2013 State Teacher Policy Yearbook

South Dakota





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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STAFF

Sandi Jacobs, *Project Director*Adrienne S. Davis, *Project Assistant*Kathryn M. Doherty, *Special Contributor*Kelli Lakis, *Lead Researcher*Stephanie T. Maltz and Lisa N. Staresina, *Researchers*Phil Lasser, *Research Assistant*

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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.

South Dakota at a Glance



Overall 2013 Yearbook Grade

Overall 2011 Yearbook Grade: C-

Area Grades	2013	2011
Area 1 Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers	D-	D
Area 2 Expanding the Teaching Pool	D+	C-
Area 3 Identifying Effective Teachers	F	F
Area 4 Retaining Effective Teachers	D-	D^1
Area 5 Exiting Ineffective Teachers	F	F

Goal Breakdown	2013
★ Best Practice	0
Fully Meets	2
Nearly Meets	0
Partially Meets	5
Meets Only a Small Part	7
O Does Not Meet	17

	Progress on Goals Since 2011	
•	Progress has increased	2
(2)	No change in progress	27
•	Progress has decreased	2

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.

Page 5 **Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers** Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science Admission into Teacher Preparation **Elementary Teacher Preparation** Special Education Teacher Preparation Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction Assessing Professional Knowledge Teacher Preparation in Mathematics Student Teaching Middle School Teacher Preparation Teacher Preparation Program Accountability Secondary Teacher Preparation **Policy Strengths** All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test. ■ Although there is a loophole for some secondary science teachers, most secondary teachers must pass a content test to teach a core subject area. **Policy Weaknesses** ■ Middle school teachers are allowed to teach on a K-8 Teacher candidates are not required to pass a test of generalist license. academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to ■ The state offers a K-12 special education certification teacher preparation programs. and does not require any content testing for special ■ Elementary teacher candidates are not required education teacher candidates. to pass a content test with individually scored There are no requirements to ensure that student subtests in each of the core content areas, including teachers are placed with cooperating teachers who mathematics. were selected based on evidence of effectiveness. Elementary teacher candidates are not required to The teacher preparation program approval process pass a science of reading test to ensure knowledge of does not hold programs accountable for the quality of effective reading instruction, and preparation programs the teachers they produce. are not required to address this critical topic. **Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers** Page 51 Alternate Route Eligibility Part-Time Teaching Licenses Alternate Route Preparation Licensure Reciprocity Alternate Route Usage and Providers **Policy Weaknesses** requirements that would allow content experts to Admission criteria for the alternate route to teach part time. certification are not sufficiently selective or flexible Although out-of-state teachers are appropriately for nontraditional candidates. required to meet the state's testing requirements, Alternate route requirements could do more to meet there are additional obstacles that do not support the immediate needs of new teachers. licensure reciprocity Usage and providers of alternate routes are restricted. The state does not offer a license with minimal

How is **South Dakota** Faring?

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teache	ers	Page 73
State Data Systems Evaluation of Effectiveness Frequency of Evaluations	Tenure Licensure Advancement Equitable Distribution	
Policy Weaknesses ■ The state data system does not have the capacity to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness. ■ Although objective evidence of student learning is a significant component of teacher evaluations, it is not the preponderant criterion, and the state has failed to articulate other important evaluation requirements.	 Annual evaluations for all teachers are Tenure decisions are not connected to teacher effectiveness. Licensure advancement and renewal a on teacher effectiveness. Little school-level data are reported the support the equitable distribution of teacher effectiveness. 	evidence of re not based nat can help
Area 4: Retaining Effective Teacher	s P	age 105
nduction Professional Development Pay Scales	Compensation for Prior Work Experience Differential Pay Performance Pay	
 Policy Strengths Districts are given full authority for how teachers are basing salary schedules solely on years of experience Policy Weaknesses All new teachers do not receive mentoring or other induction support. Professional development is not aligned with finding from teachers' evaluations, and teachers who receive 	unsatisfactory evaluations are not place improvement plans. The state does not support performan additional compensation for relevant	ce pay or prior work
Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers	P	age 129
Extended Emergency Licenses Dismissal for Poor Performance	Reductions in Force	
Policy Weaknesses Teachers can teach for up to two years before having pass required subject-matter tests. Ineffective classroom performance is not grounds for dismissal, and tenured teachers who are dismissed h	teachers to tay on during reductions in	_

Figure A	Overall State Grade 2013	Overall State Grade 2011	Overall State Grade 2009
Florida	B+	В	С
Louisiana	В	C-	C-
Rhode Island	В	B-	D
Tennessee	В	B-	C-
Arkansas	B-	С	C-
Connecticut	B-	C-	D+
Georgia	B-	С	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+	C C	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	D	D	D-
Nebraska	D-	D-	D-
SOUTH DAKOTA	D-	D	D
Vermont	D-	D-	F
Montana	F	F	F

How to Read the Yearbook

GOAL SCORE

The extent to which each goal has been met:



Best Practice



Fully Meets



Nearly Meets



Partially Meets



Meets Only a Small Part



Does Not Meet

PROGRESS INDICATOR

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



Goal progress has increased since 2011



Goal progress has decreased since 2011



Goal progress has remained the same since 2011

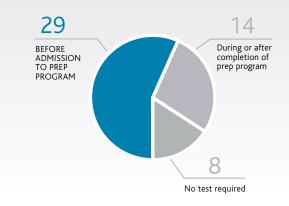
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



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:

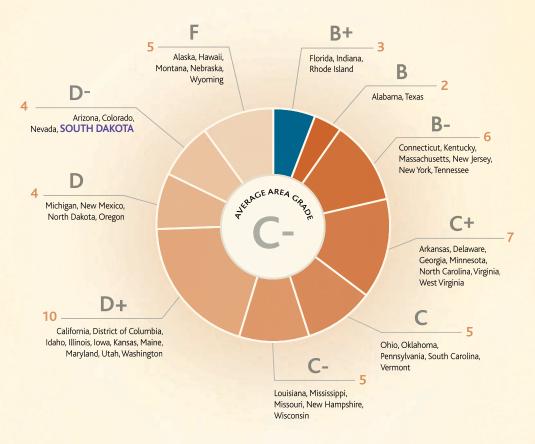


Area 1 Summary



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



1-A Analysis: South Dakota







ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not require prospective teachers to pass a test of academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs or any time thereafter. The state does require applicants to teacher preparation programs to have at least a 2.5 GPA in prior college coursework.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:53:04:01

RECOMMENDATION

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

Teacher preparation programs that do not screen candidates invest considerable resources in individuals who may not be able to successfully complete the program and pass licensing tests. Candidates in need of additional support should complete remediation before entering the program to avoid the possibility of an unsuccessful investment of significant public tax dollars. South Dakota should require candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, mathematics and writing prior to program admission.

Require that programs use a common admissions test normed to the general college-bound population.

South Dakota should require programs to use an assessment that demonstrates that candidates are academically competitive with all peers, regardless of their intended profession. Requiring a common test normed to the general college population would allow for the selection of applicants in the top half of their class while also facilitating program comparison.

Increase the GPA requirement.

Requiring only a 2.5 GPA sets a low bar for the academic performance of the state's prospective teachers. South Dakota should consider using a higher GPA requirement for program admission in combination with a test of academic proficiency. A sliding scale of GPA and test scores would allow flexibility for candidates in demonstrating academic ability. When using such multiple measures, a sliding scale that still ensures minimum standards would allow students to earn program admission through a higher GPA and a lower test score, or vice-versa.

 Consider requiring candidates to pass subject-matter tests as a condition of admission into teacher programs.

In addition to ensuring that programs require a measure of academic performance for admission, South Dakota might also want to consider requiring content testing prior to program admission as opposed to at the point of program completion. Program candidates are likely to have completed coursework that covers related test content in the prerequisite classes required for program admission. Thus, it would be sensible to have candidates take content tests while this knowledge is fresh rather than wait two years to fulfill the requirement, and candidates lacking sufficient expertise would be able to remedy deficits prior to entering formal preparation.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

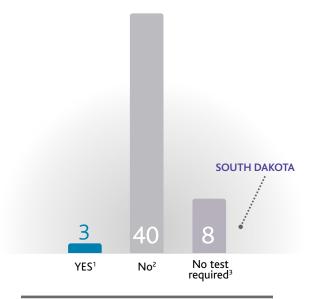
South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

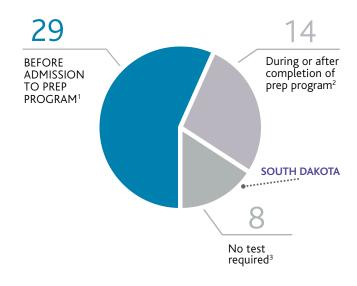
For admission to teacher preparation programs, Rhode Island and Delaware require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general collegebound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware also requires teacher candidates to have a 3.0 GPA or be in the top 50th 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?



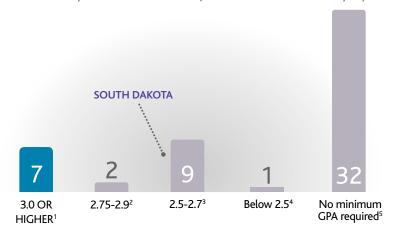
- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. 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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^{1.} Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission with a 3.0 GPA.

Figure 5

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



- 1. Strong Practice: Delaware, Mississippi⁶, New Jersey⁶, Oklahoma⁷, Pennsylvania⁸, Rhode Island⁶, Utah
- 2. Kentucky, Texas
- 3. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut⁹, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wisconsin¹⁰
- 4. Louisiana
- 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.

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



1-B Analysis: South Dakota







ANALYSIS

South Dakota 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. However, the state does not ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach the rigorous content associated with these standards.

South Dakota requires candidates to pass either the Praxis II general elementary content test or the general middle school content test, neither of which reports teacher performance in each subject area, meaning that it is possible to pass the tests and still fail some subject areas, especially given the state's low passing score for the test. Further, based on available information on the Praxis II, there is no reason to expect that the current versions required by South Dakota would be well aligned with the Common Core State Standards.

South Dakota only requires its early childhood education teacher candidates, who are allowed to teach up through grade 3, to pass the Praxis II Education of Young Children test, which is not a content test.

South Dakota does not require its elementary teacher candidates to earn an academic content specialization.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement

www.ets.org

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:53:07:04

RECOMMENDATION

 Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all subjects.

South Dakota should require both a rigorous content test as a condition of certification and separate, meaningful passing scores for each area on the test. Use of a composite passing score offers no assurance of adequate knowledge in each subject area. A candidate may achieve a passing score and still be seriously deficient in a particular subject area.

