subject covered in depth

What subjects does Rhode Island expect elementary teachers to know?

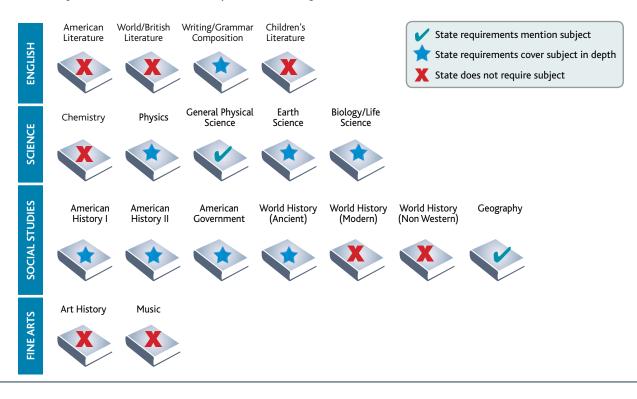
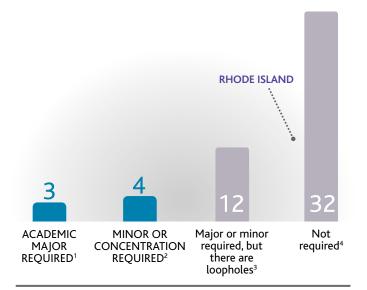


Figure 11

Do states expect elementary teachers to complete an academic concentration?



1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico

2. Strong Practice: Indiana, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Oklahoma

3. California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia

These states require a major, minor or concentration but there is no assurance it will be in an academic subject area.

4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Goal C – Elementary Teacher Preparation in **Reading Instruction**

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

Goal Components

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

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

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

Background

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



1-C Analysis: Rhode Island

State Does Not Meet Goal

⊼ Bar Raised for this Goal (🕂 Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Although Rhode Island requires elementary teacher candidates to pass the Praxis II Multiple Subjects test, which includes reading as a topic, this assessment does not generate a separate reading score and, therefore, does not amount to an adequate stand-alone reading test. Further, although better than previous Praxis tests, the Multiple Subjects test does not appear to be fully aligned with scientifically based reading instruction.

Rhode Island also does not require that teacher preparation programs for elementary teacher candidates address the science of reading. The state has neither coursework requirements nor standards related to this critical area.

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

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

Ensure that teacher preparation programs prepare elementary teaching candidates in the science of reading instruction.

Rhode Island should require teacher preparation programs in the state to train candidates in scientifically based reading instruction.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

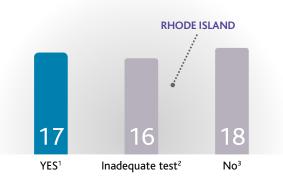
igure 13		PARATIO UIREMEN	TS /	TEST REQUIRE	
Do states ensure that elementary teachers know the science of reading?	FULLY ADDRESS	Do not address reading science	APPROPRIA.	Inadequate for	No reading test
Alabama			1		
Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida					
Georgia					
Hawaii					
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina			2		
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania					
RHODE ISLAND					
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
-					
West Virginia					
West Virginia Wisconsin					
-					

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum.
 Teachers have until their second year to pass the reading test.

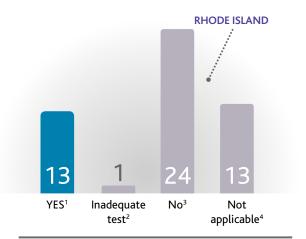
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading?



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

Figure 15

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



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

Goal D – Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics

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

Goal Components

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

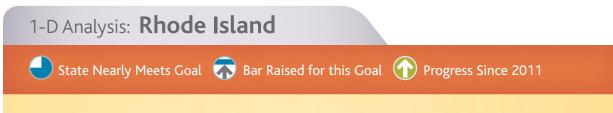
- The state should require teacher preparation programs to deliver mathematics content of appropriate breadth and depth to elementary teacher candidates. This content should be specific to the needs of the elementary teacher (i.e., foundations, algebra and geometry with some statistics).
- 2. The state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

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

Background

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

Figure 16 How States are Faring in Teacher Preparation in Mathematics **Best Practice States** States Meet Goal Arkansas 1, Florida 1, Indiana, Kentucky 1, New York 1, North Carolina 1, Texas 1, Virginia 1 15 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama¹, Connecticut¹, Delaware¹, District of Columbia 1, Idaho 1, Maine 1, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire 1, New Jersey 1, RHODE ISLAND 1, South Carolina¹, Utah, Vermont¹, West Virginia¹ State Partly Meets Goal California 21 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon 1, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wyoming 6 States Do Not Meet Goal Colorado, Hawaii I, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Wisconsin **Progress on this Goal Since 2011:** ★:20 ↔:30 4:1



ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires all teacher candidates to pass the Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects test, which includes a separately scored math subtest.

Rhode Island's early childhood education teachers, who are allowed to teach through grade 2, have the choice of passing either the "Multiple Subjects" test or the early childhood general content test. The latter does not report a separate math score.

Supporting Research Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

Require early childhood education teacher candidates to pass a rigorous mathematics assessment as a condition of initial licensure.

Rhode Island should ensure that early childhood education teacher candidates who teach its elementary grades possess the requisite knowledge of mathematics before entering the classroom. Therefore, the state should require all candidates to earn a passing score on the same test as other elementary teachers or a comparably rigorous one geared to early childhood mathematics content.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

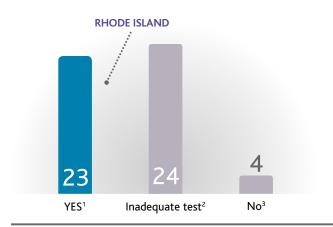
Rhode Island was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 17

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



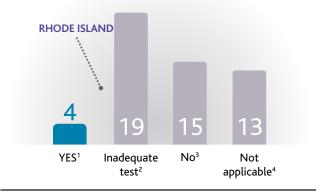
 Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas⁴, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia

 Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming

- 3. Alaska⁵, Hawaii, Montana, Ohio⁶
- 4. Test is not yet available for review.
- 5. Testing is not required for initial licensure.
- 6. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass an adequate content test.

Figure 18

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



1. Strong Practice: Florida, Indiana, New York, Virginia

- 2. Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Arizona, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming

4. Alaska, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.

Goal E – Middle School Teacher Preparation

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 19

How States are Faring in Middle School **Teacher** Preparation



Best Practice States Georgia, Mississippi, New Jersey, South Carolina

Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia

19 States Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Iowa1, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio 1, Pennsylvania, RHODE ISLAND¹, Texas¹,



3

States Nearly Meet Goal Maryland, New York, North Carolina 1, Tennessee

States Partly Meet Goal Massachusetts, Minnesota, Wisconsin

States Meet a Small Part of Goal 7 Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Wyoming

14 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii Idaho, Illinois, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:5 👄 : 45 ↓:1

1-E Analysis: Rhode Island



ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires middle school candidates to earn either a college major in the content area or a minimum of 21 credits.

All new middle school teachers in Rhode Island are also required to pass a Praxis II single-subject content test to attain licensure.

Commendably, Rhode Island does not offer a K-8 generalist license.

Supporting Research

Test Requirements http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/ Educator-Certification/Cert-main-page/Certification-Tests-September-1-2013.pdf Certification Requirements

http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/EducatorCertification.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure meaningful content tests.

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

Strengthen middle school teachers' subject-matter preparation.

Rhode Island should encourage middle school teachers who plan to teach multiple subjects to earn two minors in two core academic areas. However, Rhode Island should require a subject-area major for middle school candidates who intend to teach a single subject.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island noted that it offers three types of middle school certificates. The stand-alone certification requires a major for each content area sought and the appropriate test. The elementary extension requires 21 credits or a major for each content area sought in addition to the appropriate test. The secondary extension can be added only to secondary content areas; it requires a major and a test.

Figure 20	FFERED	borns	/
Do states distinguish middle grade preparation from elementary preparation?	K-8 UCENSE NOT OFFERED	A B license officed for self-contained dassrooms	k-Blicense offered
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			1
Arkansas			
California		2	
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			1
Ohio			
Oklahoma			3
Oregon			4
Pennsylvania			
RHODE ISLAND			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			.
Wyoming			
	31	5	15

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

1. Offers 1-8 license.

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

3. With the exception of mathematics.

4. Oregon offers 3-8 license.

Figure 21		No, test does not report	5	
Do middle school teachers		5	No, K-8 license equipeds	No testing of all subjects
have to pass an appropriate		it rep	de s	test I subj
content test in every core		r all (ense,	d of a
subject they are licensed		rest d	K-8 lic leme	testing quire
to teach?	YES	No, 1	No.	No, t Pot re
	_ /	~ /	~ /	` _
Alabama Alaska				1
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				2
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida				
Georgia				
Hawaii				
Idaho			3	
Illinois				
Indiana				
lowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine	4			
Maryland Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
Montana				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York	5			
North Carolina	6			
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma			7	
Oregon Pennsylvania				
RHODE ISLAND				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	26	3	16	6

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 test.
- 3. For K-8 license, Idaho also requires a single-subject test.
- 4. Maryland allows elementary teachers to teach in departmentalized middle schools if not less than 50 percent of the teaching assignment is within the elementary education grades.
- 5. For nondepartmentalized classrooms, generalist in middle childhood education candidates must pass new assessment with three subtests.
- 6. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 7. Candidates opting for middle-level endorsement may either complete a major or pass a content test.

Goal F – Secondary Teacher Preparation

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 22

How States are Faring in Secondary Teacher Preparation



3 Best Practice States Georgia, Indiana, Tennessee



States Meet Goal Minnesota, South Dakota

28 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri¹, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon¹, Pennsylvania, RHODE ISLAND¹, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

8 States Partly Meet Goal District of Columbia, Iowa[↑], Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska[↑], Nevada, New Mexico



State Meets a Small Part of Goal North Carolina

9 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii , Montana, New Hampshire, Washington, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:6 ↔:44 ↓:1

1-F Analysis: Rhode Island

State Nearly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires that its secondary teacher candidates pass a Praxis II content test to teach any core secondary subjects.

Regrettably, Rhode Island offers secondary certification in general social studies. Candidates are required to pass the Praxis II Social Studies content test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general social studies but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Further, to add an additional field to a secondary license, teachers must also pass a Praxis II content test. However, as stated above, Rhode Island cannot guarantee content knowledge in each specific subject for secondary teachers who add general social studies endorsements.

