2013 State Teacher Policy Yearbook

Utah





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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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.

Utah 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+	D+
Area 3 Identifying Effective Teachers	D+	C-
Area 4 Retaining Effective Teachers	B-	C ¹
Area 5 Exiting Ineffective Teachers	B-	C+

Goal Breakdown	2013
★ Best Practice	0
Fully Meets	3
Nearly Meets	10
Partially Meets	7
Meets Only a Small Part	4
O Does Not Meet	7

	Progress on Goals Since 2011	
•	Progress has increased	5
(No change in progress	26
•	Progress has decreased	0

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.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers Page 5 Admission into Teacher Preparation Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science **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** ■ Teacher candidates are required to have a GPA of Elementary teacher candidates are required to pass a 3.0 or greater for admission into teacher preparation content test with individually scored subtests in each programs. of the core content areas, including mathematics. **Policy Weaknesses** ■ Elementary teacher candidates are not required to The state offers a K-12 special education certification pass a science of reading test to ensure knowledge and does not require any content testing for special of effective reading instruction, and preparation education teacher candidates. programs are not required to address this critical Teachers are only required to pass a pedagogy test topic. when advancing from a Level One license to a Level ■ Middle school teachers are allowed to teach on a 1-8 Two license. generalist license in self-contained classrooms. Requirements for teacher preparation do not ensure a Although secondary teachers must pass a content high-quality student teaching experience. test to teach a core subject area, some secondary The teacher preparation program approval process science and social studies teachers are not required to does not hold programs accountable for the quality of pass content tests for each discipline they are licensed the teachers they produce. to teach. **Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers** Page 53 Alternate Route Eligibility Part-Time Teaching Licenses Alternate Route Preparation Licensure Reciprocity Alternate Route Usage and Providers **Policy Strengths** ■ The state offers a license with minimal requirements Although there are no limits on the usage of alternate that would allow content experts to teach part time. routes, there are some restrictions on providers. **Policy Weaknesses** Admission criteria for the alternate route to Although out-of-state teachers are appropriately certification are not sufficiently selective or flexible required to meet the state's testing requirements, for nontraditional candidates. there are additional obstacles that do not support licensure reciprocity. Alternate route programs do not provide efficient preparation that is geared toward the immediate

needs of new teachers.

Page 75 **Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers** State Data Systems Tenure **Evaluation of Effectiveness** Licensure Advancement Frequency of Evaluations **Equitable Distribution Policy Strengths** All teachers must be evaluated annually. **Policy Weaknesses** Although the state has established a data system has failed to articulate other important evaluation with the capacity to provide evidence of teacher requirements. effectiveness, it has not taken other meaningful Tenure decisions are not connected to evidence of steps to maximize the system's efficiency and teacher effectiveness. potential. Licensure renewal is not based on teacher Objective evidence of student learning is a effectiveness. significant component of teacher evaluations, but Little school-level data are reported that can help it is not the preponderant criterion, and the state support the equitable distribution of teacher talent. **Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers** Page 107 Compensation for Prior Work Experience Induction Professional Development Differential Pay Pay Scales Performance Pay **Policy Strengths** ■ Districts must align teacher compensation with evaluation All new teachers receive mentoring. results starting with the 2015-2016 school year. Teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluations are Teachers can receive performance pay as well as placed on structured improvement plans. additional compensation for working in shortage subject areas. **Policy Weaknesses** The state could do more to ensure that all teachers' ■ The state does not support additional compensation professional development activities are aligned with for relevant prior work experience or for working in findings from their evaluations. high-need schools. **Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers** Page 131 **Extended Emergency Licenses** Reductions in Force Dismissal for Poor Performance **Policy Strengths** Most teachers must pass all required subject-matter Performance is the top criterion for districts to tests as a condition of initial licensure; unfortunately, consider when determining which teachers to lay off this does not apply to teachers licensed through during reductions in force, and a last hired, first fired alternate routes, who have one year. layoff policy is prohibited.

Ineffective classroom performance is not grounds for dismissal.

Policy Weaknesses

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-	C	D+
Ohio	B-	C+	D+
Oklahoma	В-	B-	D+
Colorado	C+	C C	D+
Delaware	C+	С	D+ 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

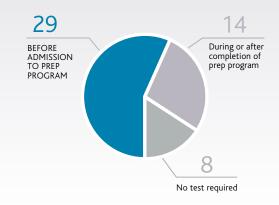
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



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:

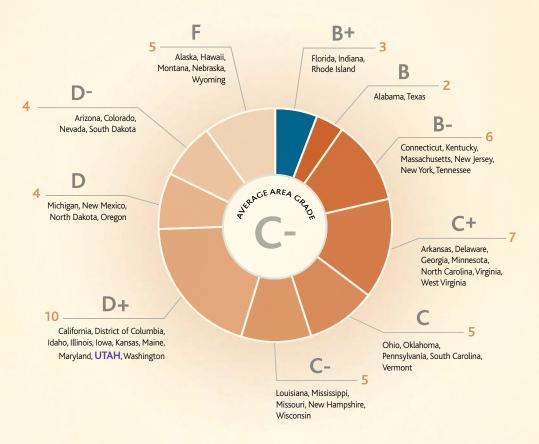


Area 1 Summary



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.)

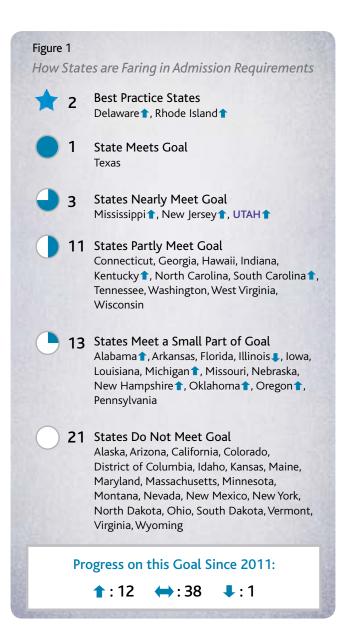
- The state should require teacher candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, writing and mathematics skills as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs.
- 2. All preparation programs in a state should use a common admissions test to facilitate program comparison, 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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal 👚 Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

New regulations in Utah require students to have minimum high school or college GPA of 3.0 and pass a Board-approved basic skills test. Candidates may also meet admissions requirements with an "ACT composite score of 21 with a verbal/English score no less than 20 and a mathematics/quantitative score of no less than 19; or a combined SAT score of 1000 with neither mathematics nor verbal below 450."

Supporting Research

Utah Administrative Rules R 277 502-3

http://schools.utah.gov/law/Administrative-Rules-in-Progress/R277-502.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

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

Utah 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.

 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, Utah 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

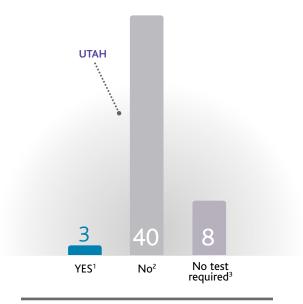
Utah was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis.



EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

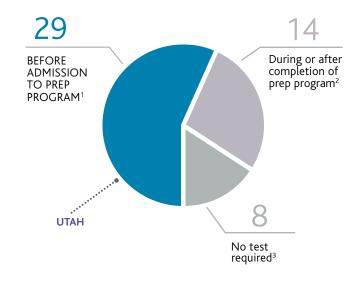
For admission to teacher preparation programs, Rhode Island and Delaware require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general collegebound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware also requires teacher candidates to have a 3.0 GPA or be in the top 50th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



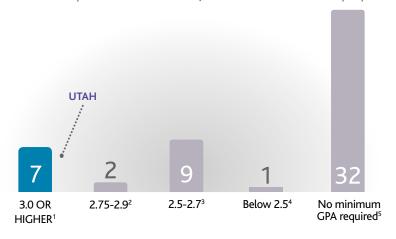
- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington,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

Figure 4 Do states measure the		JON TO PREP PROPER TO CANDING TO CANDIGATES IN THE PROCESSION OF T	San to prep program Gandates of the teach Committee to teach	We text textiled
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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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal Raised for this Goal Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

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

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

Early childhood education (K-3) candidates must pass either the Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects test or the Early Childhood: Content Knowledge test.

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

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org Utah Administrative Code R277-504-7

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

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

 Require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area.