South Dakota is urged to require all early childhood education teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass an appropriate test, either the same test as other elementary teachers or a comparably rigorous one geared to early childhood content. It is especially worrisome that the state allows teachers up through grade 3 to teach without ever having passed a content test.

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

South Dakota 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. South Dakota relies on NCATE/ CAEP standards, suggesting that the state uses the 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.

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 South Dakota 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.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota asserted that the Education of Young Children test is designed to assess the examinee's knowledge about pedagogy and content, the relationship of theory to practice and how theory can be applied in the educational setting. The state also referred to its response for 1-F, which pointed out that as Praxis exams are regenerated, the normed cut-scores are evaluated and, in most cases, adopted as South Dakota's cut-scores.

LAST WORD

Although it is a sound approach to assess pedagogical knowledge in the context of specific content areas, that does not mean that such a test measures content knowledge.

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Washington				
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Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
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TOTAL STATE 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.

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

^{3.} Massachusetts and North Carolina require a general curriculum test that does not report scores for each elementary subject. A separate score is

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

Figure 9				IGLISH	,	/	,	SCIE		,			OCIAI				, ,	FIN ART	E rs
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Figure 10
What subjects does **South Dakota** expect elementary teachers to know?

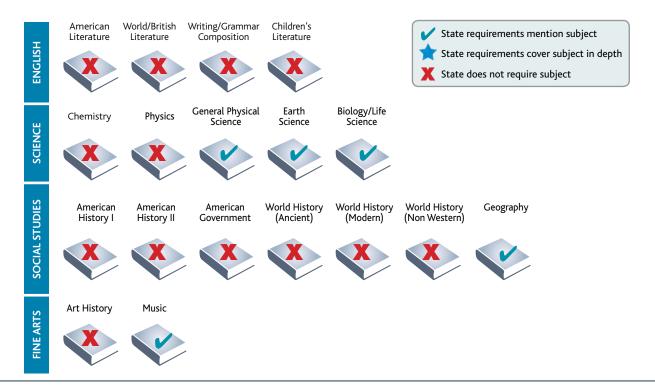
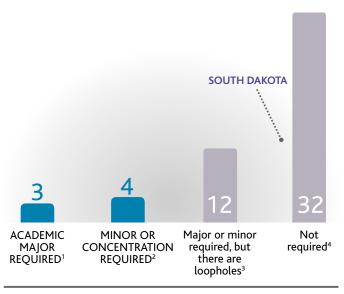


Figure 11

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: South Dakota







ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not require teacher candidates to pass an assessment that measures knowledge of scientifically based reading instruction prior to certification or at any point thereafter.

South Dakota 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.

South Dakota 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.

South Dakota 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.

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

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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Do states ensure that	FULLY ADDRESS READING SCIENCE	·		157	
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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

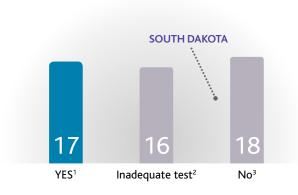
Fifteen states meet this goal by requiring that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades pass comprehensive assessments that specifically test the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Independent reviews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

^{1.} Alabama's reading test spans the K-12 spectrum.

^{2.} Teachers have until their second year to pass the reading test.

Figure 14

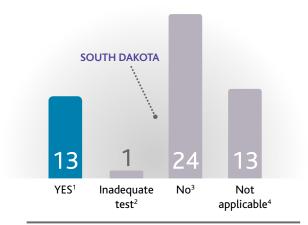
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading?



- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. 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.
- $5. \, \text{Teachers}$ 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
- 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).
- 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



1-D Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets a Small Part Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal (+) Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

South Dakota requires that all new elementary teachers pass a general Praxis II subject-matter test at either the elementary or middle school level. These commercial tests lack specific mathematics subscores, so candidates can fail the mathematics portions and still pass the tests. Further, while the elementary test does cover important elementary school-level content, it barely evaluates candidates' knowledge beyond an elementary school level, does not challenge their understanding of underlying concepts and does not require candidates to apply knowledge in nonroutine, multistep procedures.

Regrettably, South Dakota's early childhood education teachers, who are allowed to teach through grade 3, are not required to pass a content test.

South Dakota also relies on NCATE/CAEP standards, suggesting that it uses Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) standards for approving its elementary programs. ACEI standards address content in mathematics foundations, but these standards lack the specificity needed to ensure that teacher preparation programs deliver other mathematics content of appropriate breadth and depth to elementary teacher candidates.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:53:07:04 www.acei.org

RECOMMENDATION

Require all teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous mathematics assessment.

South Dakota should assess mathematics content with a rigorous assessment tool, such as the test required in Massachusetts that evaluates mathematics knowledge beyond an elementary school level and challenges candidates' understanding of underlying mathematics concepts. Such a test could also be used to allow candidates to test out of coursework requirements. Teacher candidates who lack minimum mathematics knowledge should not be eligible for licensure.

 Require teacher preparation programs to provide mathematics content specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers.

South Dakota must ensure that new teachers are prepared to teach the mathematics content required by the Common Core State Standards. Although ACEI standards require some knowledge in key areas of mathematics, South Dakota should require teacher preparation programs to provide mathematics content specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers. This includes specific coursework in foundations, algebra and geometry, with some statistics coursework.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

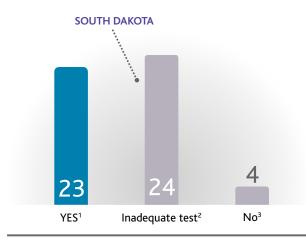
South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

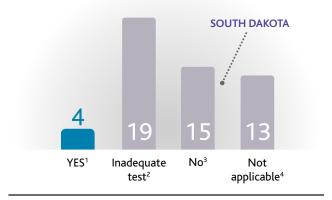
Eight states meet this goal by requiring that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades earn a passing score on an independently scored mathematics subtest. **Massachusetts's** MTEL mathematics subtest continues to set the standard in this area by evaluating mathematics knowledge beyond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

Figure 17
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



- 1. 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
- 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.)

- The state should require that new middle school teachers pass a licensing test in every core academic area that they are licensed to teach.
- 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



1-E Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota allows middle school teachers to teach on a generalist K-8 license. The state offers a middle-level endorsement (grades 5-8), which appears to only be required if the teacher is teaching in an organized junior high or middle school. Further, South Dakota only articulates that candidates must "know the subject matter they plan to teach"; it does not explicitly require a major or minor in the subject areas.

All new middle school teachers in South Dakota are also required to pass a Praxis II subject-matter test to attain licensure. However, because the state allows middle school teachers to teach on a generalist license, these candidates are only required to pass the general elementary content test, in which subscores are not provided. Therefore, there is no assurance that all middle school teachers will have sufficient knowledge in each subject they teach. Candidates who earn the middle-level endorsement are required to take subject-specific assessments.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement

www.ets.org

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:53:04:07

RECOMMENDATION

Require content testing in all core areas.

South Dakota should require subject-matter testing for all middle school teacher candidates in every core academic area they intend to teach as a condition of initial licensure.

To ensure that its middle school content tests are meaningful, South Dakota should reevaluate its passing scores so that all tests reflect high levels of performance. For example, the passing scores for the Praxis II Middle School English Language Arts and Mathematics tests are both set just above the 9th percentile.

■ Eliminate the generalist license.

South Dakota should not allow 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. These teachers are less likely to be adequately prepared to teach core academic areas at the middle school level because their preparation requirements are not specific to the middle or secondary levels and they need not pass a subject-matter test in each subject they teach. Adopting middle school teacher preparation policies for all such teachers will help ensure that students in grades 7 and 8 have teachers who are appropriately prepared to teach grade-level content, which is different and more advanced than what elementary teachers teach.

Encourage middle school teachers licensed to teach multiple subjects to earn two subjectmatter minors.

This would allow candidates to gain sufficient knowledge to pass state licensing tests, and it would increase schools' staffing flexibility. However, middle school candidates in South Dakota who intend to teach a single subject should earn a major in that area.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS South Dakota asserted that it allows middle school teachers to teach on a generalist K-8 license if they are teaching self-contained 5th and 6th grade assignments at the middle school. Grades 5-8 teachers who are teaching in departmentalized classrooms must meet the requirements to be highly qualified in the subjects to which they are assigned. This includes passing the appropriate content area Praxis exams.	

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***** 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.

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- 1. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure. 2. Candidates teaching multiple subjects only have to pass
- the elementary test. Single-subject credential does not require 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.
- 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.
- 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



1-F Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

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

The state, however, permits a significant loophole to this important policy by allowing a combination science license, without requiring subject-matter testing for each subject area within the discipline (see Goal 1-G).

Commendably, South Dakota does not offer secondary certification in general social studies. Teachers must be certified in a specific discipline within the subject area of social studies.

Further, to add an additional field to a secondary license, teachers must also pass a Praxis II content test. However, as stated above, South Dakota cannot guarantee content knowledge in each specific subject for secondary teachers who add combination science endorsements.

Supporting Research

Praxis Testing Requirements

www.ets.org

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:15:02:08; 24:15:06:09

RECOMMENDATION

■ Require subject-matter testing for all secondary teacher candidates.

South Dakota wisely requires subject-matter tests for most secondary teachers but should address any loopholes that undermine this policy (see Goal 1-G). This applies to the addition of endorsements as well.

To ensure that its secondary content tests are meaningful, South Dakota should also reevaluate its passing scores so that all tests reflect high levels of performance. For example, the passing scores for the Praxis II English Language, Literature and Composition: Content Knowledge; Government/Political Science; and World and U.S. History tests are set just around the 8th percentile.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

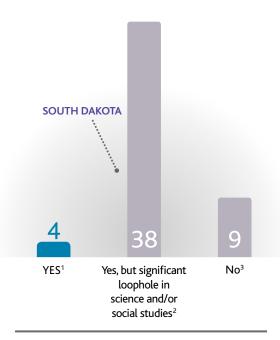
South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that for all subject areas where a Praxis exam has been validated, South Dakota requires a subject-matter Praxis exam. Cut scores for regenerated Praxis exams were set this past summer and include the following assessments: English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (167), Health Education (145), Journalism (150), Mathematics: Content Knowledge (160), Middle School English Language Arts (164), Middle Level Mathematics (165) and Psychology (154). As exams are regenerated, the normed cut scores are evaluated, and, in most cases, adopted as South Dakota's cut scores.



** 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.

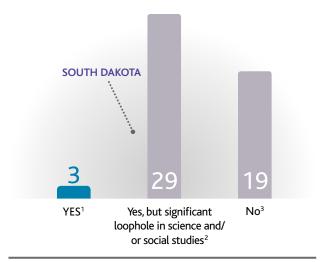
Figure 23 Does a secondary teacher have to pass a content test in every subject area for licensure?