Supporting Research

Test Requirements

http://ride.ri.gov/EducatorQuality/Certification/Certification%20Docs/Certification_Tests_September-1-2013.pdf Adding Endorsements

http://www.ride.ri.gov/EducatorQuality/CertificationRedesign/DOCS/Certification%20Redesign%20Regulations%20 -%20Promulgated%20Version.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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—Rhode Island is not ensuring that its secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. The state's required assessment combines all subject areas (e.g., history, geography, economics) and does not report separate scores for each subject area.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island asserted that teachers adding additional secondary areas must earn a major in the area as well as pass the appropriate Praxis II test. The state added that it doesn't make sense for Rhode Island to require separate certificates in each social studies area because most are not taught as singular subjects in high schools. When they are, it is often as an elective that is not part of a core social studies or history sequence.

LAST WORD

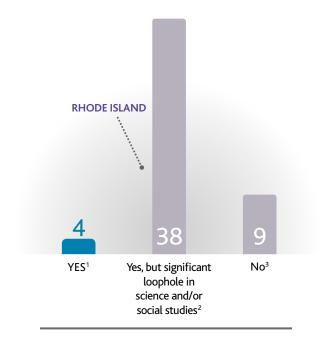
It may indeed make sense for the state to offer a general social studies certificate. The issue is making sure that a teacher with that certification is adequately prepared to teach every subject included under that certificate. Secondary-level students need teachers who are well prepared to teach advanced subject matter, and requiring passing scores on a content test for each discipline that teacher candidates are licensed to teach is the only way to ensure adequate subject matter knowledge.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 23

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

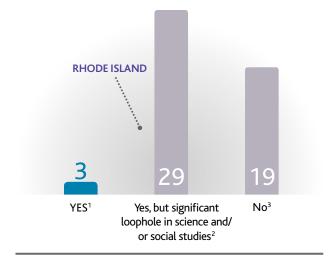


1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Tennessee

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

Figure 24

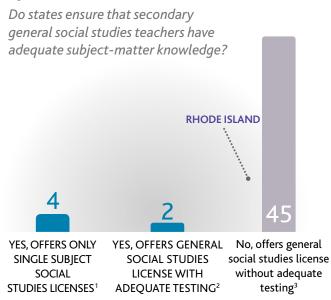
Does a secondary teacher have to pass a content test in every subject area to add an endorsement?



1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Tennessee

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

Figure 25



1. Strong Practice: Georgia, Indiana, South Dakota, Tennessee

- 2. Strong Practice: Minnesota⁴, Missouri
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma⁵, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Minnesota's test for general social studies is divided into two individually scored subtests.
- 5. Oklahoma offers combination licenses.

Goal G – Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science

The state should ensure that secondary science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 26

How States are Faring in Preparation to Teach Science



Best Practice State

13 States Meet Goal Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, RHODE ISLAND¹, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia¹

2

States Nearly Meet Goal Arizona⁺, Arkansas

States Partly Meet Goal Georgia, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah

0 States Meet a Small Part of Goal

28 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:4 ↔:47 **↓**:0

1-G Analysis: Rhode Island



ANALYSIS

Although Rhode Island offers secondary certification in general science, it specifically articulates that teachers with the general science certificate 7-12 may only teach general science 7-12. Candidates must pass the Praxis II General Science test.

Supporting Research

General Science Requirements www.ride.ri.gov/EducatorQuality/Certification/Certification%20Docs/Req_2012/Sec_Gr_Gen_Sci_Req.pdf Testing Requirements http://ride.ri.gov/EducatorQuality/Certification/Certification%20Docs/Certification_Tests_September-1-2013.pdf

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that a science teacher who teaches biology must hold the separate biology certificate. The same is true for chemistry and physics.

Figure 27	L.	OFERS GENERAL STENC	. /	Offers Beneral Science or Without ademicense or	
Do states ensure that	SUB,			, 'to	20
secondary general science	SWIT		TEST te-sut vithou	iciènc Ises	testij
teachers have adequate	MY S		V sing Nses v	n lice	dlen
subject-matter knowledge?	ESCO IELICO MELICO	ERC CI BINAI DEQ	rs on Pice lice	'rs ger inatic it ade	
subject matter knowledge.	E S S	E S E	Scien Gequi	Offe Comb Vithou	
Alabama	OFFES ONLY SNOLE-SUBJECT	/	Offersonly Single Single Control of Single S	2	
Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida				2	
Georgia					
Hawaii Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania					
RHODE ISLAND					
South Carolina South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia		1			
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	10	5	1	35	

T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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

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

2. Georgia's science test consists of two subtests.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal H – Special Education Teacher Preparation

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 28 How States are Faring in Preparation to Teach Social Studies 0 **Best Practice States** States Meet Goal States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama¹, New York¹, RHODE ISLAND¹, Texas 1 8 States Partly Meet Goal Idaho¹, Iowa¹, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin 10 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Colorado, Connecticut¹, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, North Carolina¹, Oregon, Tennessee 1, Vermont, Virginia 1 29 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas I, California, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas I, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2011: 1:9 👄 : 39 4:3

1-H Analysis: Rhode Island

🔵 State Nearly Meets Goal 🛛 🧹

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island does not offer a K-12 special education certification.

Beginning in January 2015, all special education candidates must hold a general education certification at a specific grade level to receive the corresponding special education certification.

Candidates applying for the elementary (1-6) special education certificate must pass the same elementary content test as is required of the general education elementary teachers. This elementary multiplesubjects test reports subscores in all core areas.

Although middle grades (5-8) special education candidates must also earn a general education certification, the state allows teachers with certification in elementary education or elementary special education to teach the middle grades without adding the specific middle grades special education certification area.

Candidates applying for the secondary grades (7-12) special education certificate must hold certification in one of the following areas: agriculture, biology, business education, chemistry, English, general science, math, physics or social studies.

Supporting Research

Special Education Certification http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/ Educator-Certification/Cert-main-page/CertificationRedesign-SpecialEducation.pdf Regulations Governing the Certification of Educators in Rhode Island http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Cert-main-page/CertificationRedesign-Regulations-PromulgatedVersion.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure adequate content testing for middle grades special education teachers.

Although middle grades special education candidates are required to pass a content test, those teaching on the elementary certificate would have only passed the elementary content test. Therefore, Rhode Island should strengthen its policy and require teacher candidates who are teaching the middle grades to possess adequate content knowledge before entering the classroom.

Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

Secondary special education teachers are frequently generalists who teach many core subject areas. Although Rhode Island has taken a step in the right direction by requiring general education certification, the state's new policy falls short by not ensuring subject-matter knowledge. Candidates choosing core content areas as their general education certifications will have subject-matter knowledge in at least one area. However, those choosing agriculture or business education will not. While it may be unreasonable to expect secondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements for each subject they teach as other teachers who teach only one subject, Rhode Island's current policy will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards. To provide a middle ground, Rhode Island should consider a customized HOUSSE route for new secondary special education teachers and look to the flexibility offered by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which allows for a combination of testing and coursework to demonstrate requisite content knowledge in the classroom.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis. The state added that elementary/middle special educators can serve as teachers of record in the elementary grades because they have passed the elementary tests. They can only serve as supporting teachers to teachers of content at the middle and secondary levels unless they have shown they are highly qualified for each content area for which they would be the teacher of record. This requires demonstration on the HOUSSE rubric that has been in place for many years or by possessing a major. Unfortunately, many school districts that have secondary level special educators who are highly qualified in content areas, use them in more self-contained classrooms rather than encouraging models of co-teaching. Following NCTQ's recommendation would imply that more special educators would simply be teachers of record, and this would lead to more and more self-contained settings. Rhode Island added that it does not have a shortage at the secondary level and issues very few emergency permits in this area.

LAST WORD

Rhode Island raises an important consideration, as it is not the intent to suggest that self-contained settings are more appropriate for special education students. At the same time, encouraging special education teachers to have less content knowledge and preparation to avoid excessive self-contained assignments doesn't seem in students' best interest either.

		/	1
Figure 29		Offies K-2 and Bade Specific Central	tion(s)
Do states distinguish	Coes Nor OFFRA	NO P	Offers only a K-12
between elementary	S E	-12 an cific o	y a K
and secondary special	ESN GRI	fers K.	ficati
education teachers?		yo Brag	le di
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	1		
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			
	10	7	20
	16	7	28

EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 30

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

Elementary Subject-Matter Test				
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania ¹ , RHODE ISLAND , Texas, West Virginia ² , Wisconsin			
Required for a K-12 special education license	Colorado, Idaho, North Carolina			
Secondary Subject-Matter Test(s)				
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	New York ³			
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania¹, Rhode Island, West Virginia²			
Required for a K-12 special education license	None			

1. In Pennsylvania, a candidate who opts for dual certification in elementary or secondary special education and as a reading specialist does not have to take a content test.

2. West Virginia also allows elementary special education candidates to earn dual certification in early childhood, which would not require a content test. Secondary special education candidates earning a dual certification as a reading specialist are similarly exempted.

3. New York requires a multi-subject content test specifically geared to secondary special education candidates. It is divided into three subtests.

Figure 29:

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

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal I – Assessing Professional Knowledge

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

Goal Component

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

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

Background

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

Figure 31



1-I Analysis: Rhode Island

State Partly Meets Goal (Progress Since 2011)

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires all new teachers to pass a popular pedagogy assessment from the Praxis II series.

Supporting Research http://www.ets.org/praxis/ri/requirements

RECOMMENDATION

Verify that commercially available tests of pedagogy actually align with state standards. Rhode Island should ensure that its selected test of professional knowledge measures the knowledge and skills the state expects new teachers to have.

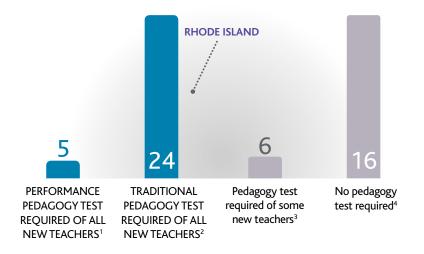
RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 32

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



1. Strong Practice: California, Illinois⁵, New York, Tennessee⁶, Washington

2. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina⁷, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia

3. Connecticut, Maryland, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Utah⁸, Wyoming

4. Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin

5. Beginning in 2015.

6. Teachers may pass either the edTPA or a Praxis pedagogy test.

7. Teachers have until their second year to pass if they attempt to pass during their first year.

8. Not required until teacher advances from a Level One to a Level Two license.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal J – Student Teaching

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 33 How States are Faring in Student Teaching 3 **Best Practice States** Florida, RHODE ISLAND¹, Tennessee State Meets Goal Massachusetts 1 States Nearly Meet Goal Connecticut¹, Kentucky 24 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware 1, Georgia 1, Hawaii, Illinois 1, Iowa, Kansas, Maine 1, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri 1, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin States Meet a Small Part of Goal Indiana, Michigan, Oregon, South Dakota 17 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Idaho, Louisiana, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2011: •:42 ↓:1 1:8

1-J Analysis: Rhode Island



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires candidates to complete at least 12 weeks of student teaching.