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

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

Utah 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. Although Utah does not specify general education requirements, all elementary teacher candidates in Utah are required to complete an unspecified

amount of "study and experiences" in areas that include language development and listening; speaking, writing and reading, with an emphasis on language development; biological and physical science and health; social studies and fine arts. These are sensible indicators of important curricular areas, but there is no guarantee that the courses used to meet these requirements will be relevant to the PK-6 classroom. Utah has also adopted NCATE/CAEP's Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) standards for approving its elementary programs. However, ACEI standards fall far short of the mark by offering no mention of world and American history; world, British and American literature; American government; or grammar and composition. ACEI standards do mention important topics in science, but even in those areas, the standards consist mainly of extremely general competencies that programs should help teacher candidates to achieve. The testing framework for Utah's Praxis II elementary content test is also far from complete, leaving gaps in a number of important areas, such as American, world, British and children's literature; and art history.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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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

childhood teachers who teach elementary grades to pass a content knowledge test? Alabama	childhood teachers wh teach elementary grad	les E &	st with		iied / pai	blei
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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.

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Figure 10
What subjects does **Utah** expect elementary teachers to know?

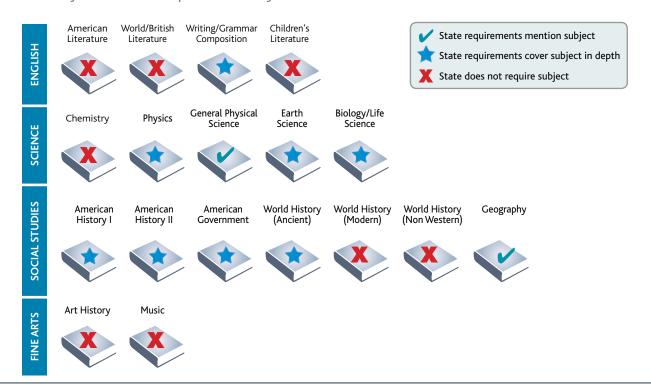
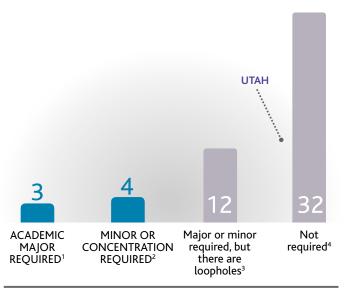


Figure 11

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: Utah







ANALYSIS

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

Utah 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.

Utah 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.

Utah 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.

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

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah asserted that it specifically requires programs to provide instruction in reading. Proposed changes and updates to this rule, which will make these standards more explicit, will be proposed in late 2013 to early 2014.

Supporting Research R277-504-7(B)(1)

LAST WORD

As articulated, Utah's rule does not explicitly require instruction in the science of reading. NCTQ looks forward to reviewing the state's progress in future editions of the Yearbook.

igure 13		PARATION UIREMENT	rc /	TEST REQUIRI	
Do states ensure that	FULLY ADDRESS READING SCIENCE	Do not address	4PPROPRIATE.	5	
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Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	25	26	17	16	18



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

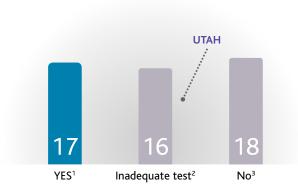
Fifteen states meet this goal by requiring that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades pass comprehensive assessments that specifically test the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Independent reviews 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

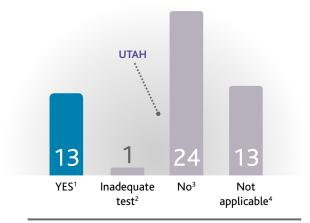
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading?



- 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: Alabama^s, 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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal 🙌 Progress Since 2011





ANALYSIS

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

Regrettably, Utah's early childhood education teachers, who are allowed to teach through grade 3, are required to pass either the multisubject assessment or the early childhood general content test, which does not report a math subscore.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

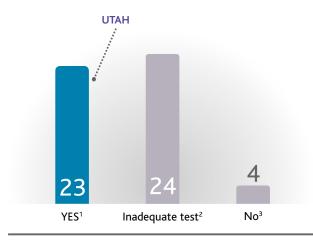


** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

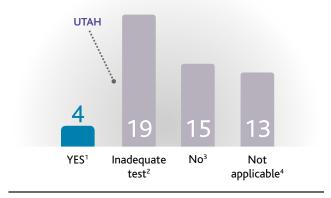
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



- 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.)

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

Background

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



1-E Analysis: Utah



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah requires a secondary license (grades 6-12) for middle school teachers. Candidates must complete a major (30 semester hours of credit). Endorsements are granted for all subjects in which candidates have at least a minor (16 semester hours of credit). Regrettably, the state also allows middle school teachers to teach on a generalist 1-8 license, if they are in self-contained classrooms.

All new middle school teachers in Utah 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. Although subscores are provided, this assessment does not adequately assess the content knowledge required of middle school teachers. Therefore, there is no assurance that all middle school teachers will have sufficient knowledge in each subject they teach. Secondary teacher candidates teaching middle grades are required to take subject-specific assessments.

Supporting Research

Praxis Test Requirement www.ets.org Utah Administrative Code R277-504-5

RECOMMENDATION

Require content testing in all core areas.

Utah 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 meaningful middle school content tests, the state should set its passing scores to reflect high levels of performance.

Eliminate the generalist license.

Utah 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 Utah who intend to teach a single subject should earn a major in that area.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that the generalist license is extremely limited and used primarily in Necessarily Existent Small Schools in remote rural areas. Utah noted that the need for flexibility in these unique situations outweighs the need for a requirement that is already voluntarily followed (7th and 8th grade in secondary settings, which requires an endorsement and test) by the vast majority of the state.

LAST WORD

NCTQ is certainly not advocating against K-8 schools and can see why such configurations are particularly advantageous for rural areas. But middle school-level students in a K-8 school still need teachers who are well prepared to teach middle school-level subject matter.

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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.

Figure 21		No test does not report	z /	/
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Virginia				Ц
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	26	3	16	6

- 1. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure. 2. Candidates teaching multiple subjects only have to pass
- 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.
- 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.
- 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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal



(👄) Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

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

Unfortunately, Utah permits a significant loophole to its policy by allowing both combination science and general social studies licenses, without requiring subject-matter testing for each subject area within these disciplines.

In Utah, general social studies is called composite social studies. Candidates are required to pass the Praxis II Social Studies content test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general social studies but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Further, although Utah offers subject-specific endorsements in social studies, such as economics, geography and history, the state requires candidates to pass either the subject-specific Praxis II content test or the general assessment mentioned above. (For the state's science loophole, see Goal 1-G.)

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

Supporting Research

Praxis Testing Requirements www.ets.org **Endorsements**

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Endorsements-ECE-License.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Require subject-matter testing for all secondary teacher candidates.

Utah 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.

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

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

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

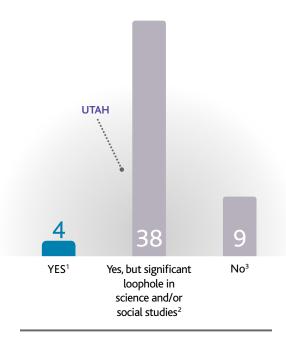
Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



** 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.

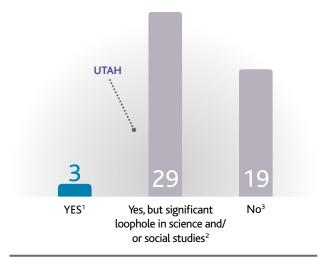
Figure 23 Does a secondary teacher have to pass a content test in every subject area for licensure?



- 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.

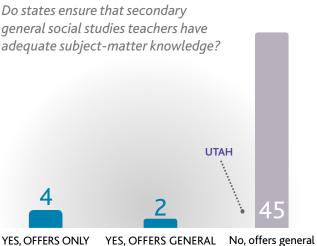
Figure 24

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



SINGLE SUBJECT SOCIAL STUDIES LICENSES¹

SOCIAL STUDIES LICENSE WITH ADEQUATE TESTING²

social studies license without adequate testing3

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

Goal G − Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science The state should ensure that secondary science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should require secondary science teachers to pass a subject-matter test in each science discipline they are licensed to teach.
- 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: Utah



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah does not offer a general science certification for secondary science teachers. However, the state does offer a physical science endorsement. Candidates are required to pass the Praxis II Physical Science 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 require only a comprehensive content test—are not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. Utah's required assessment combines both physics and chemistry and does not report separate scores for each subject. Therefore, a candidate could answer many physics questions, for example, incorrectly on the combination content test yet still be licensed to teach physics to high school students.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that the physical science endorsement referenced in the analysis does qualify a teacher to provide instruction in basic chemistry and physics courses as described in the report. However, teachers with this endorsement may not provide instruction in either the advanced placement or concurrent enrollment versions of either chemistry or physics. This flexibility is intended to aid scheduling in rural areas as well as help to create smaller class sizes in introductory chemistry and physics courses.