- 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).}
- 3. 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.

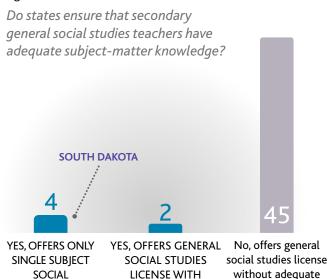
Figure 24

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



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Tennessee
- 2. 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.)
- 3. 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

STUDIES LICENSES¹

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

ADEQUATE TESTING²

testing3

- 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.
- 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



1-G Analysis: South Dakota



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not offer a general science certification for secondary teachers. However, the state does have an endorsement in physical science. Candidates are required to pass the Praxis II Physical Science content test.

Supporting Research

Praxis Testing Requirements

www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

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

States that allow combination licenses across multiple science disciplines—and that require only a comprehensive content test—are not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. South Dakota's required assessment combines both physics and chemistry and does not report separate scores for each subject. Therefore, a candidate could, for example, answer many physics questions, for example, incorrectly on the combination content test yet still be licensed to teach physics to high school students.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota asserted that it uses specific content-area tests to certify secondary teachers as qualified to teach at the secondary level (i.e., physics, biology, chemistry). The state added that the physical science endorsement applies only to general "physical science" courses and does not qualify a teacher to teach specific courses such as chemistry or physics.

Figure 27	Ę	OFFER GENERAL SCIENCE OF THE THREE OF THE THREE OF THE THREE OF THE THREE OF THREE O	/	Offers Seleval Science or Without adequate research
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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 science that requires candidates to pass individual subtests in biology, chemistry, earth science and physics. These certifications are offered in addition to single-subject licenses.

^{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.)

- 1. 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



1-H Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota offers a K-12 special education certification, in addition to grade-specific options: K-8 and 7-12.

The state does not require content testing for any of its special education teacher candidates.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rules, 24:15:06:41

RECOMMENDATION

■ End licensure practices that fail to distinguish between the skills and knowledge needed to teach elementary grades and secondary grades.

It is virtually impossible and certainly impractical for South Dakota to ensure that a K-12 special education teacher knows all the subject matter he or she is expected to be able to teach, especially considering state and federal expectations that special education students should meet the same high standards as other students. While the broad K-12 umbrella may be appropriate for teachers of low-incidence special education students, such as those with severe cognitive disabilities, it is deeply problematic for the overwhelming majority of high-incidence special education students, who are expected to learn grade-level content.

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

To ensure that special education teacher candidates who will teach elementary grades possess sufficient knowledge of the subject matter at hand, South Dakota should require a rigorous content test that reports separate passing scores for each content area. South Dakota should also set these passing scores to reflect high levels of performance. Failure to ensure that teachers possess requisite content knowledge deprives special education students of the opportunity to reach their academic potential.

Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

Secondary special education teachers are frequently generalists who teach many core subject areas. 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, South Dakota's current policy of requiring no subject-matter testing is problematic and will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards. To provide a middle ground, South Dakota 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.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota asserted that special education teachers who are the teacher of record in a core content area must be highly qualified to teach the subjects for which they are responsible.

Supporting Research

A.R.S.D. 24:05:16:16:03, 04, 05, 06 http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/documents/HQT_Q&A.pdf

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

By tying requirements to highly qualified status, it appears that the state is putting the burden on districts to ensure that teachers have passed tests for the grades and subjects they teach. A license should mean that a teacher is prepared to teach any subjects or grades covered under that certificate.

Figure 29		Office K-12-and	(8)
Do states distinguish	DOES NOT OFFIRM	<i>≥</i> / .	^{tificati} ii
between elementary	68		
and secondary special	NO)	s K-7	Sonly
education teachers?	8053 4.72,0	State.	Offers only a K-12
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
Iowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine		П	
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan	$\overline{}$		
Minnesota		П	
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire		Ī	
New Jersey	1		
New Mexico	$\overline{}$	П	
New York			
North Carolina		П	
North Dakota	$\overline{}$	$\overline{\Box}$	
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania		Ē	
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
SOUTH DAKOTA			
Tennessee		Ē	
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
j	16	7	28
	10	1	20



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?

,	, or op ositive out out on our or					
Elementa	ry 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, Pennsylvania ¹ , Rhode Island, West Virginia ²					
Required for a K-12 special education license	None					

- 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:

 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.

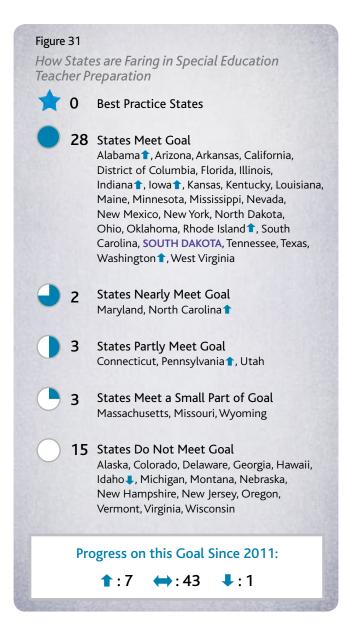
Goal Component

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

 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



1-I Analysis: South Dakota





State Meets Goal (+) Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota requires all new teachers to pass a popular pedagogy test from the Praxis series in order to attain licensure.

Supporting Research

http://www.ets.org/praxis/sd/requirements

RECOMMENDATION

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

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

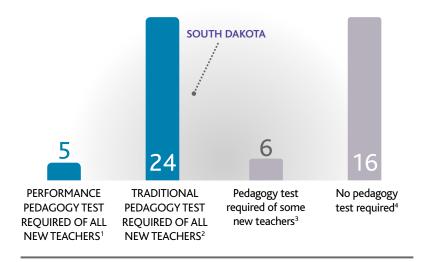
South Dakota indicated that it believes the Praxis exams align with state standards. This is reviewed periodically.



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
- 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



1-J Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



(Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota requires candidates to complete a minimum of 10 weeks of supervised experiences. Student teachers must spend the majority of this time in the subject area and age or grade span in which they will be certified. It is not clear whether the state intends this to be a full-time experience. South Dakota also does not articulate any requirements for cooperating teachers.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:53:06:03

RECOMMENDATION

- Ensure that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.
 - In addition to the ability to mentor an adult, cooperating teachers in South Dakota should also be carefully screened for their capacity to further student achievement. Research indicates that the only aspect of a student teaching arrangement that has been shown to have an impact on student achievement is the positive effect of selection of the cooperating teacher by the preparation program, rather than by the student teacher or school district staff.
- Use evidence from the state's teacher evaluation system to select cooperating teachers. South Dakota requires objective measures of student growth to be a significant criterion of its teacher evaluations. The state should therefore utilize its evaluation results, which provide evidence of effectiveness in the classroom, in the selection of effective cooperating teachers.
- Require teacher candidates to spend at least 10 weeks student teaching. South Dakota should require that student teaching be a full-time commitment, as requiring coursework and student teaching simultaneously does a disservice to both. Alignment with a school calendar for at least 10 weeks ensures both adequate classroom experience and exposure to a variety of ancillary professional activities.
- Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting candidates from completing this requirement abroad.

Unless preparation programs can establish true satellite campuses to closely supervise student teaching arrangements, placement in foreign or otherwise novel locales should be supplementary to a standard student teaching arrangement. Outsourcing the arrangements for student teaching makes it impossible to ensure the selection of the best cooperating teacher and adequate supervision of the student teacher and may prevent training of the teacher on relevant state instructional frameworks.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that its Board of Regents is piloting a year-long residency program, which may be required for all public universities.

Figure 34		/
	4 V	, NG
Do states ensure a	VC CED 74 O 74	. \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
high-quality student	FAA71	Z / Z / Z / Z / Z / Z / Z / Z / Z / Z /
teaching experience?		STUDENT TEACHING ASTS AT LEAST TO WEEK
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut Delaware		
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		

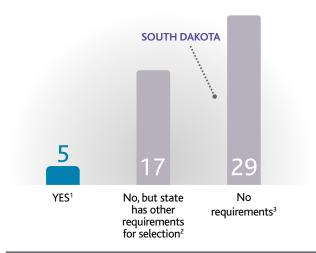


EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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.

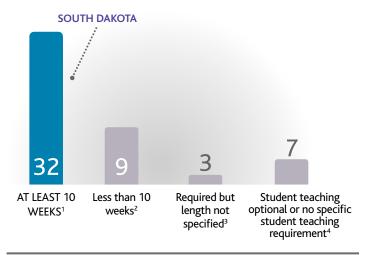
Figure 35
Is the selection of the cooperating teacher based on some measure of effectiveness?



- 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
- 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** State Meets Goal Louisiana 10 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Colorado, Delaware 1, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina 1, Ohio 1, Rhode Island 1, Tennessee, Texas States Partly Meet Goal Indiana 1, Kentucky, Massachusetts 1, Michigan, Nevada, South Carolina, Washington 1, Wisconsin 1 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

1-K Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota's approval process for its traditional and alternate route teacher preparation programs does not hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.

Most importantly, South Dakota does not collect or report data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.

The state also fails to collect other objective, meaningful data to measure the performance of teacher preparation programs, and it does not apply any transparent, measurable criteria for conferring program approval.

Further, in the past three years, no programs in South Dakota have been identified as low performing—an additional indicator that programs lack accountability.

The state's website does not include a report card that allows the public to review and compare program performance.

In South Dakota, there is some overlap of accreditation and state approval. Members of NCATE/CAEP and the state make up the review team and decisions are made jointly; state members must complete NCATE/CAEP training. South Dakota conducts its own program reviews.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:53:01, -:02
Title II State Reports
https://title2.ed.gov
www.ncate.org

RECOMMENDATION

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

As one way to measure whether programs are producing effective classroom teachers, South Dakota should consider the academic achievement gains of students taught by programs' graduates, averaged over the first three years of teaching. Data that are aggregated to the institution (e.g., combining elementary and secondary programs) rather than disaggregated to the specific preparation program are not useful for accountability purposes. Such aggregation can mask significant differences in performance among programs.

■ 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 programs are preparing teachers for the classroom, such as:

- 1. Evaluation results from the first and/or second year of teaching;
- 2. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison;
- 3. Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including academic proficiency, subject matter and professional knowledge tests;

- 4. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests; and
- 5. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.
- Establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.

Merely collecting the types of data described above is insufficient for accountability purposes. The next and perhaps more critical step is for the state to establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data. Programs should then be held accountable for meeting these standards, and there should be consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.

Publish an annual report card on the state's website.

South Dakota should produce an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs, which should be published on the state's website at the program level for the sake of public transparency. Data should be presented in a manner that clearly conveys whether programs have met performance standards.