Newly adopted program approval standards also now require that cooperating teachers demonstrate classroom effectiveness, which includes a positive impact on student learning.

Supporting Research

Certification Requirements http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/EducatorCertification/CertificationRequirements. aspx#LiveTabsContent17200 Program Approval Standards http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Cert-main-page/RIPA_Standards_for_Public_Comment-DRAFT.pdf

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis.

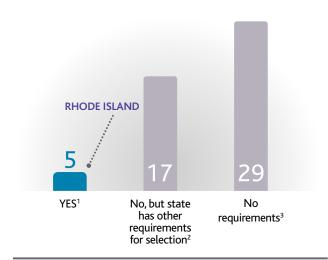
Figure 34	COPERATING TACOPERATING SELECTE BASED TACOPER EFFECTIVENESS ON CHER	STUDENT TEACHING LASTS AT LEAST TO WEEKS
<i>Do states ensure a high-quality student</i>	ERATINC D BASED ENESS	NT TEAC
teaching experience?	COOP SELECT FFFECT	STUD 4575
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
Montana		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
RHODE ISLAND		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		1
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	5	32

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

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

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

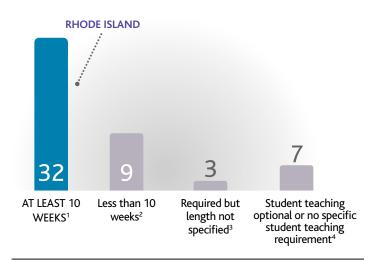


1. Strong Practice: Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Tennessee

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

Figure 36

Is the student teaching experience of sufficient length?



 Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia⁵, Wisconsin

- 2. Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Illinois, New Hampshire, Utah
- 4. Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Maryland, Montana
- 5. West Virginia allows candidates to student teach for less than 12 weeks if determined to be proficient.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal K – Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

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

Goal Components

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

- The state should collect data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs. Such data can include value added or growth analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent.
- 2. The state should collect other meaningful data that reflect program performance, including some or all of the following:

a. Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including academic proficiency, subject-matter and professional-knowledge tests;

b. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests;

c. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison and

d. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.

- 3. The state should establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data. Programs should be held accountable for meeting these standards, with articulated consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.
- 4. The state should produce and publish on its website an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs.
- 5. The state should retain full authority over its process for approving teacher preparation programs.

Background

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

Figure 37

How States are Faring in Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

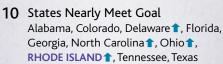


Best Practice States



O

State Meets Goal Louisiana





8

States Partly Meet Goal Indiana⁺, Kentucky, Massachusetts⁺, Michigan, Nevada, South Carolina, Washington⁺, Wisconsin⁺

- 18 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, California 1, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas 1, Maine 1, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire 1, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon 1, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia
 - 14 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:13 ↔:38 ↓:0

1-K Analysis: Rhode Island

🚽 State Nearly Meets Goal 👘

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recently adopted teacher preparation program standards that now require approved programs to produce effective educators, based on evaluation performance. Candidates must "demonstrate a positive impact on student learning on all applicable measures and demonstrate strong ratings on measures of professional practice and responsibilities."

Rhode Island also relies on other objective, meaningful data to measure the performance of teacher preparation programs. The state requires that programs "engage in regular and systematic evaluations (including, but not limited to, information obtained through student assessment, and collection of data from students, recent graduates, and other members of the professional community)." Regrettably, Rhode Island does not apply any transparent, measurable criteria for conferring program approval.

Commendably, Rhode Island makes its findings available by posting the data and program grades on its website.

According to its Race to the Top updated information, once data system upgrades take full effect, the state will be able to assess teacher preparation programs based on effectiveness data. Rhode Island is on track to create a preliminary teacher preparation report card by 2013-2014, which it will make public by fall 2014.

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

Supporting Research

Program Approval Standards http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Cert-main-page/RIPA_Standards_for_Public_Comment-DRAFT.pdf Program Approval Process http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Becoming-an-Educator/Round-3-Guidelines-Final-01-08-09.pdf Title II State Reports https://title2.ed.gov Race to the Top http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/performance/rhode-island-year-2.pdf www.ncate.org

RECOMMENDATION

Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

Although measures of student growth are an important indicator of program effectiveness, they cannot be the sole measure of program quality for several reasons, including the fact that many programs may have graduates whose students do not take standardized tests. The accountability system must therefore include other objective measures that show how well all programs are preparing teachers for the classroom. Rhode Island should expand its requirements to its alternate routes and also include such measures as:

- 1. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison;
- Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including academic proficiency, subject matter and professional knowledge tests;
- 3. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests; and
- 4. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.
- Establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.

In order to make use of the data Rhode Island already collects and publishes for accountability purposes, it is critical that the state establish minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data. Programs should be held accountable for meeting rigorous standards, and there should be consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.

Maintain full authority over teacher preparation program approval.

Rhode Island 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.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis. The state added that it does not use any of the NCATE process information for state approval, and that it conducts its own review of those areas. Any program wishing to seek national accreditation does so voluntarily, and they have always been separate decisions, with separate evidence. Rhode Island has always maintained full authority about approval and has never allowed any NCATE decision to influence a state decision. Only two programs even seek NCATE accreditation.

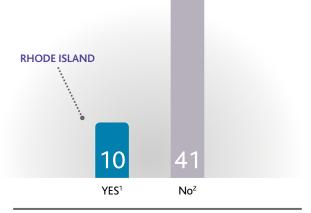
Figure 38	AN.		BSJTE
Do states hold teacher preparation programs accountable?	OBJECTUR PROCOMM. SPECIFIC DATA POOLOGIAM.	MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR FEREDRIVANCE CC	DATA PUBLICLY AVAILABLEON WEBSITE
Alabama		1	
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			2
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			2
Louisiana			2
Maine	1		
Maryland	3		
Massachusetts			
Michigan		1	
Minnesota			
Mississippi	1		
Missouri			
Montana	1		
Nebraska			
Nevada ¹			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	1		
New Mexico			
New York North Carolina			2
North Dakota			
Ohio ¹			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania	1		
RHODE ISLAND			
South Carolina ¹			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia	1		
Washington			
West Virginia	1		
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	36	4	19

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 39

Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia³, Hawaii³, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland³, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York³, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Included in state's Race to the Top plan, but not in policy or yet implemented.

1. For traditional preparation programs only.

2. State does not distinguish between alternate route programs and traditional

preparation programs in public reporting.

3. For alternate routes only.

Which states collect meaningful data?

STUDENT LEARNING GAINS Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, **RHODE ISLAND**, Tennessee, Texas

EVALUATION RESULTS FOR PROGRAM GRADUATES Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas

AVERAGE RAW SCORES ON LICENSING TESTS

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

SATISFACTION RATINGS FROM SCHOOLS

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

TEACHER RETENTION RATES

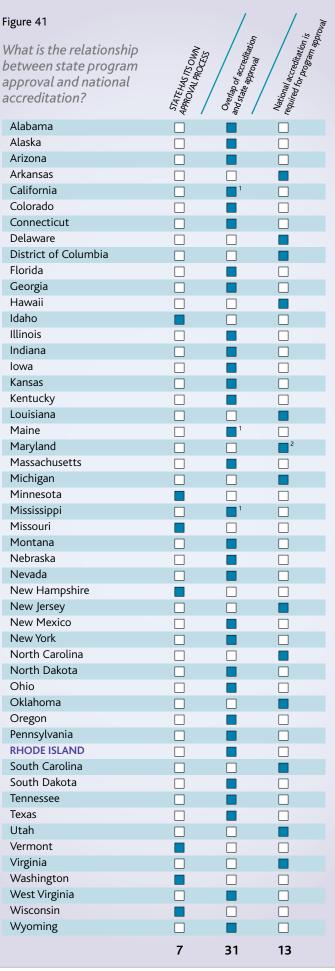
Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Maine, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas

1. For alternate route only

1. National accreditation can be substituted for state approval. 2. For institutions with 2,000 or more full-time equivalent students

Figure 41

What is the relationship between state program approval and national accreditation?

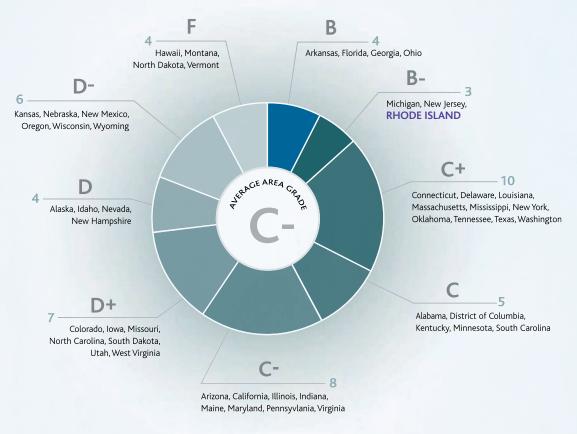




Area 2 Summary

How States are Faring in Expanding the Pool of Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

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

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal A – Alternate Route Eligibility

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

Goal Components

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

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

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

Background

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

Figure 42

How States are Faring in Alternate Route Eligibility

Best Practice States 2 District of Columbia, Michigan State Meets Goal Minnesota 13 States Nearly Meet Goal Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey 1, Ohio, Oklahoma, **RHODE ISLAND**, Washington 11 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas 1, Virginia 15 States Meet a Small Part of Goal California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia 9 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Hawaii, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2011: 1:2 👄 : 49 📕 : 0

2-A Analysis: Rhode Island

State Nearly Meets Goal

🕢 Bar Raised for this Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires that alternative certification programs require candidates to demonstrate prior academic performance with a minimum 3.0 GPA in undergraduate studies or a 3.0 GPA in 24 semester hours at the graduate level.

Secondary candidates must have a major in, or closely related to, the intended teaching field. Secondary candidates may also demonstrate subject-matter knowledge on a content measure approved by the state. The state does not outline additional degree or content coursework requirements for candidates seeking elementary or early childhood licensure.

All candidates are not required to pass a subject-matter test.

Supporting Research

Board of Regents Standards for Alternative Route to Certification Programs

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Becoming-an-Educator/Standards-for-Alternate-Route-to-Certification-Programs-FINAL-BoR-Adopted.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Require applicants to pass a subject-matter test for admission.