Utah also noted that its licensure requirements for science teachers are intended to balance high standards for teachers and flexibility for districts, particularly rural districts, in meeting the hiring needs in an area that is consistently one of the most critical teacher-shortage areas in the state. As in all areas, quality evaluation and employment decisions of the building principal, in addition to state licensure requirements, are vitally important to ensuring that every student has a highly effective teacher.

LAST WORD

NCTQ is not advocating against general science teachers and can see why such a certification is particularly advantageous for rural areas. However, secondary-level students need teachers who are well prepared to teach advanced subject matter, and requiring passing scores on a content test for each discipline that teacher candidates are licensed to teach is the only way to ensure adequate subject-matter knowledge.

Figure 27 WITH ADEQUATE TESTING Do states ensure that secondary general science teachers have adequate subject-matter knowledge? Alabama Alaska Arizona П П П Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut П Delaware П District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois П П Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine Maryland П П Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi П П П Missouri Montana 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 Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island 1 П South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas **UTAH** П Vermont Virginia П Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming П 5 1 10 35



TEXAMPLE 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: Utah



State Does Not Meet Goal



(
Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah only offers a K-12 special education certification.

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

Supporting Research

Utah Administrative Code, R277-504-1

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 Utah 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 lowincidence 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 the same contest test as general education elementary teachers.

To ensure that special education teacher candidates who will teach elementary grades possess sufficient knowledge of the subject matter at hand, Utah should require these candidates to pass the same multiple-subjects test it requires of all elementary teachers. The state should further set passing scores that 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, Utah'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, Utah 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, secondary special education teachers who teach math content will be required to hold a special education math endorsement, which will require both coursework and a passing score on a math content test.

Utah also noted that to be designated highly qualified in a special education position—secondary or elementary—a teacher must pass the appropriate content knowledge assessment, or for secondary, demonstrate content knowledge through the state's special education highly qualified framework. For elementary teachers or those teaching K-12 alternatively assessed students, special education teachers must pass the same assessment required for elementary licensure

Supporting Research

http://schools.utah.gov/cert/Endorsements-ECE-License/Mathematics-Special-Ed.aspx http://schools.utah.gov/cert/No-Child-Left-Behind/Utah-Framework-Overview.aspx

LAST WORD

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 Do states distinguish between elementary and secondary special education teachers? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Carolina South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas UTTAH Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 166 7 28	Figure 29			,iou(s)
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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 tea	chers?
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 York³
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
	for dual certification in elementary or secondary ecialist does not have to take a content test.

- ial education and as a reading specialist does not have to take a content test.
- 2. West Virginia also allows elementary special education candidates to earn dual certification in early childhood, which would not require a content test. Secondary special education candidates earning a dual certification as a reading specialist are similarly exempted.
- 3. New York requires a multi-subject content test specifically geared to secondary special education candidates. It is divided into three subtests.

Figure 29:

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

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal I – Assessing Professional Knowledge

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

Goal Component

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

 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: Utah



State Partly Meets Goal (+) Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Utah requires all teachers advancing from a Level One license to a Level Two license to pass a popular pedagogy test from the Praxis series in order to attain licensure. Elementary alternate route teachers and some secondary alternate route teachers are also required to pass pedagogy tests.

Supporting Research

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

RECOMMENDATION

standards.

- Require that all new teachers pass a pedagogy test. Utah should verify that all new teachers meet professional standards through a test of professional
- Verify that commercially available tests of pedagogy actually align with state standards. Utah should ensure that its selected test of professional knowledge measures the knowledge and skills the state expects new teachers to have.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that an individual may not teach on a Level One license for more than three years and must upgrade to a Level Two license at that point. Teachers who cannot pass the PLT test are either remediated to pass the test or counseled out of the profession.

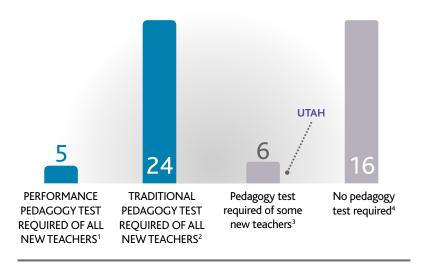
Supporting Research Board Rule R277-504-3(D)



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

Figure 32

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



- 1. Strong Practice: California, Illinois⁵, New York, Tennessee⁶, Washington
- 2. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina⁷, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia
- 3. Connecticut, Maryland, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Utah⁸, Wyoming
- 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: Utah



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Although Utah requires that teacher preparation programs include a student teaching experience, it does not articulate a requisite duration nor does it discuss the qualifications of cooperating teachers.

Supporting Research

Utah Administrative Code R277-504-6, -7, -8, -9

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 Utah 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.

- Require teacher candidates to spend at least 10 weeks student teaching.
 - Utah 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The state added that specific requirements for the duration of a student teaching experience and qualifications for cooperating teachers will be included in the upcoming update to Utah's regulations (R277-504), which will be proposed to the Board in late 2013 or early 2014.

Figure 34	HER	STODENT TEACHING LASTS AT LEAST TO WEEK
Do states analyses	7 1 N	7 7 7 W V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V
Do states ensure a	477V BASE #555	17 TEAS
high-quality student	7 E	SAT
teaching experience?		457
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
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Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
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Minnesota		
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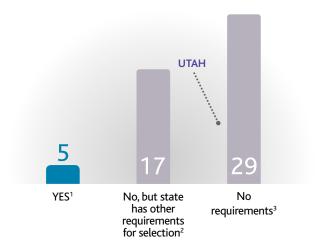
EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

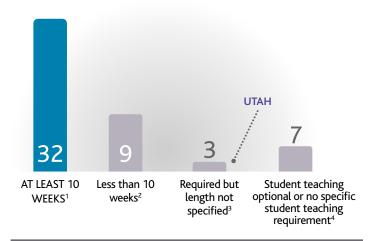
Is the selection of the cooperating teacher based on some measure of effectiveness?



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

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

➤ Goal K — Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

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

Goal Components

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

- The state should collect data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.
 Such data can include value added or growth analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent.
- 2. The state should collect other meaningful data that reflect program performance, including some or all of the following:
 - a. Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including academic proficiency, subject-matter and professional-knowledge tests;
 - b. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests;
 - c. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison and
 - d. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.
- 3. The state should establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data. Programs should be held accountable for meeting these standards, with articulated consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.
- 4. The state should produce and publish on its website an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs.
- 5. The state should retain full authority over its process for approving teacher preparation programs.

Background

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

Figure 37 How States are Faring in Teacher Preparation Program Accountability **Best Practice States** State Meets Goal Louisiana 10 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Colorado, Delaware 1, Florida, 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: ← : 38 **1**:13

1-K Analysis: Utah



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah'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, Utah 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. Utah collects programs' annual summary licensure test pass rates (80 percent of program completers must pass their licensure exams). However, the 80 percent pass-rate standard, while common among many states, sets the bar quite low and is not a meaningful measure of program performance.

Further, in the past three years, no programs in Utah 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 Utah, national accreditation is required for program approval.

Supporting Research

Utah Board Rule R277-503-4
Title II State Reports
https://title2.ed.gov
www.ncate.orgg

RECOMMENDATION

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

As one way to measure whether programs are producing effective classroom teachers, Utah 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. Utah should be mindful of setting rigorous standards for program performance, as its current requirement that 80 percent of program completers must pass their licensing exams is too low a bar. Programs should be held accountable for meeting rigorous 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.

Utah 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 teacher preparation program approval.

Utah should not cede its authority and must 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah asserted that in addition to NCATE/TEAC/CAEP accreditation, all educator preparation programs must also receive approval from the state.