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

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 38	OBJECTIVE PROGRAM.		DATA PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE
Do states hold teacher	\$ \frac{1}{2} \fra	7.88 N	13 / 13 NO
preparation programs	£5	124 A	1 PUB
accountable?	SPECIFIC	MINIMUM STANDARDS-FOR PERCORMANGE OR	047. 47.41.
Alabama		■ ¹	
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			2
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
Iowa			
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	П	
Rhode Island		П	
South Carolina ¹			
SOUTH DAKOTA			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia	1		
Washington			
West Virginia	1		
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	36	4	19



****** 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.

Figure 40

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

Figure 41

What is the relationship between state program

approval and national

П

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П

accreditation?

Alabama Alaska

Arizona

Arkansas

California

Colorado

Delaware

Florida

Georgia

Hawaii

Idaho

Illinois

Indiana

Iowa

Connecticut

District of Columbia

National accreditation is required for program approval

П

П

 \Box

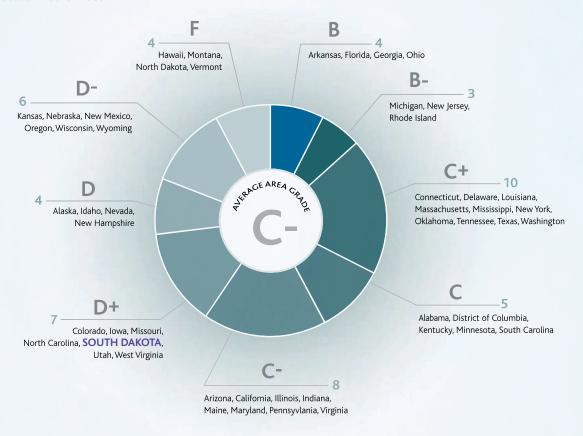
Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine П Maryland П Massachusetts Michigan П Minnesota Mississippi П Missouri П Montana П П Nebraska Nevada П П New Hampshire New Jersey П П New Mexico П П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П Oklahoma П Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island П South Carolina **SOUTH DAKOTA** Tennessee Texas Utah П П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 1. National accreditation can be substituted for state approval. 2. For institutions with 2,000 or more full-time equivalent students 7 13 31

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** 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 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

2-A Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

South Dakota classifies the Alternative Route to Certification Program and Teach For America (TFA) as its alternate routes to certification.

The state requires all applicants to have a minimum 2.5 GPA. Candidates must demonstrate subject-matter knowledge by passing a content exam. A passing score on the subject-knowledge test exempts applicants from the GPA requirement.

South Dakota also requires applicants to hold a major in the subject area to be taught, although five years of relevant work experience may be used in lieu of this requirement. Applicants cannot test out of the content coursework requirements.

Candidates to the Alternative Route to Certification must also have two years of experience after graduating.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:15:04:01; 24:15:05:02

RECOMMENDATION

Screen candidates for academic ability.

South Dakota should require that candidates to its alternate routes provide some evidence of good academic performance. The standard should be higher than what is required of traditional teacher candidates, such as a GPA of 3.0 or higher. A rigorous test appropriate for candidates who have already completed a bachelor's degree, such as the GRE, would be ideal.

Offer flexibility in fulfilling coursework requirements.

While South Dakota is recognized for allowing candidates to use work experience in place of a major, the state should allow any candidate who already has the requisite knowledge and skills to demonstrate such by passing a rigorous test. Exacting coursework requirements could dissuade talented individuals who lack precisely the right courses from pursuing a career in teaching.

■ Consider flexibility in work-experience requirement.

The state should consider using a candidate's years of experience as a factor in the admission process rather than as a requirement. Requiring a minimum number of years' work experience may disqualify potentially talented candidates unnecessarily. Recent graduates, who may demonstrate high academic ability and strong content knowledge but lack the minimum years of experience, would be needlessly excluded from the alternate route programs under this requirement.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

South Dakota added that the second recommendation suggests that the state should allow any candidate who already has the requisite knowledge and skill to demonstrate such by passing a rigorous test is inaccurate. The state pointed out that it does allow the individual to pass the Praxis II content test to show they are qualified to teach the subject.

South Dakota also indicated that it does allow for flexibility in work experience. This requirement can be waived if candidates are employed as a teacher. In this example, the individual would need to pass the Praxis content test.

LAST WORD

NCTQ recognizes that the state requires all candidates to pass the Praxis II content test in the subject they will be licensed to teach. The point in that the recommendation is the state could allow this as sufficient evidence of subject-matter knowledge, and not also require a content major. At present, only work experience can be substituted for a major.

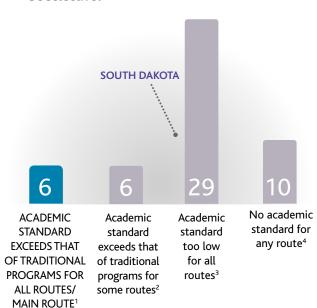
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Are states' alternate	10 STA 10 STA 12 PP.	MATTE.	AN BE MAJO
outes selective yet	DEN, 1550 170 _N	re C.	MAJO 500
lexible in admissions?	74 A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	SUBJECT-MATTER	N LIE
Alabama			*
Alaska			
Arizona Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut	*		â
Delaware			
District of Columbia	*	*	*
Florida		*	*
Georgia			*
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			*
Indiana			<u> </u>
Iowa Kansas		□	
Kentucky			
Louisiana	- ī	*	*
Maine		*	*
Maryland			
Massachusetts		*	*
Michigan	*	*	*
Minnesota	<u></u>	*	*
Mississippi		*	*
Missouri			
Montana Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	*	*	
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			<u>*</u>
North Dakota			
Ohio Oklahoma			
Oregon			X
Pennsylvania		<u></u>	
Rhode Island	*		<u> </u>
South Carolina		*	
SOUTH DAKOTA		*	
Tennessee			*
Texas			*
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			△
Washington West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
, ,			



** 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.

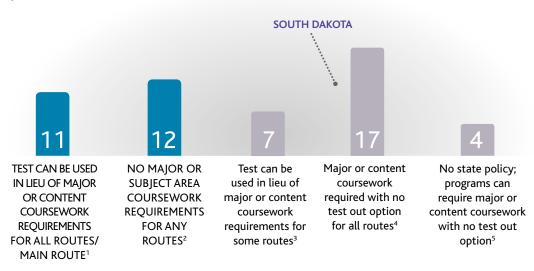
Figure 44 Do states require alternate routes to be selective?



- 1. Strong Practice: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island
- 2. Alabama, Illinois⁵, Indiana, Kentucky⁶, New York, Pennsylvania
- 3. 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, Wyoming
- 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.

Figure 45

Do states accommodate the nontraditional background of alternate route candidates?



- 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.



Background

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

2-B Analysis: South Dakota



State Partly Meets Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

The Alternate Route to Teacher Certification requires six credits of coursework in pedagogy, South Dakota Indian Studies and Human Relations.

Teach For America (TFA) candidates attend a five-week summer training institute that includes the fundamentals of teaching, practice of instructional techniques, classroom management and planning. Candidates must also complete six semester hours of education coursework in pedagogy and related fields of the education school curriculum. TFA candidates must also complete three hours of Indian Studies and three hours of Human Relations training.

State guidelines do not require candidates to have a practice-teaching experience, although TFA does require candidates to complete a field experience. The state offers a mentor to all alternate route candidates.

The Alternate Route to Teacher Certification and Teach For America programs require two years of teaching before certification can be earned.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rule 24:15:04:02; 03; 24:15:05:03; 04

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that coursework is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers.

While South Dakota is commended for the nature and amount of coursework in place for TFA candidates, the requirements of the Alternate Route to Teacher Certification may be too few to adequately prepare new teachers. Requirements should be manageable and contribute to the immediate needs of new teachers. Appropriate coursework should include grade-level or subject-level seminars, methodology in the content area, classroom management, assessment and scientifically based early reading instruction.

Ensure that new teachers are supported in the first year of teaching.

South Dakota should provide more detailed guidelines to ensure that new teachers will receive the support they need to facilitate their success in the classroom. Effective induction strategies include practice teaching prior to teaching in the classroom, 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.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota noted that candidates for alternative certification must be employed by a district to qualify. This ensures that there is experience in the classroom. The candidate may have up to three years to complete 12 credits of relevant coursework.

The state also indicated that Teach For America candidates earn their six credits from their five-week training. They do not complete an additional six credits of pedagogy.

Figure 47			X00 /	/ (, / ,
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EXAMPLES 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.

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.

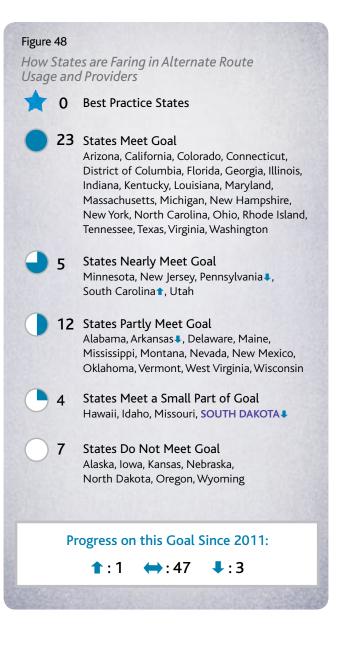
Goal Components

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

- 1. 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.
- 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



2-C Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets a Small Part of Goal 🐶 Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Candidates in South Dakota's Alternate Route to Teacher Certification can only teach approved subjects in grades 7-12 and K-12 certification areas. State code indicates that elementary certification is permitted under this alternate route; however, contradictory information appears on the state website.

Teach For America candidates can teach in all subject areas in low-income rural and urban communities.

South Dakota authorizes only local universities and colleges to offer Alternate Route to Teacher Certification programs. Teach For America is an approved provider in the state; however, South Dakota requires Teach For America candidates to take coursework at an accredited college or university.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rule 24:15:04:01; 24:15:05:03; 24:53:02:03

Alternative Certification

http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/altcert.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Clarify usage of alternate route.

NCTQ encourages South Dakota to address and clarify the conflicting information between the state code and the state's website about the grades and subjects that can be taught through the Alternate Route to Teacher Certification.

Further expand the diversity of alternate route providers.

South Dakota is commended for supporting licensure through completion of the Teach For America program. The state should continue to consider policies that encourage additional providers, such as school districts and other nonprofit organizations, to operate programs.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota clarified that the Department of Education alternative program is only for grades 7-12 or K-12 content areas. K-12 content areas would include physical education, health, band, etc.

The state added that the Teach For America program is for all subjects at all levels. The coursework can be obtained through their five weeks of training.

In addition, South Dakota indicated that it does offer a certification-only program, and it is not considered alternative certification.