The state should require all candidates, including those with a major in the subject, to pass a content-knowledge test. The concept behind alternate routes is that the nontraditional candidate is able to concentrate on acquiring professional knowledge and skills because he or she has strong subject-area knowledge. Teachers without sufficient subject-matter knowledge place students at risk.

Consider accommodations for meeting the minimum GPA requirements.

While the state is commended for requiring applicants to provide evidence of past academic performance, Rhode Island should consider whether some accommodation in this standard might be appropriate for career changers with relevant work experience. A rigorous test appropriate for candidates who have already completed a bachelor's degree, such as the GRE, would be ideal.

Eliminate basic skills test requirement.

The state's requirement that alternate route candidates pass a basic skills test is impractical and ineffectual, although Rhode Island is recognized for allowing candidates to use equivalent scores to fulfill this admission criterion. Basic skills tests measure minimum competency—essentially those skills that a person should have acquired in middle school—and are inappropriate for candidates who have already earned a bachelor's degree. Passage of a basic skills test provides no assurance that the candidate has the appropriate subject-matter knowledge needed for the classroom. A test designed for individuals who already have a bachelor's degree, such as the GRE, would be a much more appropriate measure of academic standing. At a minimum, the state should eliminate the basic skills test requirement or accept the equivalent in SAT or ACT scores.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis. Rhode Island also indicated that all alternate route candidates must pass the same pedagogy and content tests as other candidates. Alternate route candidates must pass content tests prior to beginning teaching, which is earlier than traditional candidates. The timing of content tests for alternate routes is stipulated in section 8.2.1 of the certification regulations.

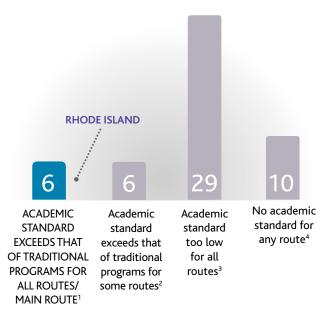


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

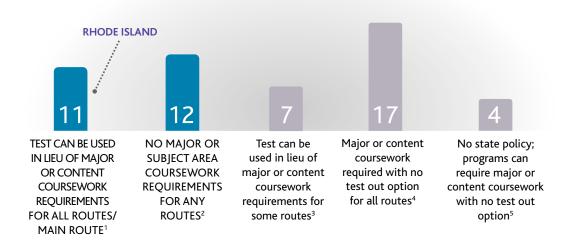
Figure 44

Do states require alternate routes to be selective?



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

Do states accommodate the nontraditional background of alternate route candidates?



1. Strong Practice: Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Maine, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas

2. Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Washington

3. Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia

4. Alaska, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

5. Hawaii, Idaho, New Mexico, North Dakota

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal B – Alternate Route Preparation

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

Goal Components

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

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

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

Figure 46

How States are Faring in Alternate Route Preparation
2 Best Practice States Delaware, New Jersey

- 2 States Meet Goal Arkansas, Georgia
 - 4 States Nearly Meet Goal Connecticut, Maryland, Mississippi, South Carolina
 - **15** States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, California, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Ohio, **RHODE ISLAND**, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia
 - 20 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Colorado, District of Columbia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wyoming

8 States Do Not Meet Goal Hawaii, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Vermont, Wisconsin

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:0 ↔:51 ↓:0

Background

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

2-B Analysis: Rhode Island

State Partly Meets Goal

Bar Raised for this Goal 🛛 🧲 Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island sets guidelines for all alternate route programs. Providers are required to have a preservice experience for a minimum of five weeks that includes instruction in classroom management and pedagogy. The pre-service experience must also include a practice-teaching opportunity. New teachers also participate in seminars and courses throughout the first year of teaching, although no additional guidelines are provided to the nature or quantity of coursework to be provided.

New teachers are assigned a mentor who is responsible for modeling effective practice and providing feedback focused on improving performance.

Upon program completion candidates are eligible for standard certification.

Supporting Research

Board of Regents Standards for Alternative Route to Certification Programs

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Becoming-an-Educator/Standards-for-Alternate-Route-to-Certification-Programs-FINAL-BoR-Adopted.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Establish more specific guidelines for alternate route programs.

While Rhode Island is commended for providing a sound framework, the state should consider establishing more specific guidelines for alternate route programs. Setting minimum requirements, without established maximums, does not ensure that the new teacher will be able to complete the program in an appropriate amount of time without being overburdened by coursework. Also, simply mandating coursework without specifying the purpose can inadvertently send the wrong message to program providers—that "anything goes" as long as credits are granted.

Strengthen the induction experience for new teachers.

Rhode Island is commended for requiring all new teachers to work with a mentor and for explicitly articulating that mentors should provide feedback. The state is encouraged to expand its guidelines to ensure that the program is structured for new teacher success. Effective induction strategies include intensive mentoring with full classroom support in the first few weeks or months of school, a reduced teaching load and release time to allow new teachers to observe experienced teachers during each school day.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island disagreed that it does not have guidelines or expectations for alternate route programs. As noted in other sections, alternate route programs must meet the same standards and undergo the same approval process as traditional programs. Program approval standards, even the current version, outline the expectations.

During the 2012-2013 school year, all alternate route candidates also worked with an induction coach as part of the state's induction program implementation under Race to the Top (RTTT).

gure 47		/	NORK	2	
o states' alternate routes rovide efficient preparation	EFFICIENT COURSEWORK	RELEVANT COLLES	REASONABLE PROGRAM LENS	PRACTICE TEACHING	INTENSIVE SUPPORT
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Wyoming					

TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

58 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2013 RHODE ISLAND

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal C – Alternate Route Usage and Providers

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 48

How States are Faring in Alternate Route Usage and Providers



Best Practice States

) 2

23 States Meet Goal

Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, **RHODE ISLAND**, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington



States Nearly Meet Goal Minnesota, New Jersey, Pennsylvania↓, South Carolina↑, Utah

12 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas↓, Delaware, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin

- 4 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Hawaii, Idaho, Missouri, South Dakota
- 7 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:1 ↔:47 ↓:3



ANALYSIS

Rhode Island does not limit the usage or providers of its alternate route.

Rhode Island is commended for having no restrictions on the usage of its alternate route with regard to subject, grade or geographic areas.

Rhode Island permits institutions of higher education, professional organizations and private service providers, such as The New Teacher Project or Teach For America, to offer alternate route programs. The state is commended for structuring its programs to allow a diversity of providers. A good diversity of providers helps all programs, both university- and nonuniversity-based, to improve.

Supporting Research

Becoming an Educator

http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/EducatorCertification/BecominganEducator.aspx

Board of Regents Standards for Alternative Route to Certification Programs

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Becoming-an-Educator/Standards-for-Alternate-Route-to-Certification-Programs-FINAL-BoR-Adopted.pdf

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

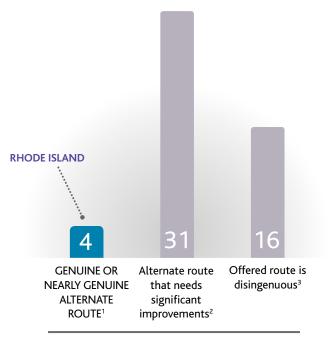
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	Wyoming		
Ζ	For some alternate routes	For most or most widely used alternate routes	📌 For all alternate routes
		used allemate foules	

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 50

Do states provide real alternative pathways to certification?



1. Strong Practice: Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey, Rhode Island

2. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia

3. Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming

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Wisconsin										÷
Wyoming						*				

🛛 For some alternate routes 📕 For most or most widely used alternate routes 🛛 🚖 For all alternate routes

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal D – Part-Time Teaching Licenses

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 52

How States are Faring in Part Time Teaching Licenses



Best Practice State Georgia

- 2 States Meet Goal Arkansas, Florida
 - States Nearly Meet Goal Kentucky, Michigan↑, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah



3 States Partly Meet Goal California, Louisiana, Oklahoma

10 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Colorado, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Pennsylvania 1, Washington, Wisconsin

28 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, RHODE ISLAND, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:2 ↔:49 ↓:0

2-D Analysis: Rhode Island

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island does not offer a license with minimal requirements that would allow content experts to teach part time.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Rhode Island 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. Such a license would increase districts' flexibility to staff certain subjects, including many STEM areas, that are frequently hard to staff or may not have high enough enrollment to necessitate a full-time position.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state also commented that in 2015 a new visiting lecturer certificate will go into effect that addresses this recommendation.

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		14	

T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Area 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Goal E – Licensure Reciprocity

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 54

How States are Faring in Licensure Reciprocity **Best Practice States** 2 Alabama, Texas States Meet Goal North Carolina, Ohio, RHODE ISLAND States Nearly Meet Goal Delaware 1, Indiana 1, Oklahoma 1, Washington, Wisconsin 22 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho4, Illinois, Iowa¹, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming 12 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Carolina States Do Not Meet Goal 7 California, District of Columbia, Kansas, Kentucky, Nevada, New Jersey, Vermont Progress on this Goal Since 2011: 1:5 ➡:45 ↓:1

2-E Analysis: Rhode Island



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Commendably, Rhode Island does not grant any waivers on its testing requirements, and all out-of-state teachers, no matter how many years of experience they have, must meet Rhode Island's passing scores on licensing tests.

Although Rhode Island does not have a recency requirement, it does require transcripts for all applicants. It is not clear, however, whether the state analyzes transcripts to determine whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route or whether additional coursework will be required.

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

Rhode Island requires teachers providing online instruction directly to students to be content-certified in the state from which they are providing the online content.

Supporting Research Reciprocity http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/EducatorCertification.aspx Regulations of the Board of Regents Governing Virtual Learning Education http://sos.ri.gov/documents/archives/regdocs/released/pdf/DESE/6874.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

Regardless of whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route, all certified out-of-state teachers should receive equal treatment. Rhode Island should consider discontinuing its requirement for the submission of transcripts. Transcript analysis is likely to result in additional coursework requirements, even for traditionally prepared teachers; alternate route teachers, on the other hand, may have to virtually begin anew, repeating some, most or all of a teacher preparation program in Rhode Island. The state should instead require that evidence of teacher effectiveness be considered for all out-of-state candidates. Such evidence is especially important for candidates who come from states that make student growth at least a significant factor of a teacher evaluation (see Goal 3-B).

Ensure that requirements for online teachers are as rigorous as those for in-state teachers.