Supporting Research

R277-502

http://schools.utah.gov/law/Administrative-Rules-in-Progress/R277-502.asp

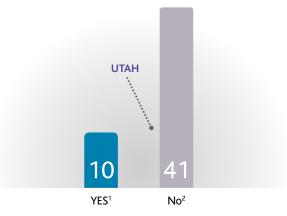
Figure 38	OBJECTIVE PROGRAM.		
Do states hald too show			A D A D A D A D A D A D A D A D A D A D
Do states hold teacher	74 P	7.25 X	VBL/
preparation programs accountable?	SPECIFIC SPECIFIC	MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PERFORMANCE COR	DATA PUBLICLY AVALUBLEON WEBS.
Alabama		1	
Alaska Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia	$\overline{\Box}$	П	$\overline{\Box}$
Florida			2
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			2
Louisiana			2
Maine	1		
Maryland	3		
Massachusetts			
Michigan		1	
Minnesota			
Mississippi	1		
Missouri Montana	1		
Nebraska			
Nevada ¹			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	1		
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			2
North Dakota			
Ohio ¹			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania	1		
Rhode Island			
South Carolina ¹			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
UTAH			
Vermont	1		
Virginia	■ ¹		
Washington	1		
West Virginia			
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 Columbia^a, Hawaii^a, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland^a, 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

Texas

UTAH

Vermont

Virginia

Washington

West Virginia

Wisconsin

Wisconsin

Wyoming

1. National accreditation can be substituted for state approval.

2. For institutions with 2,000 or more full-time equivalent students

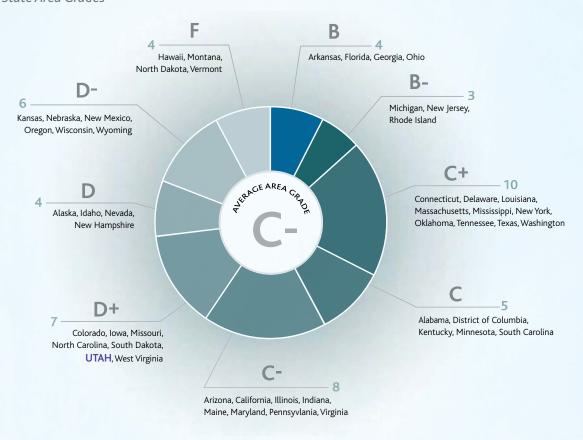
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Area 2 Summary



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



2-A Analysis: Utah



State Does Not Meet Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

The admission requirements for Utah's alternate route programs do not exceed those of traditional preparation programs and lack flexibility for nontraditional candidates.

Utah classifies the Alternative Route to Licensure (ARL) as its alternate route to certification.

Utah does not require candidates to demonstrate prior academic performance, such as a minimum GPA. The state requires secondary candidates to have a major in their targeted subject area. Those who wish to teach at the elementary level are required to have a minimum of 27 semester hours with a broad background of liberal arts content in the areas of language arts, science, social studies, mathematics, fine arts, physical education and health. A subject-matter test is not required for the ARL route, nor can a subject-matter test be used to test out of the coursework requirements.

Utah offers the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) as a pathway to complete the Alternative Routes to Licensure Program, although it is not in-and-of itself a route to certification. Therefore applicants in the ABCTE pathway are required to meet ARL admission requirements prior to applying to ABCTE. However, candidates in ABCTE do take subject-matter tests but not for admission to ARL. Passing scores on ABCTE content tests cannot be used in lieu of ARL content coursework requirements.

Supporting Research

Alternative Routes to Licensure

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Alternative-Routes-to-Licensure/Possible-Routes.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Screen all candidates for academic ability.

Utah 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.

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

The concept behind alternate routes is that the nontraditional candidate is able to concentrate on acquiring professional knowledge and skills because he or she has strong subject-area knowledge. Teachers without sufficient subject-matter knowledge place students at risk.

Offer flexibility in fulfilling coursework requirements.

While Utah is commended for its intent to provide a licensing route through competency-based tests in the ABCTE program, the policy that minimum coursework or a major is still required makes this test-out option ineffectual. Utah 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah noted that individuals using the ABCTE route though ARL are not required to take ARL coursework (excepting ABCTE mathematics candidates, see Goal 2-B response). The ABCTE testing replaces the typical coursework required in the program. The completion of a bachelor's degree prior to admission to ARL is considered demonstration of prior academic performance. With regard to flexibility for ARL enrollment, ARL also accepts candidates that hold a bachelor's degree and who do not have a major in their secondary area if the individual has met all content coursework and testing requirements for the endorsement they will be earning through ARL. This is most commonly used in situations where a professional engineer is interested in becoming a secondary math teacher. In addition, all ARL completers are required to pass the same subject-matter assessment required for traditional program completers in the area of licensure; for example, ARL Elementary candidates must pass either the ABCTE testing or the Praxis II 5031.

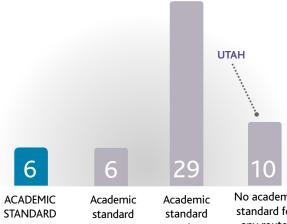
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** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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?



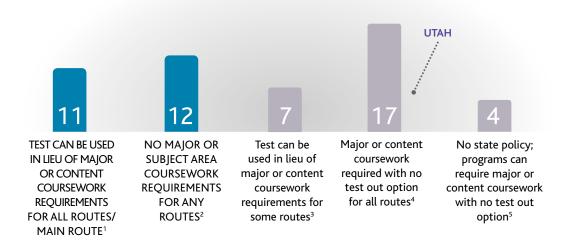
EXCEEDS THAT OF TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL ROUTES/ MAIN ROUTE1

exceeds that of traditional programs for some routes² too low for all routes³ No academic standard for any route4

- 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: Utah



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Bar Raised for this Goal (



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Participants in Utah's Alternative Routes to Licensure (ARL) complete coursework determined by a transcript review. Typically, candidates take a minimum of six teacher preparation (pedagogy) courses in addition to any required content courses. Elementary candidates take an additional four methods courses.

Only American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) candidates for mathematics certification are required to take one course in methods of mathematics teaching.

The state requires all alternate route candidates to have mentoring.

Candidates are eligible for a standard certificate upon program completion, which may not exceed three school years.

Supporting Research

Utah Administrative Code R277-503-4

Alternative Routes to Licensure

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Alternative-Routes-to-Licensure/Possible-Routes.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that new teachers are not burdened by excessive requirements.

While Utah is commended for developing an individual preparation plan for each candidate, the state should ensure that new teachers are not overburdened by requiring multiple courses to be taken simultaneously during the school year. Setting minimum guidelines, without established maximums, does not ensure that the new teacher will be able to complete the program in an appropriate amount of time without being overburdened by coursework.

Ensure program completion in fewer than two years.

Utah should consider shortening the length of time it takes an alternate route teacher to earn standard certification. The route should allow candidates to earn full certification no later than the end of the second year of teaching.

Strengthen the induction experience for new teachers.

Although Utah requires all new teachers to work with a mentor, there are insufficient guidelines indicating that the induction program is structured for new teacher success. Effective 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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

Figure 47		/ 180	-	/	/
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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.
- 2. The state should allow districts and nonprofit organizations other than institutions of higher education to operate alternate route programs.
- 3. The state should ensure that its alternate route has no requirements that would be difficult to meet for a provider that is not an institution of higher education (e.g., an approval process based on institutional accreditation).

Background

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



2-C Analysis: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Although Utah does not limit the usage of its alternate route programs, it does place restrictions on providers.

The state-run Alternative Routes to Licensure (ARL) is commended for having no restrictions on the usage of its alternate route programs with regard to subject, grade or geographic areas.

However, American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) candidates are only authorized to teach biology, chemistry, elementary education, English/language arts, mathematics, physics and history.

With the exception of ABCTE, Utah only allows institutions of higher education to offer alternate route programs. Further, the specific requirements are articulated in terms of credit hours, effectively precluding nonhigher education providers.

Supporting Research

Utah Alternative Routes to Licensure

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Alternative-Routes-to-Licensure.aspx

Utah Possible Routes

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Alternative-Routes-to-Licensure/Possible-Routes.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Further expand the diversity of alternate route providers.

Utah is commended for supporting licensure through completion of the ABCTE program. The state should continue to consider policies that encourage additional providers, such as school districts and other nonprofit organizations, to operate programs. A good diversity of providers helps all programs, both university- and nonuniversity-based, to improve.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah noted that its ARL program also allows the ABCTE testing pathway for special education teachers. These candidates are required to take three ABCTE assessments: Special Education, Multiple Subject (elementary content) and Pedagogy.

Supporting Research

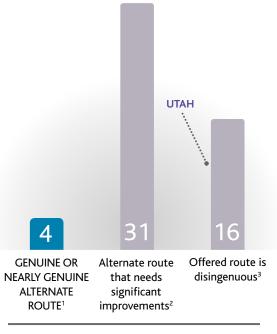
http://schools.utah.gov/cert/Alternative-Routes-to-Licensure.aspx

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West Virginia		*
Wisconsin		*
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** 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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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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah offers the Eminence Letter of Authorization as a part-time license. The Eminence Authorization is designed to allow individuals with exceptional training or expertise to teach on a limited basis. Candidates under this license may not teach more than 37 percent of the regular instructional load.