Supporting Research

ARSD 24:53:02:03

LAST WORD

NCTQ encourages the state to ensure that there is no contradictory information published on the state's website.

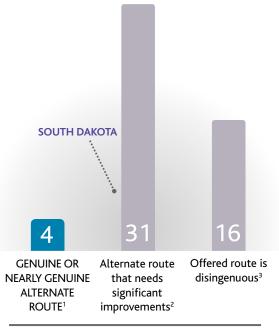
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		For all alternate ro



** 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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South Carolina		*		*	*			*		*
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Wisconsin										*
Wyoming						*				

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.
- 3. 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



2-D Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota 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.

South Dakota 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.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 53		,	,
Do states offer a license		Restricted or vague	
with minimal requirements		7 2 5	, /
that allows content experts		Pa _t ted (
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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.)

- 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.
- 2. The state should uphold its standards for all teachers by insisting that certified teachers coming from other states meet its own testing requirements.
- 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



2-E Analysis: South Dakota



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Commendably, South Dakota does not provide any waivers on its testing requirements. All out-of-state teachers, no matter how many years of experience they have, must meet South Dakota's passing scores on licensing tests.

Teachers with valid out-of-state certificates are eligible for comparable licensure in South Dakota. Applicants must meet the state's coursework recency requirement, meaning that if the out-of-state teacher's degree is more than five years old, he or she must show proof of six semester credit hours within the five-year period preceding application.

In addition, transcripts are required for all out-of-state teachers; however, it is not clear 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.

South Dakota also requires all incoming teachers to complete two courses in human relations and South Dakota Indian Studies. The state does not appear to offer a test-out option for this coursework.

South Dakota requires all online teachers—or "distance learning instructional staff"—to have the same qualifications as teachers in a traditional physical school.

Supporting Research

Initial Certification Application
http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/documents/TeacherCertificationInitialApplication.pdf
South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:43:12:01

RECOMMENDATION

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

South Dakota should reconsider its recency requirement regarding coursework, as it may deter talented teachers from applying for certification.

Further, the state's human relations and South Dakota Indian Studies coursework requirements are reasonable, but South Dakota should offer out-of-state teachers a test-out option.

Accord the same license to out-of-state alternate route teachers as would be accorded to traditionally prepared teachers.

Regardless of whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route, all certified out-of-state teachers should receive equal treatment. South Dakota 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 South Dakota.

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

Rather than rely on transcripts to assess credentials, South Dakota 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 out-of-state online teachers are not burdensome.

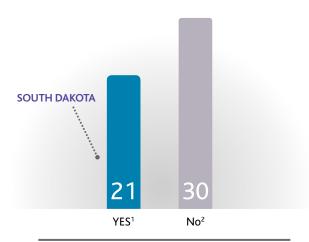
South Dakota should balance the interests of its students in having qualified online instructors with making certain that these requirements do not create unnecessary obstacles for out-of-state teachers.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota asserted that when a certification officer reviews a teacher with a valid out-of-state license, a full transcript analysis is not completed. The officer verifies university sign-off and student teaching and reviews coursework to ensure that the teacher has met South Dakota's human relations and Indian studies requirements. The officer also checks that six credits have been completed in the past five years.

Figure 55

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
- 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, Wyorning
- 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.

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Figure 56

^{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.

Do states treat out-of-state teachers the same whether they were prepared in a traditional or an alternate route program? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California	STATE TREATS TEACHER	State specifies of ffer	State has policies with Polici	rers cernate
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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

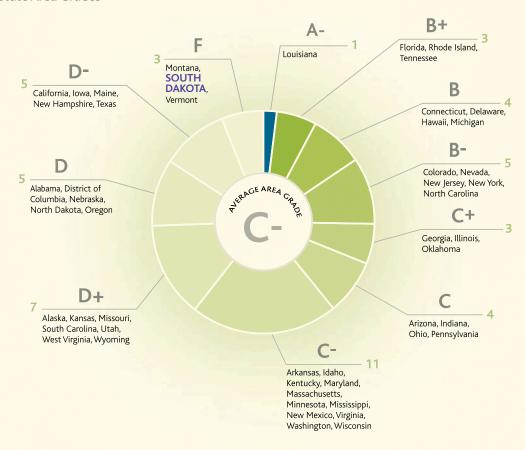
Alabama and Texas appropriately support licensure reciprocity by requiring that certified teachers from other states meet Alabama's and Texas's own testing requirements, and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate 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-D: Tenure
- 3-B: Evaluation of Effectiveness 3-E: Licensure Advancement
- 3-C: Frequency of Evaluations 3-F: Equitable Distribution

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.)

- 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.
- 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.



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



3-A Analysis: South Dakota





State Does Not Meet Goal 💮 Bar Raised for this Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not have a data system that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.

South Dakota has two of three necessary elements that would allow for the development of a studentand teacher-level longitudinal data system. The state has assigned unique student identifiers that connect student data across key databases across years, and it has the capacity to match student test records from year to year in order to measure student academic growth. Although South Dakota assigns teacher identification numbers, it cannot match individual teacher records with individual student records.

South Dakota does not have a teacher of record definition. The state's teacher-student data link can connect more than one educator to a particular student in a given course, but it does not have in place a process for teacher roster verification.

South Dakota does not publish data on teacher production that connects program completion, certification and hiring statistics. In its annual "Staff Information" graph, the state only publishes the total number of new certified teachers.

Supporting Research

Data Quality Campaign www.dataqualitycampaign.org Staff Information http://doe.sd.gov/ofm/documents/StaffTeach1011.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Develop capacity of state data system.

South Dakota should ensure that its state data system is able to match individual teacher records with individual student records.

Develop a definition of "teacher of record" that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.

To ensure that data provided through the state data system are actionable and reliable, South Dakota should articulate a definition of teacher of record and require its consistent use throughout the state. The state's definition should reflect instruction rather than grading, and South Dakota should develop a process for teacher roster verification.

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. South Dakota 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, South Dakota will form a rich set of data that can inform policy decisions.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota asserted that it matches a primary teacher to an individual student via the student's schedule. The SD-STARS system does this match down to the course-section level. One caveat is that secondary and special education teachers and paraprofessionals cannot be matched at this time. During the last 1.5 years, South Dakota has gone from not knowing which teacher is instructing a group of students to being able to link the two entities and providing reports.

South Dakota also noted that the Board of Regents, with the assistance of the state, publishes an annual "Teacher Education Accountability Report."

Supporting Research

http://www.sdbor.edu/theboard/items/2011/08.2011_J.7_2009_10TeacherEducationReport.pdf

LAST WORD

This report does not address district-level hiring statistics.

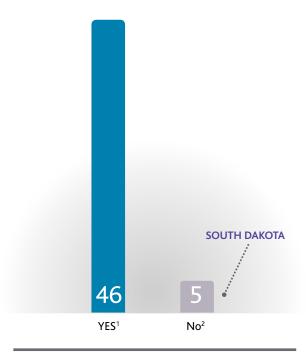
In addition, this analysis was revised subsequent to the state's review based on updated data from the Data Quality Campaign.

Figure 59

Do states' data systems have the basic elements

needed to assess teacher effectiveness; unique

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		/	× 1
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TEXAMPLES 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.

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.
- 3. 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



3-B Analysis: South Dakota



State Partly Meets Goal (1) Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not require that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations.

The state requires that evaluations be based on professional performance standards and that multiple measures are used. However, in November 2012, South Dakota voters overturned the evaluation legislation that required objective measures of growth in student achievement to count for at least 50 percent of a teacher's evaluation score.

South Dakota has received a waiver from portions of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Therefore, by 2014-2015, districts must implement evaluation systems that comply with federal requirements, which include making quantitative measures of student growth a significant factor in determining teacher effectiveness. Districts must also differentiate teacher performance using at least three performance levels.

Classroom observations are required.

Supporting Research

SB 24 (2010)

HB 1234 (2012)

Teacher Effectiveness Handbook

http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/documents/TEPHandbk.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

South Dakota falls short by failing to require that evidence of student learning be the most significant criterion, and the state's vague language leaves room for interpretation as to the actual measure of "significant" in the overall evaluation score. South Dakota should either require a common evaluation instrument in which evidence of student learning is the most significant criterion, or it should specifically require that student learning be the preponderant criterion in local evaluation processes. This can be accomplished by requiring objective evidence to count for at least half of the evaluation score or through other scoring mechanisms, such as a matrix, that ensure that nothing affects the overall score more. Whether state or locally developed, a teacher should not be able to receive a satisfactory rating if found ineffective in the classroom.

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

Although South Dakota requires classroom observations as part of teacher evaluations, the state should articulate guidelines that focus classroom observations on the quality of instruction, as measured by student time on task, student grasp or mastery of the lesson objective and efficient use of class time.

■ Ensure that evaluations also include classroom observations that specifically focus on and document the effectiveness of instruction.

Although South Dakota requires classroom observations as part of teacher evaluations, the state

should articulate guidelines that focus classroom observations on the quality of instruction, as measured by student time on task, student grasp or mastery of the lesson objective and efficient use of class time.

Codify evaluation requirements.

To ensure that teachers are evaluated based on the requirements articulated in the guidelines, South Dakota should codify pertinent criteria. This will ensure that student growth data continue to be a part of teacher evaluations even after the expiration of the ESEA waiver.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota asserted that it has completed a great deal of work during the past nine months regarding its teacher and principal effectiveness systems.

Supporting Research

http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/documents/TEPHandbk.pdf http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/TEP.aspx

LAST WORD

According to a subsequent response from the state, rules pertaining to teacher evaluations were passed with amendments based on public comments received. The amended rules will be posted online and will then go through the state legislative rules-review process. Once that process is complete, the rules will be official.

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

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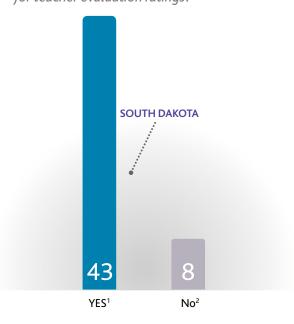
The state has an ESEA waiver requiring an evaluation system that includes student achievement as a significant factor. However, no specific guidelines or policies have been articulated.

^{2.} Explicitly defined for the 2013-2014 school year.

Figure 64 Type of suriey not specified Is survey data used as part of teacher evaluations? Alabama Alaska¹ Arizona П П Arkansas California Colorado 2 Connecticut³ П П Delaware П П District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii П Idaho П Illinois \Box П П Indiana Iowa1 Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana П Maine 2 Maryland П П П П Massachusetts Michigan П Minnesota Mississippi П П П Missouri 2 Montana П Nebraska Nevada П New Hampshire П П П New Jersey П New Mexico П П П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П П П Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina П П **SOUTH DAKOTA** Tennessee Texas Utah П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming П 2 14 11 6 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, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Alabama, California, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont

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.