Rhode Island should ensure that online teachers based in other states are at least equally as qualified as those who teach in the state. However, Rhode Island should balance the interests of its students in having qualified online instructors with making certain that these requirements do not create unnecessary obstacles for out-of-state teachers.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island contended that there are two reasons for requiring transcripts for reciprocity, and that they are not used to conduct a transcript analysis. The state requires evidence of a bachelor's degree, so even though the person has full certification in another state, transcripts are used to confirm this because names of certificates vary greatly across states. Rhode Island also uses the submitted transcripts as a tool to determine which certificate should be issued, because it is often not clear what the best match is from another state.

LAST WORD

The submission of transcripts should be unnecessary for certified out-of-state teachers, unless the state has some reason to suspect that the certifying state routinely licenses teachers who do not have a degree.



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



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska³, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine⁴, Massachusetts³, Minnesota, New York⁵, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas³, Utah, Washington⁶, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana⁷, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Allows one year to meet testing requirements.
- 4. Maine grants waiver for basic skills and pedagogy tests.
- 5. Waiver for teachers with National Board Certification; all others given two years to meet testing requirements.
- 6. Waiver for teachers with National Board Certification.
- 7. No subject-matter testing for any teacher certification.

- 1. State conducts transcript reviews.
- 2. Recency requirement is for alternate route.
- 3. For traditionally prepared teachers only.
- 4. Teachers with less than 3 years' experience are subject to transcript review.

What do states require of teachers transferring from other states? Alabama Alabama Alaska Arizona Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Indiana Iowa Indiana Iowa Indiana Indian	
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Figure 57		State Specifies different	ate ate
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traditional or an alternate	LAR VALL VALL	ate s te te	state state te tech
route program?	PRE SI	^o ⁱ ^S	jon ti o
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EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

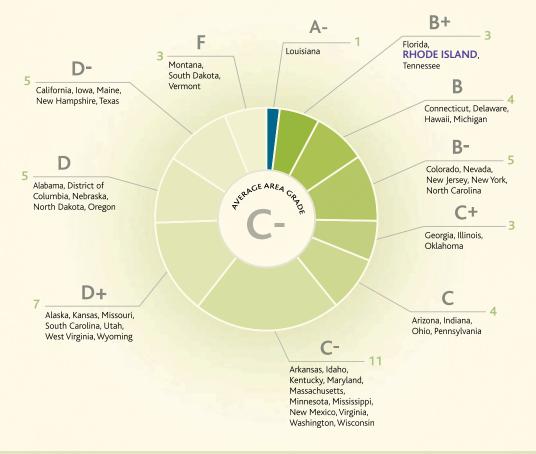
Alabama and Texas appropriately support licensure reciprocity by requiring that certified teachers from other states meet Alabama's and Texas's own testing requirements, and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate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



Area 3 Summary

How States are Faring in Identifying Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- 3-A: State Data Systems
- **3-B:** Evaluation of Effectiveness
- **3-C: Frequency of Evaluations**

- 3-D: Tenure
- 3-E: Licensure Advancement
- 3-F: Equitable Distribution

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

Goal A – State Data Systems

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

Goal Components

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

1. The state should establish a longitudinal data system with at least the following key components:

a. A unique statewide student identifier number that connects student data across key databases across years;

b. A unique teacher identifier system that can match individual teacher records with individual student records and

c. An assessment system that can match individual student test records from year to year in order to measure academic growth.

- Student growth or value-added data provided through the state's longitudinal data system should be considered among the criteria used to determine teachers' effectiveness.
- 3. To ensure that data provided through the state data system is actionable and reliable, the state should have a clear definition of "teacher of record" and require its consistent use statewide.
- 4. Data provided through the state's longitudinal data system should be used to publicly report information on teacher production.



Background

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

Figure 58

How States are Faring in State Data Systems



Best Practice States Hawaii, New York

States Meet Goal

- 0
 - **19** States Nearly Meet Goal Arizona[↑], Arkansas, Connecticut[↑], Delaware, District of Columbia[↑], Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan[↑], North Carolina, Ohio, RHODE ISLAND, Texas[↑], Washington, Wyoming



25 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, California, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

2

States Meet a Small Part of Goal Colorado, Pennsylvania

3 States Do Not Meet Goal Maine, Oklahoma , South Dakota

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

↑:13 ↔:36 ↓:2



ANALYSIS

Rhode Island has a data system with the capacity to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Rhode Island has all three necessary elements of a student- and teacher-level longitudinal data system. The state has assigned unique student identifiers that connect student data across key databases across years and has assigned unique teacher identifiers that enable it to match individual teacher records with individual student records. It also has the capacity to match student test records from year to year in order to measure student academic growth.

Commendably, Rhode Island defines a teacher of record as the teacher responsible for content instruction and determining student grades. Further, the state's teacher-student data link can connect more than one educator to a particular student in a given course, and it does have in place a process for teacher roster verification.

Rhode Island does not publish data on teacher production that connects program completion, certification and hiring statistics.

Supporting Research Data Quality Campaign www.dataqualitycampaign.org

RECOMMENDATION

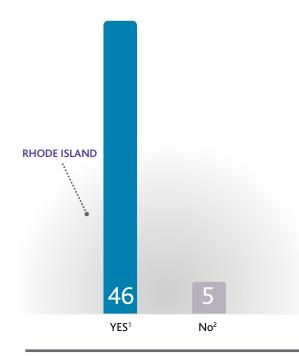
Publish data on teacher production.

From the number of teachers who graduate from preparation programs each year, only a subset are certified, and only some of those certified are actually hired in the state. While it is certainly desirable to produce a big enough pool to give districts a choice in hiring, the substantial oversupply in some teaching areas is not good for the profession. Rhode Island should look to Maryland's "Teacher Staffing Report" as a model whose primary purpose is to determine teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus. By collecting similar hiring data from its districts, Rhode Island will form a rich set of data that can inform policy decisions.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that it is scheduled to provide linked data on program completers as part of a program report card beginning in 2014-2015, and it will be public.

Do states' data systems have the basic elements needed to assess teacher effectiveness: unique teacher and student identifiers that can be matched to test records over time?



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

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

Figure 60

Do states' data systems include more advanced elements needed to assess teacher effectiveness?



Figure 61		2	- /
		Some data published L	No related data published
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teacher production?	CHE	ISHE to di to di	bata p
	E TEA	Pe dat	ated c
	SOM	Son	No ref
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North Carolina			
North Dakota Ohio			
Ohio Oklahoma			
Oregon			
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RHODE ISLAND			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	6	8	37

EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

Goal B – Evaluation of Effectiveness

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 62

How States are Faring in Evaluation of Effectiveness



Best Practice States

19 States Meet Goal Alaska[↑], Colorado, Connecticut[↑], Delaware, Florida, Georgia[↑], Hawaii[↑], Louisiana[↑], Michigan, Mississippi[↑], Nevada, New Mexico[↑], North Carolina[↑], Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania[↑], RHODE ISLAND, Tennessee, Wisconsin[↑]

5 Sta Ariz

States Nearly Meet Goal Arizona, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Virginia

16 States Partly Meet Goal Arkansas, District of Columbia 1, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas 1, Kentucky 1, Maine 1, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri 1, Oregon 1, South Carolina 1, South Dakota 1, Utah, West Virginia 1, Wyoming 1



States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alabama, California, Idaho↓, Iowa↑, Nebraska, Texas, Washington↓

4 States Do Not Meet Goal Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:22 ↔:27 ↓:2

3-B Analysis: Rhode Island



ANALYSIS

Commendably, Rhode Island requires that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations. The state has developed the Rhode Island Model, but districts may design their own system with state approval. However, district-developed systems must adopt the state model for student learning objective ratings and growth model ratings.

The state's student learning component accounts for a majority of the teacher evaluation score; this is accomplished through a matrix model. The state measures contributions to student progress toward academic goals and learning standards (student learning objectives), and combines them, when applicable, with results from the Rhode Island Growth Model (RIGM) for teachers in tested grades 3-7 and for subjects in reading and math.

The remainder of the evaluation is based on professional practice and professional foundations.

All teachers must be rated based on the following multiple rating categories: highly effective, effective, developing and ineffective.

Classroom observations are required.

Supporting Research

Teacher Evaluation and Support System http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/ Educator-Evaluation/Education-Eval-Main-Page/Teacher-Model-GB-Edition-II-FINAL.pdf District Developed Educator Evaluation Systems

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/ Educator-Evaluation/District-Designed-Models/District-Guidelines-for-DDES-March-2012-final.pdf

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Do states consider	
classroom effectiveness	
as part of teacher	
evaluations?	

Figure 63	REQURES THAT STUDENT ACHEVENENT STUDENT PREPONDERATIONUL	Requires that student activements that student riterion lesplicitudent of the billion of the 3 server	Requires that student achieven that student 'significant' achieven his a without and "chieven his a	explicit enton - a Requires some objects of student loss	tence
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	19	7	9	6	10

1. 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.

2. Explicitly defined for the 2013-2014 school year.

Figure 64		/	· /	¹ Jpe of surrey.	ed
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Maryland					
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Michigan	2				
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Missouri	2	2	2		
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Ohio					
Oklahoma					
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Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	14	11	6	2	33

Figure 65

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



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

2. Alabama, California, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont

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

2. Explicitly allowed but not required.

3. Requires parent or peer surveys; whole-school student learning or student surveys.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE NCTQ has not singled out any one state for

"best practice" honors. Many states continue to make significant strides in the area of teacher evaluation by requiring that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion. Because there are many different approaches that result in student learning being the preponderant criterion, all 19 states that meet this goal are commended for their efforts.

Figure 66		Dresumptive state evaluation for districts with Possible continuedel	District. designed evaluation 9.924mn consistence evaluation frame work criteria with state
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evaluated:	stat tion s	^m pti, ^{hi} cts u	"ict-d " co work
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Arizona			-
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Colorado			
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District of Columbia			
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lowa Kansas			
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Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	9	12	30

1. New Hampshire is in the process of developing a state model/criteria for teacher evaluations.

Figure 67		/	EVALUATORS MUST PR	HERS
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Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico	2			
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
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RHODE ISLAND				
South Carolina				
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Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	4	34	3	13

Maryland requires multiple observers for ineffective teachers.
 Multiple evaluators are explicitly allowed but not required.

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

Goal C – Frequency of Evaluations

The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 68

How States are Faring in Frequency of Evaluations **Best Practice States** 0 12 States Meet Goal Alabama, Delaware 1, Hawaii 1, Idaho, Mississippi¹, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oklahoma, RHODE ISLAND, Tennessee, Washington 15 States Nearly Meet Goal Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut 1, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana¹, New Mexico¹, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Utah, West Virginia¹, Wisconsin¹, Wyoming 8 States Partly Meet Goal Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, South Carolina States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alaska, Arkansas, Iowa1, Maine1, Virginia1 11 States Do Not Meet Goal California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont Progress on this Goal Since 2011: **!**:2 1:11 😝 : 38



ANALYSIS

Commendably, all teachers in Rhode Island are evaluated annually.