The state requires documentation of exceptional training, skills or expertise but does not specify the evidence necessary to meet such requirements. Applicants must also pass a background check.

Supporting Research

Utah Rules R277-520-6

http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r277/r277-520.htm#T6

RECOMMENDATION

Require applicants to pass a subject-matter test.

Utah is commended for offering a license that increases 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. Although this license is designed to enable individuals who have significant content knowledge to teach, Utah should still require a subject-matter test. While the state does require documentation of expertise and skills, only a subject-matter test ensures that teachers on the Eminence Letter of Authorization know the specific content they will need to teach.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah noted that the state now allows for "Expanded Eminence" for educators beyond 37 perscent of the regular instruction load. The guidelines and review process for these types of eminence are significantly more involved then "regular" eminence requests. To date, four of these types of eminence requests have been made and two have been approved. This option is available only if all other licensing options have been exhausted.

Supporting Research

R277-520-6

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Do states offer a license		Restricted or vague	- /
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Kentucky			
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Maryland			
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Wisconsin			
Wyoming			



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: Utah



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

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

However, other aspects of the state's policy create obstacles for teachers from other states seeking licensure in Utah. Teachers with valid out-of-state certificates are eligible for licensure in Utah. All out-of-state teachers may initially apply for the Level 1 Utah Educator License. Those with three or more years of experience will be promoted to a Level 2 License after one year of experience in Utah and a recommendation from the employing district.

Utah routinely reviews the college transcripts of licensed out-of-state teachers, an exercise that often leads the state to require additional coursework before it will offer a license. States that reach a determination about an applicant's licensure status on the basis of the course titles listed on the applicant's transcript may end up mistakenly equating the amount of required coursework with the teacher's qualifications.

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

Utah requires online programs or schools to only employ licensed Utah educators as teachers.

Supporting Research

Out-of-State Educator License Application
www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Out-of-State-License.aspx
UAC 277-726-7

RECOMMENDATION

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

Utah should offer standard licenses to certified out-of-state teachers, rather than restricting them to provisional ones until they meet Utah's requirements.

Utah should also consider discontinuing its requirement for the submission of transcripts, because transcript reviews are not a particularly meaningful or efficient exercise. Such review 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 Utah.

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

Rather than rely on transcripts to assess credentials, Utah 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).

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. State policies that discriminate against teachers who were prepared in an alternate route are not supported by evidence. In fact, a substantial body of research has failed to discern differences in effectiveness between alternate and traditional route teachers.

■ Ensure that requirements for out-of-state online teachers are not burdensome.

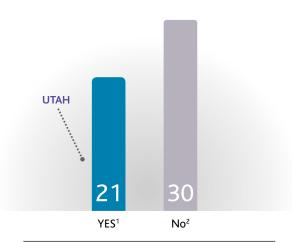
Utah should balance the interests of its students in having qualified online instructors with making certain that these requirements do not create unnecessary obstacles for out-of-state teachers.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah asserted that while coursework and programs are indeed reviewed, a 1:1 course equivalency is not required. Professional judgment is exercised in these reviews with the primary guidance being that if an educator is licensed in an area, he or she should be licensed in that area in Utah, unless there are significant deficiencies (internal policy). The vast majority of licensure denials—and these are few in number—are typically based on licensure misalignment (e.g., a license in deaf education, which Utah does not offer absent a special education license), or alternate preparation programs that are deemed insufficient, as described accurately in the analysis.

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.

 $^{\ \ \, \}hbox{$2$. 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.

Figure 57 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 Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Illinoi	Figure 57	S	540 /	ate / h
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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

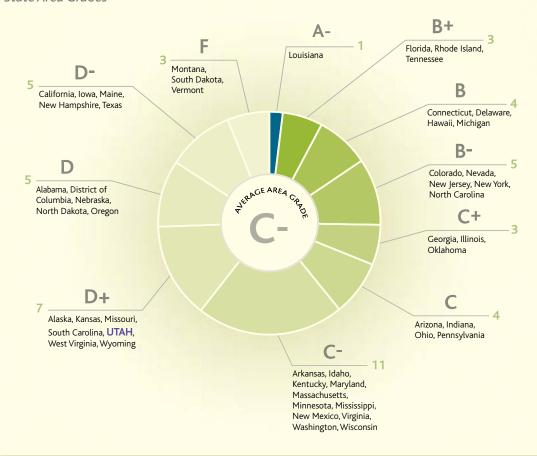
Alabama and Texas appropriately support licensure reciprocity by requiring that certified teachers from other states meet Alabama's and Texas's own testing requirements, and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate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

- 3-D: Tenure
- 3-E: Licensure Advancement
- 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.)

- 1. The state should establish a longitudinal data system with at least the following key components:
 - a. A unique statewide student identifier number that connects student data across key databases across years;
 - b. A unique teacher identifier system that can match individual teacher records with individual student records and
 - c. An assessment system that can match individual student test records from year to year in order to measure academic growth.
- 2. 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: Utah



State Partly Meets Goal 🕟 Bar Raised for this Goal





Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

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

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

Utah defines teacher of record as the teacher to whom students are assigned for the purposes of reporting for USOE data submissions. 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.

Utah publishes annually its "Utah University Education Graduates Analysis," which lists the number of licenses issued by area of concentration per recommending institution (not all licensure areas are included), along with how many program completers from each recommending institution were cumulatively employed by the various districts throughout the state. However, no connection is made between these data and specific district-level hiring statistics.

Supporting Research

Data Quality Campaign www.dataqualitycampaign.org

RECOMMENDATION

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, Utah 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 it should put in place a process for teacher roster verification.

Connect supply data to district hiring statistics.

Utah is on the right track in reporting teacher production data. However, it should strengthen its data collection practices by connecting program completion and licensure rates to district hiring statistics and using these data to inform policy decisions.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

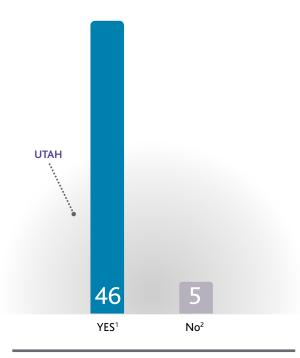
LAST WORD

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

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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.)

- 1. 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: Utah



State Partly Meets Goal (Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Utah does not require that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations. Districts develop teacher evaluation systems based on the state's framework. They may also adopt or adapt a program based on the model developed by the state, which will "review and support" these systems.

Evaluation systems must incorporate valid and reliable measurement tools that include, at a minimum, evidence of student growth, parental and student input and observations of instructional quality. Such measurements must adopt "differentiated methodologies" for measuring student growth for teachers of subjects with available standardized tests and for subjects for which these tests are not available.

Utah has received a waiver from portions of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which requires the state to include growth in student achievement as a "significant" factor in the evaluation framework.

Districts must implement new evaluation systems with student growth measures by the 2014-2015 school year.

The summative evaluation rating must differentiate among four levels of performance.

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-8a-403, -405, -409 Administrative Rules R277-531

RECOMMENDATION

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

Utah's policy 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. Utah 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 Utah 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah asserted that instructional effectiveness is the backbone of its educator effectiveness framework. As noted in the federal waiver application for NCLB and in Board Rule 277-531, the State Board—under the recommendation of the PEER evaluation committee—will determine the percentages of the three elements of measurement for an overall score. Utah added that it is waiting to "weight" based on analysis from its pilot of the USOE instructional effectiveness observation tool. The state contended that there is no national research that has determined the most appropriate percentages of instructional effectiveness vs. student growth when attributing effectiveness to the teacher. Currently, the observation tool is the only measure being used to evaluate teachers; therefore, it is 100 percent of the overall score. At this time, stakeholder input and student growth are considered but are not factored in as a percentage in the overall score.

Utah also pointed out that the system is built on the Utah Effective Teaching Standards and Utah Leadership Standards, which focus on teaching and learning as the primary focus of work. Districts cannot choose their own percentages, for these are set by the state. Plans must be approved by the board.

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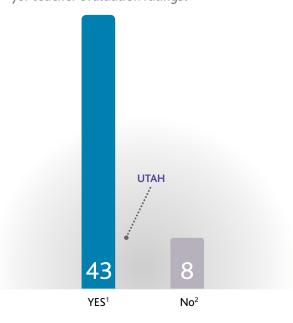
The state has an ESEA waiver requiring an evaluation system that includes student achievement as a significant factor. However, no specific guidelines or policies have been articulated.