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 Do states direct how teachers should be evaluated? Alabama Alaska Arizona П Arkansas California П П Colorado Connecticut П Delaware П District of Columbia П П Florida Georgia П Hawaii П П Idaho П П Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland П П Massachusetts Michigan П П Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana П Nebraska Nevada П П New Hampshire П New Jersey П New Mexico П П **New York** North Carolina North Dakota Ohio П П Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina **SOUTH DAKOTA** Tennessee Texas Utah П П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming П П 9 12 30

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

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^{1.} Maryland requires multiple observers for ineffective teachers.

^{2.} Multiple evaluators are explicitly allowed but not required.

➤ 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.
- 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



3-C Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



ANALYSIS

Regrettably, South Dakota does not ensure that all teachers are evaluated annually.

Nonprobationary teachers must be evaluated once every two years. New teachers in South Dakota must be evaluated annually. However, the state's policy does not include any guidelines on when this evaluation should occur.

Supporting Research SB 24 (2010)

RECOMMENDATION

Require annual formal evaluations for all teachers.

All teachers in South Dakota should be evaluated annually. Rather than treated as mere formalities, these teacher evaluations should serve as important tools for rewarding good teachers, helping average teachers improve and holding weak teachers accountable for poor performance.

Base evaluations on multiple observations.

To guarantee that annual evaluations are based on an adequate collection of information, South Dakota 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. South Dakota should ensure that its new teachers get the support they need, and that supervisors know early on which new teachers may be struggling or at risk for unacceptable levels of performance.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota asserted that it has completed a great deal of work during the past nine months regarding its teacher and principal effectiveness systems.

Supporting Research

http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/documents/TEPHandbk.pdf

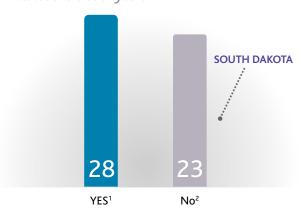
http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/TEP.aspx

LAST WORD

According to a subsequent response from the state, rules pertaining to teacher evaluations were passed with amendments based on public comments received. The amended rules will be posted online and will then go through the state legislative rules review process. Once that process is complete, the rules will be official.

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

Figure 69
Do states require districts to evaluate all teachers each year?

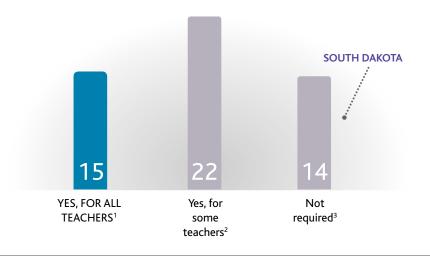


- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland³, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 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
- ${\it 3. Regulations sunset on September 30, 2014.}$

Figure 70	AWWUALEVALUATION	AWWALEVALUATON OF
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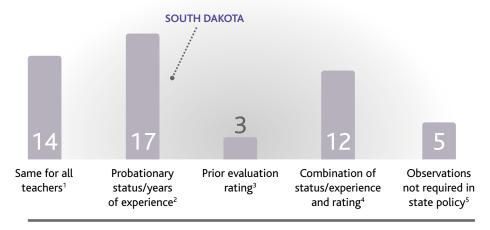
Figure 71

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
- 2. 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?



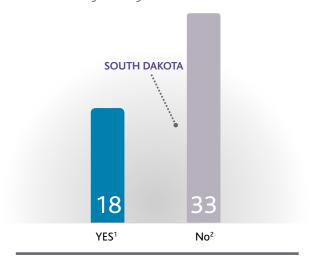
- Alabama, District of Columbia⁶, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island
- 2. Alaska, Arkansas⁷, California⁷, Colorado, Florida, Kansas⁷, Minnesota⁷, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma⁷, Oregon, Pennsylvania⁷, South Carolina, 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.



** 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
- 2. 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,
- 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.

Goal D - Tenure

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

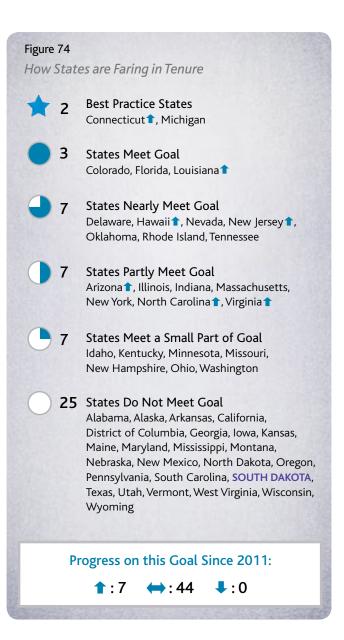
Goal Components

(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.
- 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



3-D Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not connect tenure decisions to evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Teachers in South Dakota are awarded tenure automatically after a three-year probationary period, absent an additional process that evaluates cumulative evidence of teacher effectiveness.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Statute 13-43-6.3

RECOMMENDATION

End the automatic awarding of tenure.

The decision to grant tenure should be a deliberate one, based on consideration of a teacher's commitment and actual evidence of classroom effectiveness.

- Ensure evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.
 - South Dakota should make evidence of effectiveness, rather than the number of years in the classroom, the most significant factor when determining this leap in professional standing.
- Articulate a process that local districts must administer when deciding which teachers get tenure.
 - South Dakota should require a clear process, such as a hearing, to ensure that the local district reviews a teacher's performance before making a determination regarding tenure.
- Require a longer probationary period.

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

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that per its ESEA waiver, personnel decisions will be tied to teacher evaluations beginning in 2016-2017.

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- 1. Idaho limits teacher contract terms to one year.
- A teacher can receive up to a 4-year contract if deemed proficient on evaluation.
- 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.
- 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.



TEXAMPLES 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.

- 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.

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Vermont			
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Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
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	11	9	31

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: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota's requirements for licensure advancement and renewal are not based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

South Dakota employs a single-tier certification, so new teachers apply for the five-year certificate, and then, rather than advance to another level, they renew. The requirement for renewal is completion of six semester credits.

The state does not include evidence of effectiveness as a factor in the renewal of a professional license.

South Dakota teachers must renew their licenses every five years by completing six semester hours of college credit at an accredited college or university.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:15:03:02 and 24:15:03:06

RECOMMENDATION

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

 While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, South Dakota's general, nonspecific credit hour coursework requirements for license advancement and renewal merely call for teachers to complete a certain amount of seat time. These requirements do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

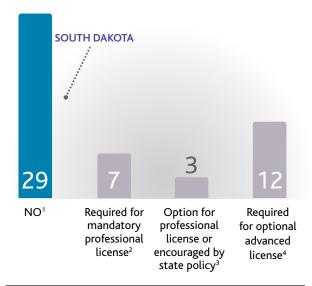
South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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- Evidence of effectiveness is required for license renewal but not for conferring of professional license.
- 2. Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.
- Maryland uses some objective evidence through their evaluation systems for renewal, but advancement to professional license is still based on earning an advanced degree.

Figure 79

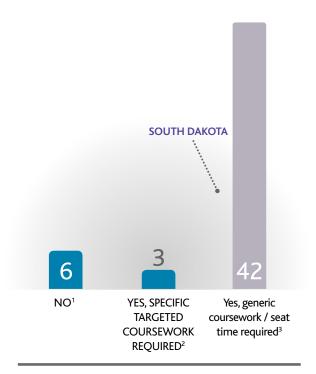
Do states require teachers to earn advanced degrees before conferring professional licensure?



- 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

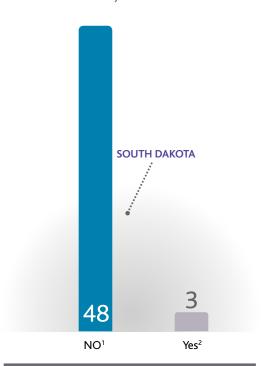
Do states require teachers to take additional coursework before conferring or renewing professional licenses?



- 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, Wyoming
- 4. Some required coursework is targeted.

Figure 81

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.



TEXAMPLE 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.

→ 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.)

- 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



3-F Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Providing comprehensive reporting may be the state's most important role for ensuring the equitable distribution of teachers among schools. South Dakota reports little school-level data that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent.

South Dakota 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. South Dakota 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.

South Dakota does report on the percentage of classes taught by highly qualified teachers, as well as the average years of experience and the percentage of teachers with advanced degrees. Commendably, these data are reported for each school, rather than aggregated by district. The state also compares the percentage of highly qualified teachers in high- and low-poverty schools at the state level.

Supporting Research

South Dakota 2013 School Report Card http://doe.sd.gov/NCLB/reports/2013/reportcard/2013school61001-04.pdf South Dakota 2013 District Report Card http://doe.sd.gov/NCLB/reports/2013/reportcard/2013district61001.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

■ Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

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

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

Provide comparative data based on school demographics.

As South Dakota 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.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota was helpful in providing the facts necessary for this analysis.

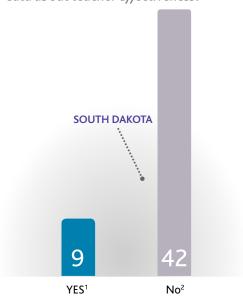
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** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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?

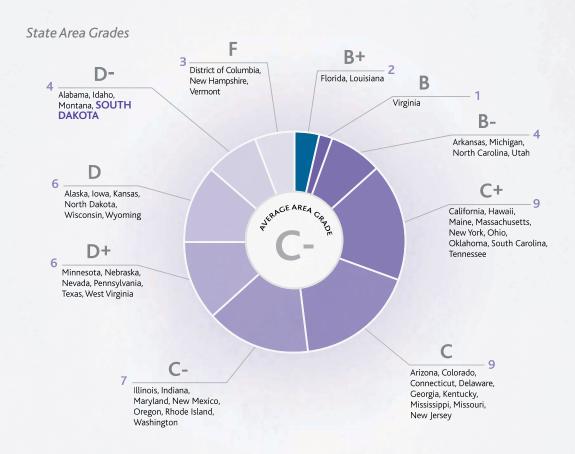


- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas³, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts⁴, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida⁵, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, 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





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.)

- The state should ensure that new teachers receive mentoring of sufficient frequency and duration, especially in the first critical weeks of school.
- 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



4-A Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal

\varTheta Pro

Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not require a mentoring program or any other induction support for its new teachers. The state allows each local district to determine whether it will require new teachers to participate in a mentoring program. If so, the mentoring teacher must have at least five years' teaching experience.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Statute 13-43-55.1
South Dakota Administrative Rule 24:41:01:01

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

Set specific parameters.