The state's model, the Teacher Evaluation and Support System, requires at least three observations, with written feedback required after each one. Postobservation conferences are now optional. The model also requires three evaluation conferences between the teacher and evaluator to discuss progress; these must take place at the beginning, middle and end of the year.

Districts developing their own systems of evaluation clearly must include classroom observations, but the frequency of these observations is a decision left up to the districts.

Supporting Research

Teacher Evaluation and Support System

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Evaluation/Education-Eval-Main-Page/Teacher-Model-GB-Edition-II-FINAL.pdf

District Developed Educator Evaluation Systems

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Evaluation/District-Designed-Models/District-Guidelines-for-DDES-March-2012-final.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Base evaluations on multiple observations.

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

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

It is critical that schools and districts closely monitor the performance of new teachers. Rhode Island should therefore strengthen its policy and require that all districts—even those developing their own systems—conduct observations of probationary teachers early in the year and provide timely feedback.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that while district-approved systems determine the number of observations, they must meet the expectations in the evaluation system standards regulations. The rubric used for approval stipulates that there must be sufficient observations to make valid decisions about practice.

Rhode Island also contended that the recommendation for new teachers doesn't account for induction programs that are designed to include observation and feedback. A system of induction supports any formal evaluation, and the one used by the state integrates the evaluation rubric language to achieve continuity.

Do states require districts to evaluate all teachers each year?



1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Louisana, Maryland³, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

2. Alaska, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia

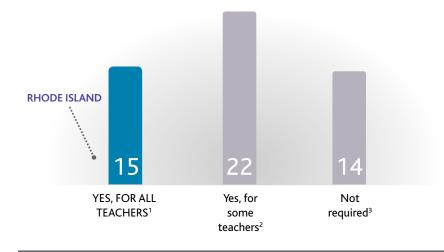
3. Regulations sunset on September 30, 2014.

Figure 70

Figure 70		ANULAL EVALUATION OF ALL PROBATIONARY TEACHERS
Do states require districts	NO	ACHE TEAC
to evaluate all teachers	IN THE	NAR)
each year?	FLA	410 410
,	ANNUAL EVALUATON	4 NNUAL
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Mississippi		
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New Jersey		
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North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio		
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Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
RHODE ISLAND		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
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Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	28	44

Figure 71

Do states require multiple classroom observations?



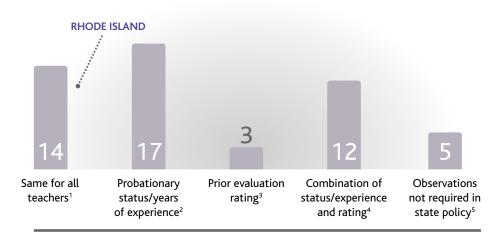
1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington

 Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

3. California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wyoming

Figure 72

What is the determining factor for frequency of observations?



1. Alabama, District of Columbia⁶, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island

2. Alaska, Arkansas⁷, California⁷, Colorado, Florida, Kansas⁷, Minnesota⁷, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma⁷, Oregon, Pennsylvania⁷, South Carolina, South Dakota⁷, Utah⁷, Washington, West Virginia⁸

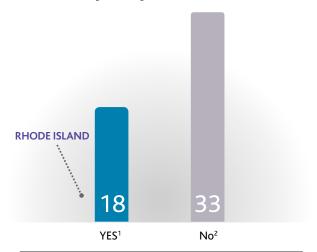
- 3. Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio
- 4. Arizona⁹, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts⁷, Nevada, Tennessee, Texas⁷, Virginia⁷, Wisconsin⁷
- 5. Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming
- 6. Depends on LEA requirements.
- 7. Frequency is based on evaluation cycle, not year.
- 8. No observations required after year 5.
- 9. Second observation may be waived for tenured teachers with high performance on first observation.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 73

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



 Strong Practice: Alabama, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota³, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia

- Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia⁴, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. New teachers must be evaluated early in the year; observations not explicit.
- 4. Teachers in their first year are informally evaluated early in the year.

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

Goal D – Tenure

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 74 How States are Faring in Tenure



Best Practice States Connecticut 1, Michigan



7

7

States Meet Goal Colorado, Florida, Louisiana↑

States Nearly Meet Goal Delaware, Hawaii 1, Nevada, New Jersey 1, Oklahoma, RHODE ISLAND, Tennessee



States Meet a Small Part of Goal Idaho, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, Ohio, Washington

25 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

3-D Analysis: Rhode Island

State Nearly Meets Goal (Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires that teachers who receive two years of ineffective evaluations are dismissed; consequently, the state has made it virtually impossible for an ineffective teacher to achieve nonprobationary status.

Because Rhode Island's teacher evaluation ratings are centered primarily on evidence of student learning (see Goal 3-B), connecting employment status to these evaluation ratings ensures that classroom effectiveness is appropriately considered.

Supporting Research

Rhode Island Educator Evaluation System Standards Rubric http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Evaluation/District-Designed-Models/Educator-Evaluation-Rubric-07-11-10.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

Although Rhode Island has taken important steps to ensure that ineffective teachers are not awarded tenure, the state should still 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. Without such a process, there is no assurance that teachers with a single ineffective rating or multiple needs improvement ratings are not awarded tenure automatically.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that the two-year requirement is embedded in its Race to the Top application, which led to it being included as part of the evaluation system approval process.

How long before a teacher earns tenure? State of the second s	je L
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Minnesota Image: Constraint of the second seco	
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Wyoming Image: Ima	
1 1 4 32 4 6 3	

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

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 76	EVDENCE OF STUDENT REPONDENT STUDENT	~	/
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New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina		2	
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma	3		
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
RHODE ISLAND			
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South Dakota			
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Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
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Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	11	9	31

1. Florida only awards annual contracts.

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

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

Goal E – Licensure Advancement

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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



3-E Analysis: Rhode Island



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island's requirements for licensure advancement and renewal are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Teachers must meet a standard for effectiveness, established by the state, based on a performance evaluation that includes growth in student achievement using value-added data (see Goal 3-B).

Under the new system, renewal and advancement of certification is based on teacher performance and is linked to evaluation ratings. To renew a certificate or advance to the next level of licensure, Rhode Island requires "at least one rating of developing or higher during at least one year of their certification term." Certificates will not be renewed if educators consistently demonstrate ineffective performance on local evaluations.

Supporting Research

http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/EducatorCertification.aspx Certificate Renewal Based on Performance http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Cert-main-page/CertRedesign-Renewal-Based-on-Performance.pdf http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/EducatorEvaluation/RIModelFAQsandGuidance.aspx

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

5. 70		1	1	1
Figure 78	OBJECTIVE ENDERICE OF	. 9		
Do states require teachers	ර ජ	Some objective evidence	Consideration Biven to teacher Perform Biven to clacor mano-	Performance not considered
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Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	6	4	9	32

1. Evidence of effectiveness is required for license renewal but not for conferring of professional license.

2. Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.

3. Maryland uses some objective evidence through their evaluation systems for renewal, but advancement to professional license is still based on earning an advanced degree.

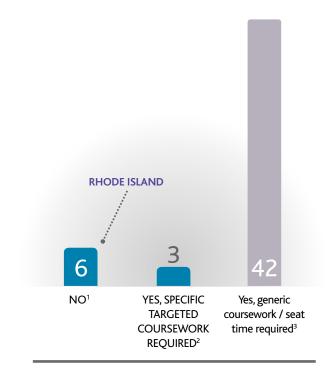
Do states require teachers to earn advanced degrees before conferring professional licensure?

RHODE ISLAND 29 NO¹ Required for Option for Required mandatory professional for optional license or professional advanced license² encouraged by license^₄ state policy³

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

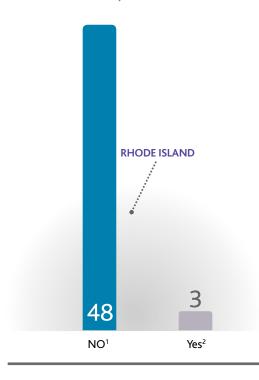
Figure 80

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



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

Do states award lifetime licenses?



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

T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

Goal F – Equitable Distribution

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

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should make aggregate school-level data about teacher performance —from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness as described in Goal 3-B publicly available.
- 2. In the absence of such an evaluation system, the state should make the following data publicly available:

a. An "Academic Quality" index for each school that includes factors research has found to be associated with teacher effectiveness such as:

- percentage of new teachers;
- percentage of teachers failing basic skills licensure tests at least once;
- percentage of teachers on emergency credentials:
- average selectivity of teachers' undergraduate institutions and
- teachers' average ACT or SAT scores

b. The percentage of highly qualified teachers disaggregated by both individual school and by teaching area.

c. The annual teacher absenteeism rate reported for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school.

d. The average teacher turnover rate for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school, by district and by reasons that teachers leave.

Background

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

Figure 82



3-F Analysis: Rhode Island



🗲 Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Providing comprehensive reporting may be the state's most important role for ensuring the equitable distribution of teachers among schools. Rhode Island reports little school-level data that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent. Rhode Island does not require districts to publicly report aggregate school-level data about teacher performance, nor does the state collect and publicly report most of the other data recommended by NCTQ.

Rhode Island does not provide a school-level teacher-quality index that demonstrates the academic backgrounds of a school's teachers and the ratio of new to veteran teachers. The state also does not report on teacher absenteeism or turnover rates. Rhode Island does report on the percentage of teachers on emergency certification and the percentage of teachers that are not highly qualified. Commendably, these data are reported for each school, rather than aggregated by district.

Supporting Research

2012 Rhode Island School Report Card http://www.eride.ri.gov/eride40/reportcards/12/SchoolReportCard.aspx?schCode=10116&schType=1 InfoWorks 2011 School Data http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/school/hugh-cole-school

RECOMMENDATION

Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

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

Publish other data that facilitate comparisons across schools.

Rhode Island should collect and report other school-level data that reflect the stability of a school's faculty, including the rate of teacher absenteeism.

Provide comparative data based on school demographics.

As Rhode Island does with highly qualified teachers, the state should provide comparative data for schools with similar poverty and minority populations. This would yield a more comprehensive picture of gaps in the equitable distribution of teachers.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis accurate as of July 2013. The state added that this was the first year of full implementation for evaluation. The first public data release will take place in September 2013 and will focus on aggregate state-level data for final ratings and system component ratings. District- and school-level data will follow as decisions are made about sharing data.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

NCTQ looks forward to reviewing the state's progress in future editions of the Yearbook.