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

Figure 64 Type of surey not specified Is survey data used as part of teacher evaluations? Alabama Alaska¹ Arizona П П П Arkansas California Colorado 2 Connecticut³ П П Delaware П П District of Columbia П Florida Georgia Hawaii П 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 П Missouri 2 Montana П Nebraska Nevada П 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 П Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming П 2 14 11 6 33

Figure 65

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



- 1. 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.

 $^{{\}it 3. Requires parent or peer surveys; whole-school student learning or student surveys.}\\$



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 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

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

Figure 67		/	EVALUATORS MUSTRE .	HERS
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Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico	2			
New York				
North Carolina				
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UTAH				
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Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	_	24	-	12
	4	34	3	13

^{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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal 🏻 (🖨 Progress Since 2011



ANALYSIS

Commendably, all teachers in Utah must be evaluated at least annually.

Probationary teachers must be evaluated at least twice annually.

Utah requires "a reasonable number of observation periods for an evaluation to insure adequate reliability." The state does not articulate when these observations should occur.

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-8a-301, -405

RECOMMENDATION

Base evaluations on multiple observations.

To guarantee that annual evaluations are based on an adequate collection of information, Utah 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. Utah 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. As evaluation instruments become more data driven, it will not be feasible to issue a formal evaluation rating until applicable student data are available later in the year.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah asserted that its statute outlines the timeframe for observations for provisional teachers. The expectation outlined in the framework and in statute is the use of multiple measures, including multiple observations. Annual evaluation of veteran educators includes observations, both informal walkthroughs and formal observations. These are not—nor should they be—time bound.

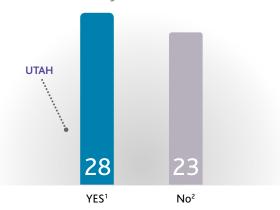
Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-8a-404

LAST WORD

The statute cited by Utah requires principals to orient all teachers concerning the educator evaluation program. Observations may not occur prior to this orientation.

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

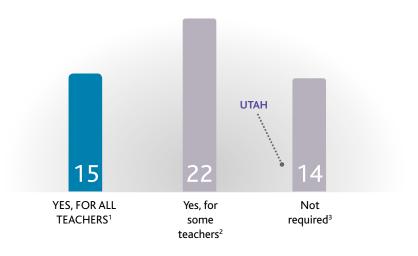


- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland³, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, 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	OF ALL VETERANDSTON	ANNUAL EVALUATON OF ALL PROBATIONARY TEACHERS
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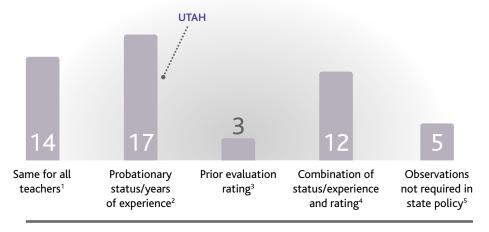
Figure 71

Do states require multiple classroom observations?



- 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?



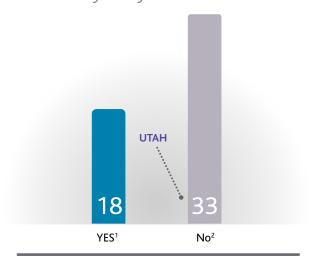
- Alabama, District of Columbia⁶, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island
- 2. Alaska, Arkansas⁷, California⁷, Colorado, Florida, Kansas⁷, Minnesota⁷, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma⁷, Oregon, Pennsylvania⁷, South Carolina,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



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah does not connect tenure decisions to evidence of teacher effectiveness.

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

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-8a-201

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.
 - Utah 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.
 - Utah 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.

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

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah asserted that, technically, it does not have tenure. Teachers must meet requirements when moving from a Level One license to a Level Two license. This is separate from employment, and each LEA has its own employment criteria. Requirements for moving from a Level One to a Level Two include effective teaching performance for three years as based on performance evaluation, along with passing appropriate exams; a portfolio of professional practice; and working with a mentor. Districts must verify that these criteria have been met. Because effectiveness ratings will be housed in Utah's CACTUS database, the state will be able to verify this within the system.

Supporting Research

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/New-Teacher-Entry-Years-Enhancement.aspx

How long before a teacher arns tenure?							STATE ONLY AWARDS
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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.

Figure 76	EVIDENCE OF STUDENT	<pre> </pre>	/
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New Jersey New Mexico			
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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: Utah



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah requires some evidence of teacher effectiveness in licensing and advancement policies.

In Utah, to advance from a Level 1 license to a Level 2 license, teachers must complete the following: work with a mentor for three years, complete a portfolio review, satisfy district/school evaluations, achieve a score of 160 or higher on the Praxis II in the area of educational preparation and assignment and be NCLB-highly qualified in at least one license area or endorsement. To move from a Level 2 to a Level 3 license, teachers must acquire a doctorate in an education-related field or have National Board Certification.

Utah does not include evidence of effectiveness as a factor in the renewal of a professional license. Level 2 teachers must renew their licenses every five years and Level 3 teachers every seven years. Level 2 and 3 teachers must acquire 100 points for educator work experience in a public or accredited private school— 35 points per school year for at least half-time up to three years during the renewal cycle as well as 100 professional development points.

Supporting Research

Utah Administrative Code R277-502-4: 522.7 http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/License-Requirements.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

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

Utah should require evidence of teacher effectiveness to be a significant factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license. Utah's new evaluation requirements ensure that teacher evaluation will include at least some evidence of classroom effectiveness, but given the vagueness of both this evaluation requirement and the state's licensure advancement requirement, it is not clear that teacher effectiveness will be a significant factor in moving to a Level 2 license. Further, effectiveness is not a factor in license renewals.

- Discontinue license renewal requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.
 - While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Utah's general, nonspecific professional development point requirements for license renewal merely call for teachers to complete a certain amount of seat time. These requirements do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.
- End requirement tying teacher advancement to doctoral degrees.

Utah should remove its mandate that teachers obtain a doctorate degree for any level of license advancement. Research is conclusive and emphatic that advanced degrees do not have any significant correlation to classroom performance. Rather, advancement should be based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah indicated that a Level 3 license may also be awarded to a Level 2 Speech Language Pathologist that has obtained ASHA CCC. The state added that Board Rule R277-531 and Utah Code do speak to effectiveness ratings in employment decisions and will be strengthened in the next two years as Utah moves to attach this to licensure.

In addition, Utah noted that the statement about research being emphatic regarding advanced degrees is not accurate. There is significant evidence around the benefits of content specific advanced degrees; specifically in mathematics. It is the general education masters that do not translate into improvement in the classroom.

Supporting Research

http://schools.utah.gov/cert/License-Requirements/Upgrade-License-Level.aspx

LAST WORD

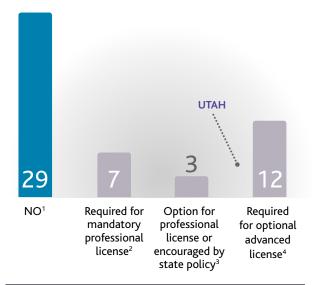
NCTQ agrees that there is research showing that some content-specific advanced degrees, especially in mathematics, can affect teacher performance. However, no state that requires or encourages advanced degrees limits them to content area.

Do states require teachers	OBJECTIVE EVIDENCE OF	Some objective evidence	Consideration Biven to describe the factor of the factor o	Performance not considered	
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- Evidence of effectiveness is required for license renewal but not for conferring of professional license.
- $\hbox{2. Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.}\\$
- 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

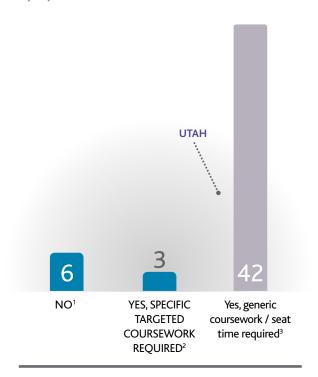
Do states require teachers to earn advanced degrees before conferring professional licensure?



- 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

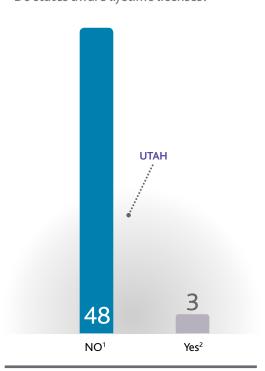
Figure 80

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, Mississipipi, 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?



- 1. 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,
- 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: Utah



State Partly Meets 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. Utah reports some school-level data that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent.

Teacher evaluation ratings are published in the state superintendent's annual report of the school system. However, these ratings are provided at the district rather than the school level. While an important step in the right direction, unfortunately this system only allows comparison between and not within school districts.