To ensure that all teachers receive high quality mentoring, the state should specify how long the program lasts for a new teacher, who selects the mentors and a method of performance evaluation. Mentors should be required to be trained in a content area or grade level similar to that of the new teacher.

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

To ensure that the experience is meaningful, South Dakota should make certain that induction includes strategies such as intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area and a reduced teaching load and/or frequent release time to observe other teachers.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that during the 2013-2014 school year, South Dakota is piloting the WoLakotaProject. The WoLakota Project will support students in high-need schools, pairing trained mentor teachers with new teachers and providing Courage to Teach trainings to help develop effective teachers. Mentors will support the embedding of Native American Standards called the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU) into practice, in a manner that complements the Common Core.

The state continued that new teachers in high-need schools will be linked with mentors for ongoing support with embedding of the OSEU into their coursework and classrooms; with addressing the needs of diverse, rural native and nonnative learning communities; and with the challenges of the first three years of the teaching profession.

In addition, South Dakota noted that extended growth and sustainability options include a Take One! National Board Certification element during a teacher's third year of teaching. Upon successful completion of Take One!, teachers have the option to pursue full National Board Certification; participate in a six-credit, online-mentor training course; and become a mentor for a first-year teacher in a high need school.

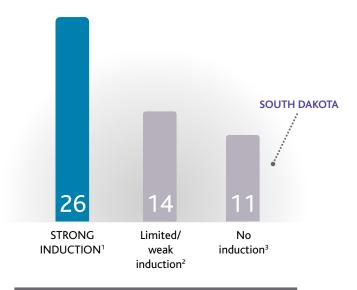
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T EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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?



- 1. 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.
- 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



4-B Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

New regulations in South Dakota require teacher evaluation systems that "inform professional growth and development of teachers." The state also requires that a plan of assistance be developed for teachers who do not meet a district's performance standards, but the policy extends only to teachers who have been teaching four years or longer. South Dakota pilot recommendations call for pre- and post-evaluation conferences between the teacher and evaluator.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Codified Law 13-42-34
South Dakota Administrative Rule 24:55:01:04
South Dakota Teacher Effectiveness Handbook
http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/documents/TEP_HandbookDraft.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

- Require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their performance. In order to increase their effectiveness in the classroom, teachers need to receive feedback on strengths and areas that need improvement identified in their evaluations. As such, South Dakota should require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their classroom performance.
- Ensure that professional development is aligned with findings from teachers' evaluations.

 Professional development that is not informed by evaluation results may be of little value to teachers' professional growth and aim of increasing their effectiveness in the classroom. South Dakota should ensure that districts utilize teacher evaluation results in determining professional development needs and activities.
- Ensure that teachers receiving less than effective ratings are placed on a professional improvement plan.

Although South Dakota requires a plan of assistance for teachers not meeting district standards, this only applies to teachers in their fourth or subsequent years of teaching. The state should adopt a policy requiring that all teachers who receive even one unsatisfactory evaluation be placed on structured improvement plans. These plans should focus on performance areas that directly connect to student learning and should identify noted deficiencies, define specific action steps necessary to address these deficiencies and describe how and when progress will be measured.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota indicated that the state's Teacher and Principal Effectiveness Models encourage and expect increased communication between teachers and principals. This will lead to a better identification of professional development needed by the teachers and can be found in the handbook.

South Dakota stated that the Department of Education is in the process of writing new rules regarding the Teacher Evaluation Requirements. These rules were passed by the state board of education and entered formal rulemaking in Fall 2013.

Supporting Research

Teacher and Principal Effectiveness Handbook http://doe.sd.gov/oatq/documents/TEPHandbk.pdf
Proposed Teacher Evaluation Requirements http://doe.sd.gov/board/packets/documents/1013/1013guide.pdf

LAST WORD

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



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

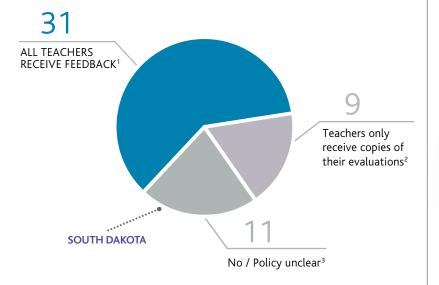
Louisiana and North Carolina require that teachers receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations and direct districts to connect professional development to teachers' identified needs. Both states also require that teachers with unsatisfactory evaluations are placed on structured improvement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

- 1. Improvement plans are required for tenured teachers only.
- 2. Improvement plans are required only for teachers teaching for four years or more.
- 3. 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.

Figure 89		EVALLATION MEGING	≥ / 8
		/ 5	MPROVEMENT PLANS FOR
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Figure 90

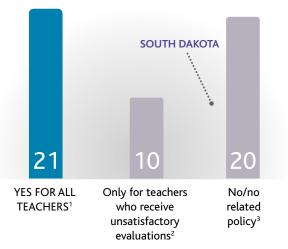
Do teachers receive feedback on their evaluations?



- 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
- 3. Alabama, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin⁴
- 4. 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?



- 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
- 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.
- 2. 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



4-C Analysis: South Dakota



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota gives local districts the authority for pay scales, eliminating barriers such as state salary schedules and other regulations that control how districts pay teachers. Local school boards are given the responsibility to "employ personnel deemed necessary by the board and to define the duties and fix the compensation of each."

Supporting Research

South Dakota Code 13-10-2

RECOMMENDATION

Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees.

While still leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scale, South Dakota 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, South Dakota should articulate policies that discourage districts from determining the highest steps on the pay scale solely by seniority.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



TEXAMPLES 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.

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

Figure 93 What role does the state play in deciding teacher	į	ARY SCHEDULE	salary schedule
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^{1.} Colorado gives districts the option of a salary schedule, a performance pay policy or a combination of both.

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- 1. For advanced degrees earned after April 2014.
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} 2. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training". \end{tabular}$
- 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



4-D Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not encourage local districts to provide compensation for related 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, South Dakota 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.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

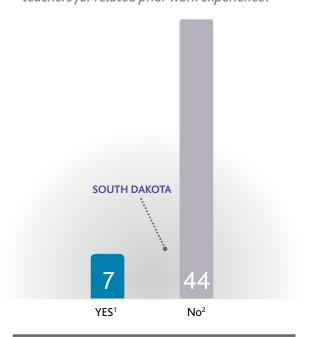
South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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



4-E Analysis: South Dakota



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not support differential pay by which a teacher can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects. However, the state has no regulatory language preventing districts from providing such differential pay.

Other incentives are available to teachers by working in schools classified as high need. The Dakota Corps Scholarship provides full tuition and reimbursement for generally applicable fees to selected qualified applicants in high-need schools. The state's Dakota ASSETS grant, which recruits and selects candidates to fill shortages in high-need districts and schools, ended in September 2012.

Supporting Research

Dakota ASSETS Overview http://www.dakotaassets.tie.net/content/overview.htm Dakota Corps Scholarship Program http://www.state.sd.us/dakotacorps/default.html

RECOMMENDATION

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

 South Daketa should encourage districts to link compensation to district needs. Such policies.
 - South Dakota should encourage districts to link compensation to district needs. Such policies can help districts achieve a more equitable distribution of teachers.
- **Expand differential pay initiatives for teachers in high-need schools.**

Although the state's program is a desirable recruitment and retention tool for teachers early in their careers, South Dakota should expand its program to include those who are already part of the teaching pool. A salary differential is an attractive incentive for every teacher.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis.

In addition, South Dakota noted that during the 2012 legislative session, House Bill 1234, which would have created a differential pay system, was passed. However, this law was overturned via referred vote in November 2012.

Figure 98		HIGH NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	
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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.

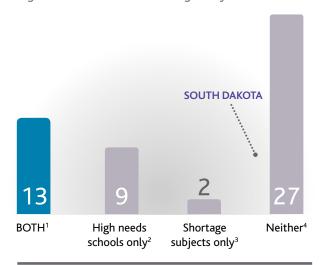
^{2.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in high-need schools.



TEXAMPLE 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?



- 1. 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.

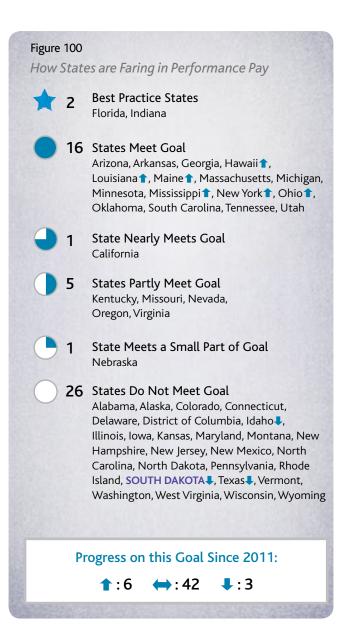
Goal Components

(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



4-F Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota 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, South Dakota 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.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. South Dakota added that it does not have any rules prohibiting districts from creating a performance pay system. Districts choosing to do so are encouraged to use the results of high-quality, researched-based evaluation practices to help make these determinations. During the 2012 legislative session, House Bill 1234, which would have created a system for performance pay, was passed. This law was overturned via referred vote in November 2012.

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****** 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.

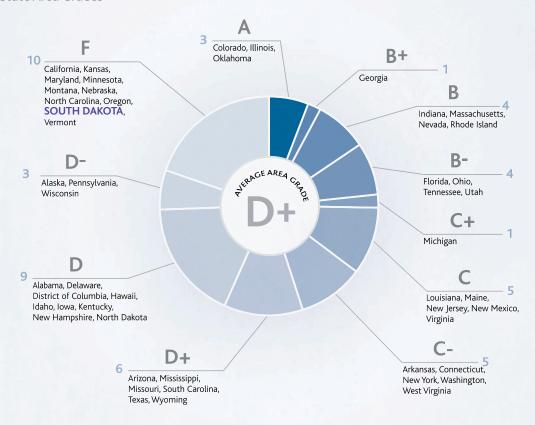
^{2.} Nevada's initiative does not go into effect until 2015-2016.

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.
- 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



5-A Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota allows new teachers who have not passed required licensing tests to teach on a one-year certificate. The certificate can be renewed once, but it is unclear whether Praxis II scores are required for renewal.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:15:02:08; 24:15:03:03.01; 24:15:03:06; 24:15:03:02

Renewal Application

https://apps.sd.gov/Applications/DE04Public/TeacherCertification/SDDOERenewalApplications.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

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

All students are entitled to teachers who know the subject matter they are teaching. Permitting individuals who have not yet passed state licensing tests to teach neglects the needs of students, instead extending personal consideration to adults who may not be able to meet minimal state standards. South Dakota should ensure that all teachers pass licensing tests—an important minimum benchmark for entering the profession—before entering the classroom.