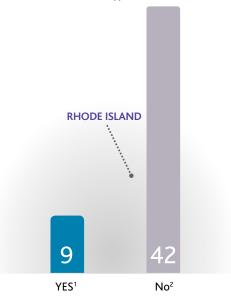
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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 84

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

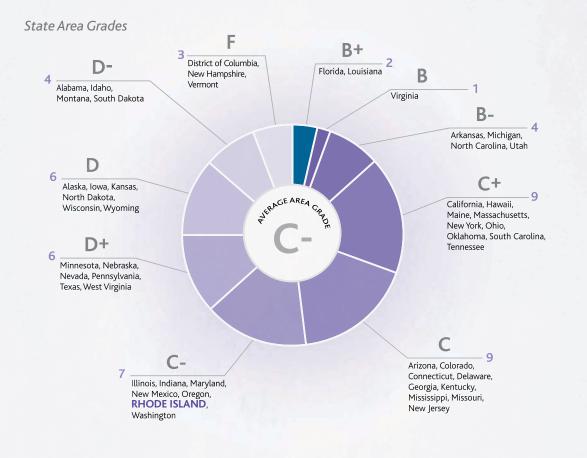


- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas³, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts⁴, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida⁵, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland,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

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers



Topics Included In This Area

- 4-A: Induction
- 4-B: Professional Development
- 4-C: Pay Scales

- 4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience
- 4-E: Differential Pay
- 4-F: Performance Pay

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal A – Induction

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 85

How States are Faring in Induction **Best Practice State** 1 South Carolina 10 States Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Hawaii 1, Illinois 1, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Virginia 1 15 States Nearly Meet Goal California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Dakota¹, Ohio, Oklahoma, **RHODE ISLAND**, Utah 11 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, Kansas, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin States Meet a Small Part of Goal Florida, Idaho, Montana 1, Texas 10 States Do Not Meet Goal District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2011: •:45 ↓:1 1:5

4-A Analysis: Rhode Island

State Nearly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires that all new teachers receive mentoring. New teachers are required to participate in a mentoring program for at least the first two years of employment. Local districts determine mentor selection, although the state does require mentors to have at least five years' teaching experience and additional training; the match of subject matter or grade level experience is not expected. Mentors are compensated, and state funds must also be used to provide release time for the pair to "engage in conferencing and observation." A regular survey and evaluation process to access the program's effectiveness is also required.

Supporting Research

Rhode Island General Law 16-7.1-2 Rhode Island Induction Program http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/Induction.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Expand guidelines to include other key areas.

While still leaving districts flexibility, Rhode Island should articulate minimum guidelines for a high-quality induction experience. The state should require a timeline in which mentors are assigned to all new teachers, ideally soon after the commencing of teaching, to offer support during those first critical weeks of school, and mentors should also be required to be trained in a content area or grade level similar to that of the new teacher.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. However, the state added that the analysis is only based on state statute and does not recognize the work done under Race to the Top. Rhode Island pointed out that it has "implemented an instructionally-focused system that has provided 90 minutes each week of feedback to new teachers from full time coaches." The state also noted that because it has been implementing statewide induction and all districts are participating, the kind of mentor program described by statute would take place locally in addition to the induction work.

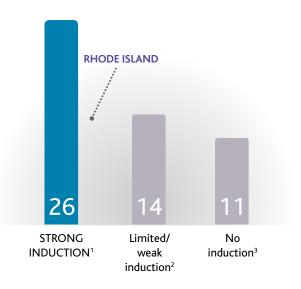
Figure 86		/	53	CAREFUL SELEC	MENTORS MILES		/	USE OF A MARET OF FEE	ECTIVE
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T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 87

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



 Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia

2. Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

3. District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal B – Professional Development

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 88

How States are Faring in Professional Development

Best Practice States 2 Louisiana, North Carolina 14 States Meet Goal Arizona¹, Arkansas, Colorado¹, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Maine¹, Michigan, Mississippi¹, New Jersey¹, RHODE ISLAND, South Carolina, Virginia¹, West Virginia¹ States Nearly Meet Goal Illinois, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Utah 13 States Partly Meet Goal Georgia, Hawaii 1, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Wyoming 7 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alaska, Idaho, Kansas, Maryland, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania¹, South Dakota¹ 11 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin Progress on this Goal Since 2011: 1:11 👄 : 39 ↓:1

4-B Analysis: Rhode Island



ANALYSIS

Rhode Island requires that all teachers receive written, detailed feedback that informs recommendations for professional growth. Rhode Island also specifies that evaluation systems must "provide a description of how the educator's individual evaluation results inform the development and/or revision of the professional development plan." The state provides intensive support and evaluation to teachers rated less than effective. Districts help teachers develop an improvement plan "designed to help the educator meet the district's expectations for educator quality."

Supporting Research

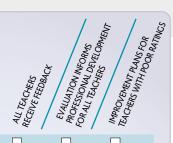
Educator Evaluation System Standards http://www.ride.ri.gov/TeachersAdministrators/EducatorEvaluation.aspx Rhode Island Model Teacher Evaluation and Support System http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Evaluation/Education-Eval-Main-Page/Teacher-Model-GB-Edition-II-FINAL.pdf District Developed Educator Evaluation Systems: Guidelines for Obtaining System Approval from RIDE http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Evaluation/District-Designed-Models/District-Guidelines-for-DDES-March-2012-final.pdf

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Alabama

Do states ensure that evaluations are used to help teachers improve?



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

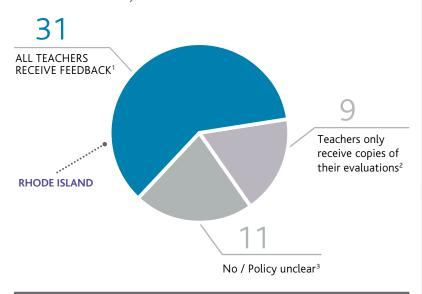
Louisiana and North Carolina require that teachers receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations and direct districts to connect professional development to teachers' identified needs. Both states also require that teachers with unsatisfactory evaluations are placed on structured improvement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

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Wyoming			
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1. Improvement plans are required for tenured teachers only.

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

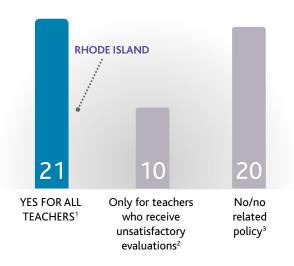
Do teachers receive feedback on their evaluations?



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

Figure 91

Do states require that teacher evaluations inform professional development?



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

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal C – Pay Scales

The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 92



4-C Analysis: Rhode Island

State Meets a Small Part of Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island mandates that local districts establish a minimum salary schedule that recognizes "years of service, experience and training" and has no more than 12 annual steps.

Supporting Research Rhode Island Code 16-7-29

RECOMMENDATION

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

While Rhode Island does not require local districts to adhere to a state-dictated schedule, it still mandates that local salary schedules are based on "years of service, experience and training," thereby not giving full authority to districts.

Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees.

While leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scale, Rhode Island should articulate policies that definitively discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees, in light of the extensive research showing that such degrees do not have an impact on teacher effectiveness.

Discourage salary schedules that imply that teachers with the most experience are the most effective.

Similarly, Rhode Island should articulate policies that discourage districts from determining the highest steps on the pay scale solely by seniority.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island noted that the statute does not require 12 steps, and districts have a lot of flexibility within the statute. The highest steps do not have to be based on seniority.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

What role does the state play in deciding teacher pay rates?	DISTRICTS SET SALARY	State Sets minimum	Satesets minimum salary sch
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Utah			
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Washington			
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Wisconsin Wyoming			
			4.5
	27	9	15

DULE

1. Colorado gives districts the option of a salary schedule, a performance pay policy or a combination of both.

2. Rhode Island requires that local district salary schedules are based on years of service, experience and training.

Figure 94		1	. /	/ /
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Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	3	1	32	15
	3		32	15

1. For advanced degrees earned after April 2014.

- 2. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training".
- 3. Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.
- 4. Beginning in 2015-2016.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

> Goal D – Compensation for Prior Work Experience

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

Goal Component

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

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

Background

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

Figure 95



4-D Analysis: Rhode Island

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

While still leaving districts with the flexibility to determine their own pay scales, Rhode Island 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.

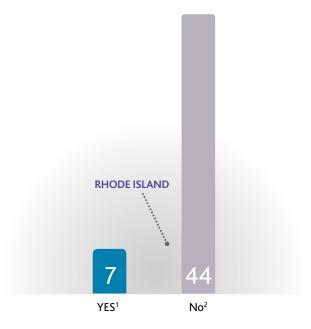
RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 96

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



1. Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Texas, Washington

2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii³, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

3. Hawaii's compensation is limited to prior military experience.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal E – Differential Pay

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 97

How States are Faring in Differential Pay

 1
 Best Practice State

 Georgia

11 States Meet Goal Arkansas, California, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia 1

2 States Nearly Meet Goal Maryland, Washington

10 States Partly Meet Goal Colorado, Delaware ↑, Hawaii, New Mexico ↑, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming

8 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Illinois, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont

19 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho↓, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts↓, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, RHODE ISLAND, West Virginia

Progress on this Goal Since 2011:

1:3 ↔:46 ↓:2

4-E Analysis: Rhode Island

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island neither supports differential pay by which a teacher can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects nor offers incentives to teach in high-need schools. However, the state has no regulatory language that would directly block districts from providing differential pay.

RECOMMENDATION

Support differential pay initiatives for effective teachers in both subject shortage areas and high-needs schools.

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

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island questioned the state's score on this goal. Since Rhode Island does not have any language blocking differential pay, the state believes it should receive credit for meeting a small part of the goal.

LAST WORD

While it is important that the state does not have regulatory language blocking differential compensation, NCTQ believes that this is an area where states need to be more proactive in encouraging this practice.

Figure 98		HIGH NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	. /
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or shortage subject	DIFFERENTIAL	Orgi	DIFFERENTIAL PAY	orgi	No support
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Arkansas					
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Delaware					
District of Columbia					
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 Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in subject shortage areas.

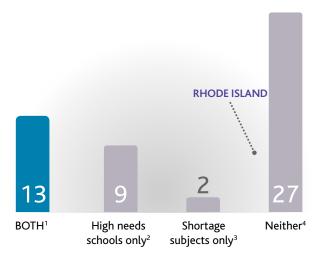
2. South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in high-need schools.