Utah also reports on the percentage of highly qualified teachers by school. Commendably, these data are reported for each school, rather than aggregated by district. The state is commended for comparing highly qualified teachers based on poverty quartile.

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-8a-410 2011

2011 Utah School Report Cards

State Poverty Quartile NCLB Highly Qualified Teacher Report 2011-2012

http://u-pass.schools.utah.gov/u-passweb/pdfs/NCLB/2012/State%20Poverty%20Quartile.pdf?ts=1322080422229

District NCLB Highly Qualified Teacher Report 2011-2012

http://u-pass.schools.utah.gov/u-passweb/pdfs/NCLB/2010/District-Charter%20Schools%20NCLB%20HQ%20Teacher%20Report.pdf?ts=1322080422229

RECOMMENDATION

Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

Although Utah is on the right track by publishing teacher evaluation ratings at the district level, the state should make aggregate school-level data about teacher performance publicly available. Given that Utah requires teacher evaluations to be based to a significant extent on evidence of student learning (see Goal 3-B), data about the effectiveness of a school's teachers would shine a light on how equitably teachers are distributed across and within school districts.

Publish other data that facilitate comparisons across schools.

Utah 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 Utah 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

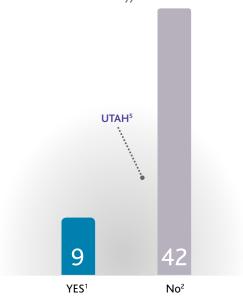
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TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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?

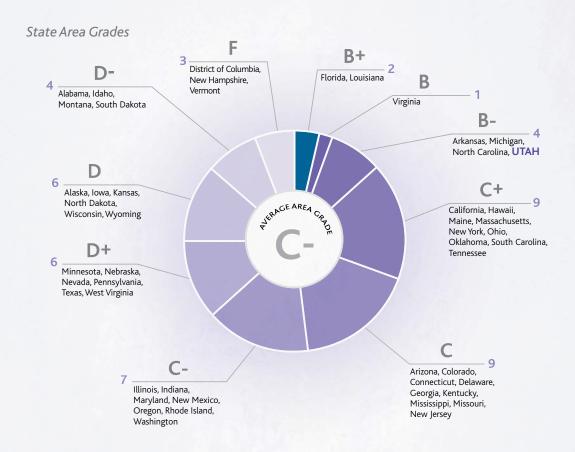


- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas³, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts⁴, Missouri, New York, North Carolina,
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida⁵, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota,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

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers



Topics Included In This Area 4-A: Induction 4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience 4-B: Professional Development 4-E: Differential Pay 4-C: Pay Scales 4-F: Performance Pay

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal A - Induction

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

Goal Components

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

- 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.
- 3. 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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah requires that all new teachers receive mentoring. New teachers are required to participate in a mentoring program in which the principal assigns a mentor within the first semester of teaching who "performs substantially the same duties" as the new teacher. Mentors must "provide moral and emotional support" and arrange for observation opportunities and meetings to share strategies and teaching methods. Mentors must also have at least three years' experience and are expected to help new teachers "become effective and competent in the teaching profession and school system." Mentors must complete a training program, including ongoing professional development.

Supporting Research

Utah Administrative Code R277-522-3

RECOMMENDATION

Expand guidelines to include other key areas.

While still leaving districts flexibility, Utah should articulate minimum guidelines for a high-quality induction experience. The state should require a timeline in which mentors are assigned to all new teachers, ideally soon after the commencing of teaching, to offer support during those first critical weeks of school. New teachers should be provided a reduced teaching load, such as not requiring participation in extra curricular activities. It should also mandate a method for performance evaluation.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

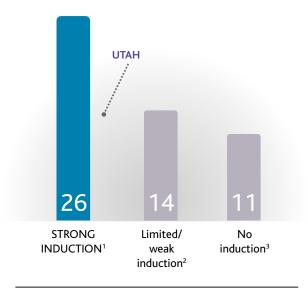
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TEXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

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: Utah



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah requires that evaluated teachers receive timely feedback with regard to professional growth plans and evaluation conferences. All teachers must develop a professional learning plan. The development of this plan in collaboration with a teacher's supervisor takes into account "feedback from the educator's yearly evaluation," in addition to other considerations. Teachers found to be in "need of improvement" are provided support, which may include mentoring, or instructional coaches and "setting timelines and benchmarks to assist educators toward greater improved instructional effectiveness."

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-8a-301;407 R277-531-3; 500.3(3)e

Public Educator Evaluation Framework http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r277/r277-531.htm#T3

RECOMMENDATION

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

Utah is encouraged to strengthen its policy to ensure that districts utilize teacher evaluation results in determining the professional development needs and activities for individual teachers. The development of professional development plans that take evaluation results into consideration is not the same as directing evaluators and teachers to use the findings of evaluations to drive professional development activities.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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



TEXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

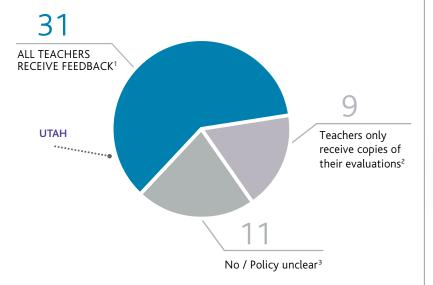
Louisiana and North Carolina require that teachers receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations and direct districts to connect professional development to teachers' identified needs. Both states also require that teachers with unsatisfactory evaluations are placed on structured improvement 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.

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Figure 89		FRALLATION MICHAEL	TEACHERS WITH PLANS FOR	S
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Figure 90

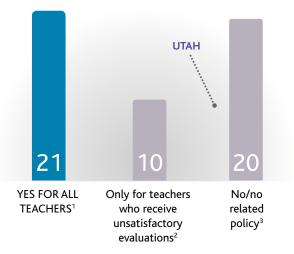
Do teachers receive feedback on their evaluations?



- 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: Utah



State Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Starting with the 2015-2016 school year, each school district's employee compensation system must be aligned with the district's annual evaluation system. Any advancement must be based primarily on evaluation, and an employee may not advance if his or her rating on the most recent evaluation is at the lowest level of an evaluation instrument.

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53-8a-601

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah 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.

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

Figure 94	Ļ	PROHBITS ADDITE	AraceDorge PAY Leaves pay to die-	ion /
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- 1. For advanced degrees earned after April 2014.
- $\hbox{2. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training". } \\$
- 3. Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.
- 4. Beginning in 2015-2016.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

→ Goal D – Compensation for Prior Work Experience

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

Goal Component

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

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

Background

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



4-D Analysis: Utah



State Does Not Meet Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah 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, Utah 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.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

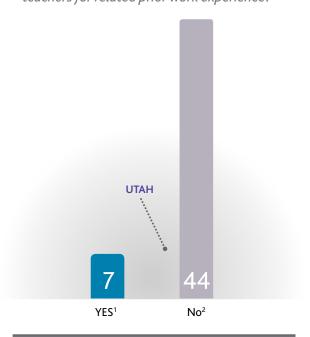
Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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
- 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: Utah



State Partly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah supports differential pay by which a teacher can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects. Teachers of mathematics and science, subjects deemed as critical shortage areas by the state, are eligible for an annual salary supplement of \$4,100.

Utah does not support differential pay for those teaching in high-need schools, even though the state does not have regulatory language preventing districts from providing such differential pay.

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-17A-156

Utah's Public Education Job Enhancement Program

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Loans-and-Scholarships/Job-Enhancement-Program.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

Support differential pay initiatives for teachers in high-need schools.

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

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 98		HIGH NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	
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	22	7	15	11	20

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.

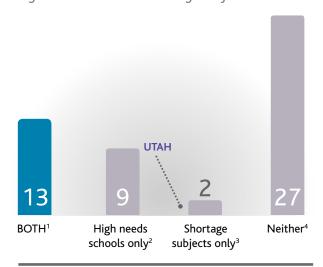
^{2.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in high-need schools.



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: Utah



State Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Starting with the 2015-2016 school year, the school district's employee compensation system must be aligned with the district's annual evaluation system. Any advancement must be based primarily on evaluation, and an employee may not advance if his or her rating on the most recent evaluation is at the lowest level of an evaluation instrument. Education evaluation programs will use multiple lines of evidence, including self-evaluation, student and parent input, peer and supervisor observations, student achievement data and evidence of professional growth.

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53-8a-405; 601

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 101	<i>Q</i>	/	<i>S</i> / <i>S</i>	_ /) Juge
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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.