Limit exceptions to one year.

There might be limited and exceptional circumstances under which conditional or emergency licenses need to be granted. In these instances, it is reasonable for a state to give teachers up to one year to pass required licensing tests. In South Dakota, it is unclear whether Praxis II scores are required for the one-year license's renewal. The state should specify whether teachers are required to pass subject-matter tests in order to teach a second year on a one-year license.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis.

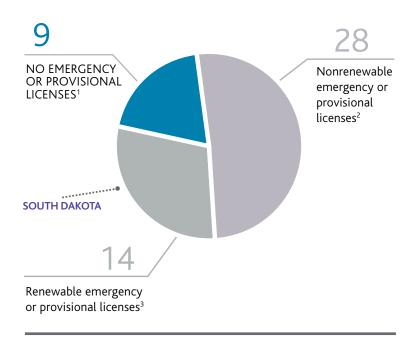
Figure 103 How long can new teachers				3 year or more for unspecified
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Colorado, **Illinois**, **Mississippi**, and **New Jersey** require all new teachers to pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.

Figure 104

Do states still award emergency licenses?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska⁴, Colorado, Illinois, Mississippi, Montana⁵, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina
- 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.
- 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

How States are Faring in Dismissal for Poor Performance **Best Practice States** Florida, Oklahoma State Meets Goal Indiana States Nearly Meet Goal Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee 20 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska ↑, Arizona ↑, Arkansas ↑, Connecticut ↑, Delaware, Georgia 1, Louisiana 1, Maine 1, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey 1, New Mexico ♠, Ohio, Pennsylvania ♠, Virginia ♠, Washington ↑, West Virginia ↑, Wisconsin, Wyoming States Meet a Small Part of Goal Idaho 1, Minnesota 1, New Hampshire, North Carolina 1, Utah 17 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, California, District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, SOUTH DAKOTA, Texas, Vermont Progress on this Goal Since 2011: **1**: 16 **\(:** 35 **↓**:0

5-B Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not explicitly make teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal, nor does the state distinguish the due process rights of teachers dismissed for ineffective performance from those facing other charges commonly associated with license revocation, such as a felony and/or morality violations. The process is the same regardless of the grounds for cancellation, which include "breach of contract, poor performance, incompetency, gross immorality, unprofessional conduct, insubordination, neglect of duty, or the violation of any policy or regulation of the school district."

In South Dakota, tenured teachers who are terminated may appeal multiple times. After receiving written notice of dismissal, the teacher may request a hearing, which must occur within 45 days after receipt of the teacher's request. This decision may then be appealed to the circuit court within 90 days. The decision of the circuit court may be appealed to the state supreme court.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Codified Laws 13-43-6.1; 6.2; 6.7 13-46-1; 7

RECOMMENDATION

- Specify that classroom ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.
 - Euphemistic terms such as "poor performance" are ambiguous at best. South Dakota should explicitly make teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal so that districts do not feel they lack the legal basis for terminating consistently poor performers
- Ensure that teachers terminated for poor performance have the opportunity to appeal within a reasonable time frame.
 - Nonprobationary teachers who are dismissed for any grounds, including ineffectiveness, are entitled to due process. However, cases that drag on for years drain resources from school districts and create a disincentive for districts to attempt to terminate poor performers. Therefore, South Dakota must ensure that the opportunity to appeal occurs only once and only at the district level. It is in the best interest of both the teacher and the district that a conclusion is reached within a reasonable time frame.
- Distinguish the process and accompanying due process rights between dismissal for classroom ineffectiveness and dismissal for morality violations, felonies or dereliction of duty.
 - While nonprobationary teachers should have due process for any termination, 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. South Dakota should ensure that appeals related to classroom effectiveness are decided only by those with educational expertise.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

South Dakota disagreed with NCTQ's analysis and referenced without elaboration several sections of code in addition to the ones cited by NCTQ.

Supporting Research

Teacher Termination Rules SDCL 13-43-6.1; 6.3; 6.7 Appeal of Termination SDCL 13-43-16-30 Teacher Ethics Matters SDCL 13-42-12-16; ARSD 24:08

LAST WORD

NCTQ was unable to find any additional information in the sections cited by the state that warranted a change in the analysis, score or recommendations.



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

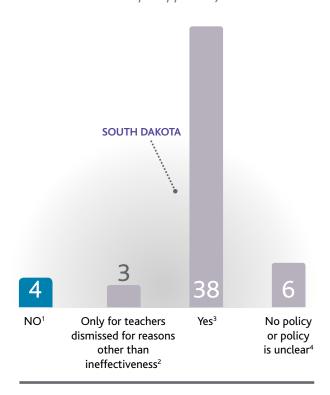
Florida and Oklahoma clearly articulate that teacher ineffectiveness in the classroom is grounds for dismissal. In both states, teachers are eligible for dismissal after two annual ratings of unsatisfactory performance. Each state has taken steps to ensure that the dismissal process for teachers deemed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

Figure 106 Do states articulate that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal? Alabama Alaska Arizona П Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut П Delaware П District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii П Idaho П Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi П Missouri Montana П Nebraska Nevada П New Hampshire П New Jersey New Mexico П New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island П South Carolina **SOUTH DAKOTA** Tennessee Texas Utah П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 29 22

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

Figure 107

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
- 5. 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.)

 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



5-C Analysis: South Dakota



State Does Not Meet Goal



(🔁) Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

South Dakota does not have policy that addresses the factors used by districts to determine which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force.

Supporting Research

South Dakota Codified Laws 13-43-6.4

RECOMMENDATION

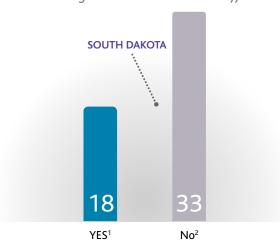
- Require that districts consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force.
 - South Dakota can still leave districts flexibility in determining layoff policies, but it should do so within a framework that ensures that classroom performance is considered.
- Ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off. Unlike some states, South Dakota does not require that districts consider seniority; however, the state should do more to prevent districts from making decisions solely on this basis.

SOUTH DAKOTA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

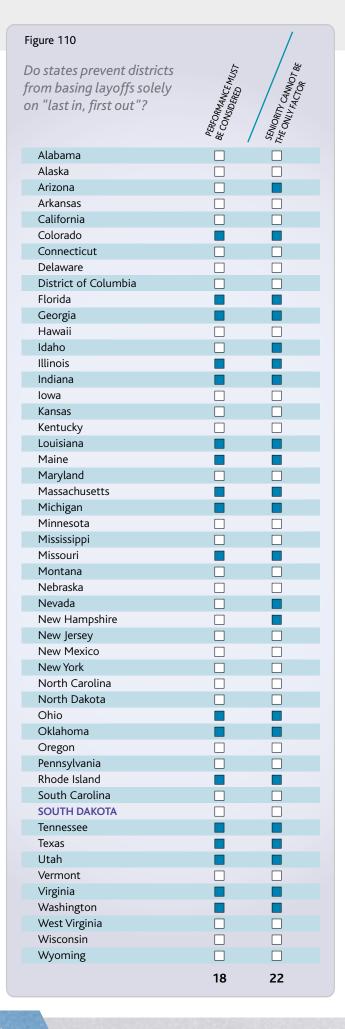
South Dakota recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 109

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



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

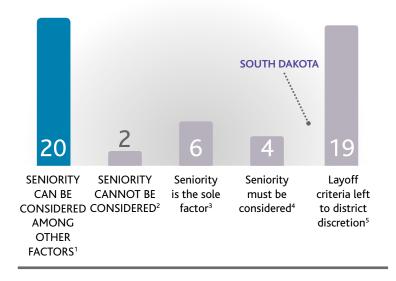




Colorado, **Florida**, and **Indiana** all specify that in determining which teachers to lay off during a reduction in force, classroom performance is the top criterion. These states also articulate that seniority can only be considered after a teacher's performance is taken into account.

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 gradelevel 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 Teacl	hers
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 school
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 South Dakota

AREA 1: Delivering Well Prepared Teachers	
Require that teacher preparation programs screen candidates prior to admission by using a common test normed to the general college-bound population, and limit acceptance to those candidates demonstrating academic ability in the top 50th percentile.	Goal 1-A
Adopt an elementary content test with independently scored subject-matter subtests in each of the core areas.	Goal 1-B
■ Require all elementary teacher candidates to pass a rigorous stand-alone science of reading test.	Goal 1-C
Adopt a rigorous stand-alone math test for all elementary teacher candidates.	Goal 1-D
■ Eliminate the generalist K-8 license, and require all middle school teacher candidates to pass a content test in every core area they are licensed to teach.	Goal 1-E
Specifically require secondary science teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.	Goal 1-G
■ Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and ensure that both elementary and secondary special education teachers possess adequate and appropriate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.	Goal 1-H
■ Ensure that cooperating teachers for student teaching placements have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning, and require teacher candidates to spend at least 10 weeks student teaching.	Goal 1-J
■ Hold teacher preparation programs accountable by collecting data that connect student achievement gains to programs, as well as other meaningful data that reflect program performance, and by establishing the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.	Goal 1-K
AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool	
Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs, including a high bar for academic proficiency.	Goal 2-A
■ Establish guidelines for alternate route programs that require preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. Ensure programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.	Goal 2-B
Clarify alternate route usage, and allow a diversity of providers for alternate route programs.	Goal 2-C
■ Eliminate licensure obstacles for out-of-state teachers.	Goal 2-E

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers	
Develop the capacity of the state data system to ensure its ability to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.	Goal 3-A
Require student growth to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.	Goal 3-B
Formally evaluate all teachers annually.	Goal 3-C
■ Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.	Goal 3-D
■ Base licensure advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license and licensure renewal on evidence of effectiveness.	Goal 3-E
Publish aggregate school-level teacher evaluation ratings from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness.	Goal 3-F

AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	
■ Require effective induction for all new teachers, including mentoring of sufficient frequency and duration.	Goal 4-A
■ Link professional development activities to findings in individual teacher evaluations, and place teachers with ineffective or needs improvement ratings on structured improvement plans.	Goal 4-B
■ Discourage districts from basing teacher pay scales primarily on advanced degrees and seniority.	Goal 4-C
Support differential pay initiatives for effective teachers in both shortage subject areas and high-need schools.	Goal 4-E
Support performance pay to recognize teachers for their effectiveness.	Goal 4-F

AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers		
■ Ensure that all teachers pass required subject-matter licensing tests before they enter the classroom.	Goal 5-A	
■ Make ineffective classroom performance grounds for dismissal.	Goal 5-B	
Use teacher effectiveness as a factor when determining which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force.	Goal 5-C	