T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 99

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



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

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

> Goal F – Performance Pay

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 100

How States are Faring in Performance Pay **Best Practice States** 2 Florida. Indiana **16** States Meet Goal Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Hawaii1, Louisiana¹, Maine¹, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi¹, New York¹, Ohio¹, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah State Nearly Meets Goal California 5 States Partly Meet Goal Kentucky, Missouri, Nevada, Oregon, Virginia State Meets a Small Part of Goal Nebraska 26 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Idaho4, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, RHODE ISLAND, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2011: **→**:42 4:3 1:6

4-F Analysis: Rhode Island

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

Whether it implements the plan at the state or local level, Rhode Island should ensure that performance pay structures thoughtfully measure classroom performance and connect student achievement to teacher effectiveness. The plan must be developed with careful consideration of available data and subsequent issues of fairness.

Consider piloting performance pay in a select number of school districts.

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

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island commented that the state does not have any language that prevents districts from implementing performance pay. Performance pay would be a local decision. Although the state does not have a broad initiative underway or new regulation, there is nothing preventing a school district from implementing performance pay.

In addition, the state does have two pilot programs under Race to the Top. One district is implementing new pay structures for principals, and the other is piloting teacher leadership pathways with eligible educators needing to at least demonstrate effective teaching if not highly effective.

Figure 101	PERFORMANCE FACTORED	PERCORNANCE BONUES	s ;	State supported performance	Mce
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performance pay?	ARY	No Co	by t	Port	e dan
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Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
				•	26
	6	2	8	9	26

EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

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

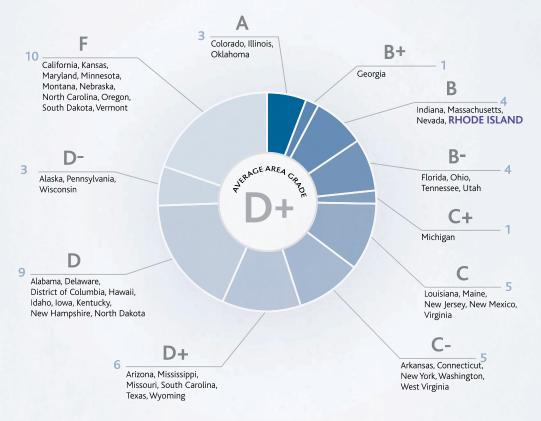
2. Nevada's initiative does not go into effect until 2015-2016.

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

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

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal A – Extended Emergency Licenses

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 102

How States are Faring in Licensure Loopholes **Best Practice States** 4 Colorado, Illinois, Mississippi, New Jersey 3 States Meet Goal Nevada, New Mexico, South Carolina 14 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Iowa⁺, Kentucky, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, RHODE ISLAND, Utah, West Virginia 2 States Partly Meet Goal New York, Wyoming States Meet a Small Part of Goal 2 Michigan, Vermont 26 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin Progress on this Goal Since 2011: 1:1 👄 : 50 4:0

5-A Analysis: Rhode Island

State Nearly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island allows teachers who have not met licensure requirements to teach under its emergency permit. This permit is valid for one year and may be issued to individuals who lack the requirements for the professional certificate if the local superintendent can document that a certified teacher is unavailable.

The emergency permit is available for renewal only if the applicant demonstrates successful education experience while serving on an Emergency Permit, provides evidence of a minimum of three credits of coursework toward specified renewal requirements, and "provides evidence of meeting all other specified renewal requirements and experience requirements."

Supporting Research

Emergency Permits

http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Certification/Cert-main-page/Emergency-Permit-Requirements.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

While Rhode Island's policy offering its alternative license for one year only before requiring teachers to take the obligatory subject-matter tests minimizes the risks of having teachers in classrooms who lack sufficient or appropriate subject-matter knowledge, the state could take its policy a step further and require all teachers to meet subject-matter license requirements prior to entering the classroom.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island asserted that it does not allow educators to work any portion of their day outside their certificate area as is a practice in several states. The emergency permit is only allowed in emergency situations where an appropriate teacher cannot be found, and children are in classes. The initial review for an emergency does ensure minimal background in the content area. As one might predict, these permits are most common in secondary math, physics, and English language instruction areas. The state pointed out that it issues about 200 emergency permits each year out of the over 10,000 working teachers.

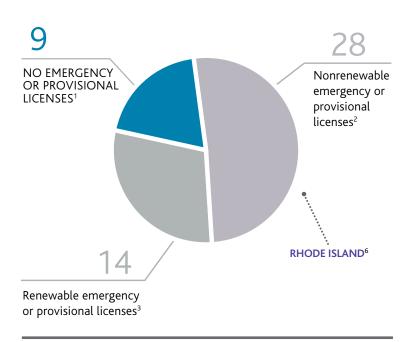
LAST WORD

NCTQ commends Rhode Island for only using the emergency permits sparingly, but 200 teachers per year means there are potentially thousands of students who are at risk of having teachers who may not be sufficiently prepared in the subject matter.

Figure 103		/	/	8
How long can new teachers practice without passing				^{3/earc} ormore (or unspecified)
licensing tests?	¥		5	ore (c
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	7	14	8	22
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Do states still award emergency licenses?



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

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal B – Dismissal for Poor Performance

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

Goal Components

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

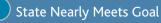
- The state should articulate that teachers may be dismissed for ineffective classroom performance. Any teacher that receives two consecutive ineffective evaluations or two such ratings within five years should be formally eligible for dismissal, regardless of tenure status.
- 2. A teacher who is terminated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

Background

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



5-B Analysis: Rhode Island



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Rhode Island explicitly makes teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal by requiring districts to dismiss "all educators who are rated ineffective for two consecutive years." In fact, Rhode Island does not articulate specific grounds for termination of teachers' contracts other than ineffectiveness.

Tenured teachers who are terminated have multiple opportunities to appeal. After receiving written notice of dismissal, the teacher may—within 15 days—request a hearing. The state does not articulate a time frame for this hearing. This decision may then be appealed to both the department of elementary and secondary education and to the superior court.

Supporting Research

Rhode Island General Law 16-13-4 Rhode Island Educator Evaluation System Standards http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/ Educator-Evaluation/Ed-Eval-Standards/EdEvalStandards.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

While nonprobationary teachers should have due process for any termination, it is important to differentiate between loss of employment and issues with far-reaching consequences that could permanently affect a teacher's right to practice. In addition, the state should ensure that the opportunity to appeal occurs only once and only at the district level. The decision should be made only by those with educational expertise.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that the recommendation notes a difference between ineffectiveness and other reasons for loss of employment with due process rights. Individuals who have committed morality violations, felonies, or dereliction of duty would also be subject to state-level review of their license and may face revocation.

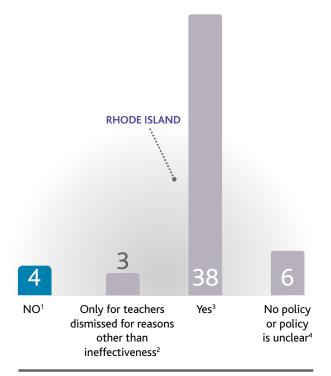
Figure 106	ANDORE FLANDER	SAL
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for dismissal?	Pur Cur	,
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West Virginia		
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Wyoming		
	29	22

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

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

Do states allow multiple appeals of teacher dismissals?



1. Strong Practice: Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Wisconsin

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

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal C – Reductions in Force

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

Goal Component

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

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

Background

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

Figure 108



5-C Analysis: Rhode Island

State Nearly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

In Rhode Island, an executive order from the Commissioner ensures that teacher performance and student need, rather than seniority, are factors in determining which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force. The policy requires that a collective bargaining agreement cannot prevent districts from "assigning staff based on a set of performance criteria and on student need rather than by strict seniority," which "may well have implications for personnel decisions [made] for layoff notices."

Supporting Research

Commissioner Advisory/Notice to Superintendents, "Basic Education Program Regulations and Seniority-Based Teacher Assignments," October 20, 2009 http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Inside-RIDE/Legal/Commissioners-Advisories/ 2012-and-older/102209-BEP-Regulations-Seniority-Based-Teacher-Assignments.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Require that districts consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force and ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

While the intent of the executive order appears to be to make performance a factor in layoff decisions and to ensure that seniority is not the only factor, the state should clarify this language.

RHODE ISLAND RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Rhode Island recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Do states prevent districts from basing layoffs solely on "last in, first out"?

J THE ONLY FACTOR BE PERFORMANCE MUST Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware \square District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii \square \square Idaho \square Illinois Indiana lowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota \square Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada \square New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico \square \square New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania **RHODE ISLAND** South Carolina \square South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia

18

22

Wisconsin

Wyoming

Figure 109

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



1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts³, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio³, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington

2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

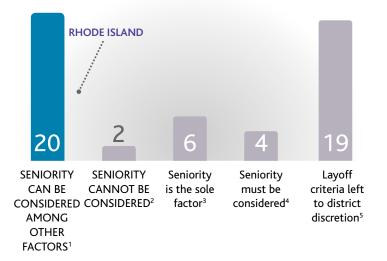
3. Tenure is considered first.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

Figure 111

Do states prevent districts from overemphasizing seniority in layoff decisions?



 Strong Practice: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts⁶, Michigan, Missouri⁶, Nevada, New Hampshire, Ohio⁶, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington

2. Strong Practice: Louisiana, Utah

3. Hawaii, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin⁷

- 4. California, Kentucky, New Jersey, Oregon
- 5. Alabama, Alaska⁶, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska⁶, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming
- 6. Nontenured teachers are laid off first.
- 7. Only for counties with populations of 500,000 or more and for teachers hired before 1995.

Goals and Keywords

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

Goals and Keywords

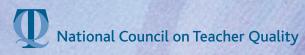
GOAL	STATEMENT	KEY WORDS
	AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching I	Pool
2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility	The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.	alternate route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

Goals and Keywords

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

Teacher Policy Priorities for Rhode Island

Require all elementary teac	cher candidates to pass a rigorous stand-alone science of reading test.	Goal 1
Specifically require seconda licensed to teach.	ary social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are	Goal 1
	AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool	
Ensure that alternate route	e programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.	Goal 2
	AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers	
Publish aggregate school-le instructional effectiveness.	evel teacher evaluation ratings from an evaluation system based on	Goal 3
	AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	
Discourage districts from ba	asing teacher pay scales primarily on advanced degrees and seniority.	Goal 4
Support differential pay init high-need schools.	tiatives for effective teachers in both shortage subject areas and	Goal 4
Support performance pay t	to recognize teachers for their effectiveness.	Goal 4



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