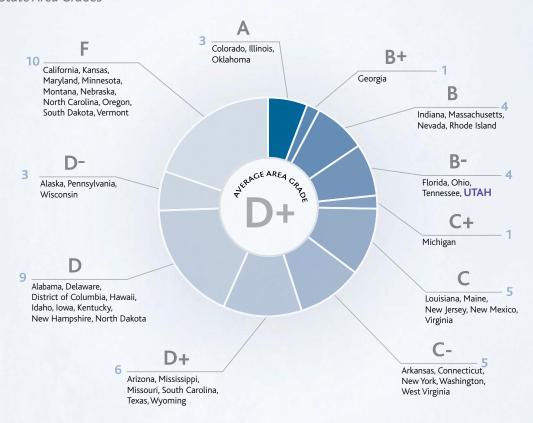
^{2.} Nevada's initiative does not go into effect until 2015-2016.

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.
- 2. If a state finds it necessary to confer conditional or provisional licenses under limited and exceptional circumstances to teachers who have not passed the required tests, the state should ensure that requirements are met within one year.

Background

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



5-A Analysis: **Utah**



State Nearly Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah requires all licensure candidates to submit passing scores on designated content tests to be eligible for initial licensure.

However, the state also allows alternate route teachers to teach on a temporary license for up to one year while they fulfill licensure requirements, including passing subject-matter tests.

Supporting Research

Utah Administrative Rules R227-503-3

http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r277/r277-503.htm

ARL

http://www.schools.utah.gov/cert/Alternative-Routes-to-Licensure.aspx

RECOMMENDATION

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

Utah is commended for requiring that all licensure candidates pass designated content tests for initial licensure. However, the state continues to permit teachers on Alternate Route Licenses to teach in classrooms for three years before passing required subject-matter tests. While the state may find it appropriate to delay pedagogy assessments for these teachers, alternate route teachers—like all teachers—should have sufficient and appropriate content knowledge when they begin teaching. Utah could take its policy a step further and require all teachers to meet subject-matter licensure requirements prior to entering the classroom.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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

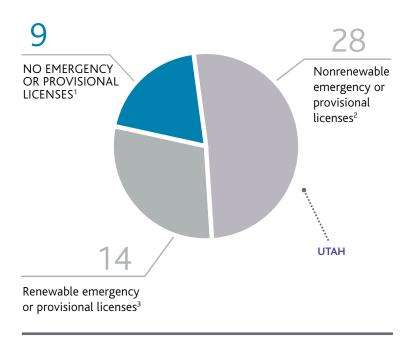
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Colorado, **Illinois**, **Mississippi**, and **New Jersey** require all new teachers to pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.

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: Utah



State Meets a Small Part of Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

In Utah, districts can dismiss teachers for unsatisfactory performance. However, it is unclear whether unsatisfactory performance is tied to classroom ineffectiveness or the state's evaluation requirements. Previous statute defined unsatisfactory performance as two unsatisfactory evaluations in the previous three years, but that is no longer on the books.

Once the final decision has been made to terminate based on unsatisfactory performance, all teachers undergo the same appeals process, regardless of whether they are being dismissed for poor performance or for other charges commonly associated with license revocation, such as a felony and/or morality violations. The district gives the teacher 30 days notice of dismissal. The teacher has 15 days to request a hearing after receipt of the dismissal letter. After the request for a hearing, there are no timelines specified by the state for resolution of the dismissal proceedings.

Supporting Research

Utah Code 53A-8a-102; 406; 502; 503 R277-531-3

RECOMMENDATION

Specify that classroom ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

Utah leaves it up to districts to develop definitions of unsatisfactory performance and fails to ensure that teachers who receive a certain number of ineffective evaluation ratings are eligible for dismissal. The state should consider establishing at least some marker for what defines inadequacy in the classroom so that districts do not feel they lack the legal basis for terminating consistently poor performers. Without this specification, Utah's efforts to improve its evaluation framework (see Goal 3-B) may be undermined.

■ 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, the state 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 Utah has taken steps to differentiate due process rights for teachers facing dismissal for poor performance, in effect, the only difference appears to lie in the process leading up to providing a teacher with a dismissal notice. The state's appeals policy seems to still equally apply to all teachers. Non-probationary teachers should have due process for any termination, but 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. Utah should ensure that appeals related to classroom effectiveness are decided only by those with educational expertise.

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. However, the analysis was updated subsequent to the state's review.



** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Figure 106

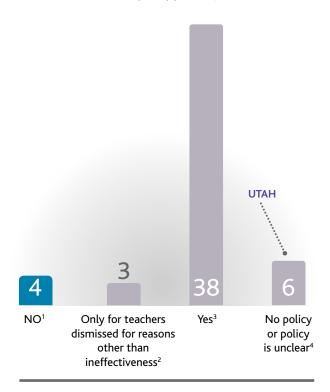
Florida and Oklahoma clearly articulate that teacher ineffectiveness in the classroom is grounds for dismissal. In both states, teachers are eligible for dismissal after two annual ratings of unsatisfactory performance. Each state has taken steps to ensure that the dismissal process for teachers deemed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

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

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

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
- Though a teacher returns to probationary status after two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations, Nevada does not articulate clear policy about its appeals process.

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal C − Reductions in Force

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

Goal Component

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

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

Background

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



5-C Analysis: **Utah**



State Meets Goal



Progress Since 2011

ANALYSIS

Utah requires that school personnel needs and teacher performance—as measured by a teacher's performance evaluation—be factors in determining which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force. These are the only factors that may be considered in determining which teachers are laid off, and "a school district may not utilize a last-hired, first fired layoff policy."

Supporting Research

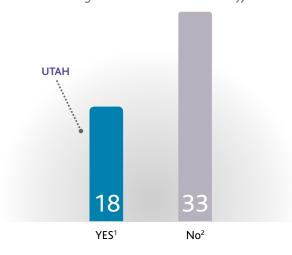
Utah Code 53A-8a-505

UTAH RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Utah 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.

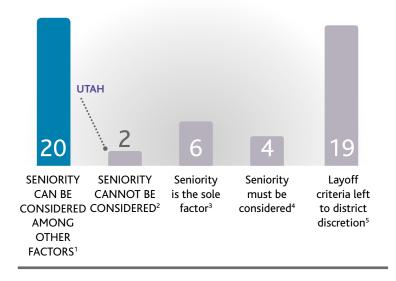




Colorado, **Florida**, and **Indiana** all specify that in determining which teachers to lay off during a reduction in force, classroom performance is the top criterion. These states also articulate that seniority can only be considered after a teacher's performance is taken into account.

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

AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching F The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional	Pool alternate route programs, admission
to exceed the admission requirements of traditional	alternate route programs, admission
preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.	requirements, GPA, academic proficiency measures, subject-matter test, flexibility/ test-out
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
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
The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time.	part-time license/certificate, adjunct license
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
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
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
The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.	teacher evaluation, evaluation frequency classroom observations, feedback
The state should require that tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.	tenure, probationary period, continuing contracts, teacher effectiveness
The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.	probationary license, professional license license renewal, evidence of teacher effectiveness, coursework requirements
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
	the immediate needs of new teachers, as well as adequate mentoring and support. The state should provide an alternate route that is free from limitations on its usage and allows a diversity of providers. The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time. The state should help to make licenses fully portable among states, with appropriate safeguards. AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teach The state should have a data system that contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness. The state should require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation. The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers. The state should require that tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness. The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

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
1-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 schoo
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 Utah

AREA 1: Delivering Well Prepared Teachers	
Require all elementary teacher candidates to pass a rigorous stand-alone science of reading test.	Goal 1-
Eliminate the generalist 1-8 license, and require all middle school teacher candidates to pass a content test in every core area they are licensed to teach.	Goal 1-
Specifically require secondary social studies and science teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.	Goal 1-
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-
Require all new teachers to pass a pedagogy test.	Goal 1
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
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-
AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool	
Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs, including a high bar for academic proficiency and passage of a subject-matter test.	Goal 2-
Establish guidelines for alternate route programs that require preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. Ensure that programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.	Goal 2-
Eliminate licensure obstacles for out-of-state teachers.	Goal 2
AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers	
Require student growth to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.	Goal 3-
Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.	Goal 3-
Base licensure advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license and licensure renewal on evidence of effectiveness.	Goal 3-
Publish aggregate school-level teacher evaluation ratings from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness.	Goal 3-
AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	
Support differential pay initiatives for effective teachers in high-need schools.	Goal 4-
AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers	
Make ineffective classroom performance grounds for dismissal.	Goal 5-

