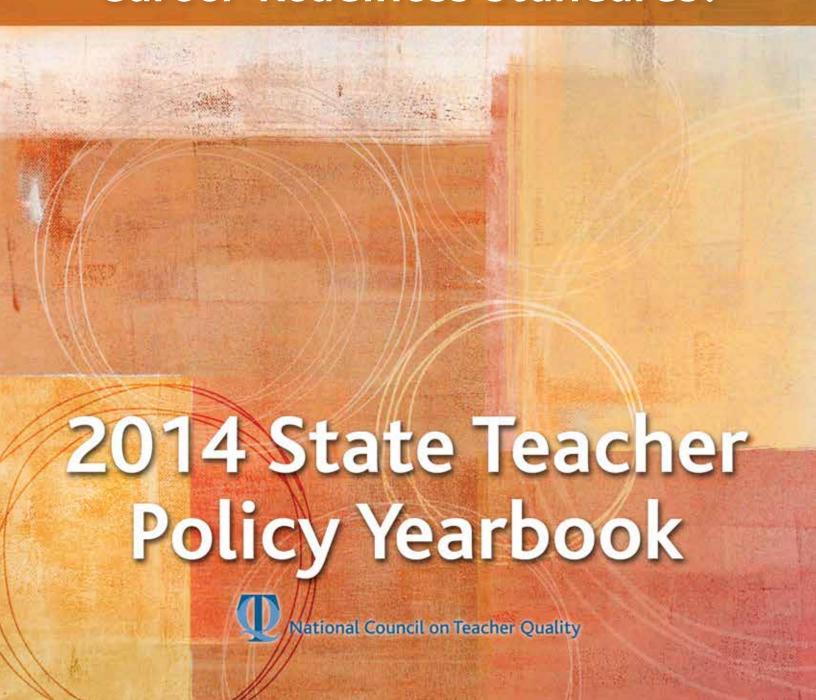
# Ohio

Are New Teachers Being Prepared for College- and Career-Readiness Standards?



### **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. Although this year's edition did not require the extensive review that comprehensive editions require, we still wanted to make sure that we captured all relevant policy changes and that states' perspectives were represented. Every state formally received a draft of the policy updates we identified in June 2014 as well as a draft of analyses and recommendations for the new indicators related to college- and career-readiness standards 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, explain their differing points of view and often acknowledge the imperfections of their teacher policies are important steps in moving forward.

#### **FUNDERS**

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### Teacher Preparation Policy Priorities for Ohio

## Prepare all teachers to meet the instructional shifts of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

- Strengthen preparation requirements to ensure teacher candidates have the ability to address the use of
  informational texts as well as incorporate complex informational texts into classroom instruction.
   Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.
- Through testing frameworks or teacher standards, include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

  \*Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.\*
- Ensure teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling with reading. Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.

### Additional priorities for elementary teacher preparation:

- Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass
  a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects, including mathematics, and requires
  a meaningful passing score for each area.
- Require a content specialization in an academic subject area.

### Additional priorities for secondary teacher preparation:

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

### Additional priorities for special education teacher preparation:

- Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and require licenses that differentiate between preparation of elementary and secondary teacher candidates.
- Require elementary special education candidates to pass a rigorous content test as a condition of initial licensure, as well as a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
- Ensure secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.

### Raise admission requirements:

Limit admission to teacher preparation programs to candidates in the top half of the college-going population, measured by a test normed to the general college-bound population or minimum GPA.

### Hold preparation programs accountable:

 Set minimum standards for program performance with consequences for failure to meet those standards.

### Teacher Preparation in Ohio

The 2014 State Teacher Policy Yearbook keeps the spotlight on the critical issue of teacher preparation. In addition to updating the full set of teacher preparation policies reviewed in last year's comprehensive edition, the 2014 Yearbook casts a critical eye on whether states have established requirements for teacher preparation and licensure that help to ensure that teachers are ready for the increased demands of states' college- and career-readiness standards for K-12 students.

### Current Status of **Ohio** Teacher Prep Policy



Prior Grades: C 2013 | C-2012 | D+2011

Yearbook Goal	Торіс	2014 Score	2013 Score
1-A	Admission into Preparation Programs	0	
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	0	
1-H	Special Education Teacher Preparation		
1-I	Assessing Professional Knowledge	•	
1-J	Student Teaching	•	
1-K	Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	•	•

### 2014 Teacher Prep Policy Update for Ohio

Based on a review of state legislation, rules and regulations, NCTQ has identified the following recent teacher prep policy changes in Ohio:

No recent policy updates were identified for Ohio in the area of teacher preparation.

### Ohio Response to Policy Update

States were asked to review NCTQ's identified updates and also to comment on policy changes related to teacher preparation that have occurred in the last year, pending changes, or teacher preparation in the state more generally.

As discussed in the 2013 *State Teacher Policy Yearbook*, Ohio noted many aspects of its teacher preparation policies, including:

- Teacher preparation programs are required to prepare candidates in the science of reading instruction. Beginning in 2017, the state will require new elementary teachers, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, to pass rigorous tests of reading instruction in order to attain licensure.
- Teacher preparation programs must deliver mathematics content to elementary teacher candidates that prepares them for the Ohio Academic Content Standards.
- New middle school teachers and secondary science teachers are required to pass a licensing test in every core academic area they are licensed to teach.
- The state assesses new teachers' knowledge of teaching and learning by means of a pedagogy test aligned with the state's professional standards.
- A minimum of 12 weeks of student teaching is required.
- Each December the state collects and publishes data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs. These data include value-added analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent.
- The state (Chancellor of Higher Education) holds full authority over the process for approving teacher preparation programs.

http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3319.24

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elivering well-				
repared teachers	2014 GRADE	2013 GRADE	2012 GRADE	2011 GRADE
Alabama	B-	В	B-	С
Alaska	F	F	F	F
Arizona	D	D-	D-	D-
Arkansas	C+	C+	С	С
California	D+	D+	D	D
Colorado	D-	D-	D	D-
Connecticut	B-	B-	C+	C-
Delaware	B-	C+	D-	D-
District of Columbia	C-	D+	D	D
Florida	B+	B+	B-	B-
Georgia	C+	C+	С	С
Hawaii	D-	F	D	D
Idaho	D+	D+	D	D
Illinois	D+	D+	D	D
Indiana	B+	B+	B-	C+
lowa	D+	D+	D	D
Kansas	D+	D+	D+	D+
Kentucky	B-	B-	C+	C-
Louisiana	С	C-	С	С
Maine	D+	D+	D+	D
Maryland	D+	D+	D+	D+
Massachusetts	B-	B-	C+	C+
Michigan	D+	D	D+	D+
Minnesota	C+	C+	C+	С
Mississippi	С	C-	С	С
Missouri	B-	C-	D+	D+
Montana	F	F	F	F
Nebraska	D-	F	D-	D-
Nevada	D-	D-	D-	D-
New Hampshire	C-	C-	C-	D
New Jersey	B-	B-	C-	D+
New Mexico	D+	D	D+	D+
New York	В	B-	C-	D+
North Carolina	C+	C+	D-	D-
North Dakota	D	D	D	D
OHIO	C	C	C-	D+
Oklahoma	С	С	С	С
Oregon	D+	D	D-	D-
Pennsylvania	С	С	С	С
Rhode Island	B+	B+	C	D+
South Carolina	C+	С	C-	C-
South Dakota	D	D-	D	D
Tennessee	B-	B-	B-	B-
Texas	В	В	C+	C+
Utah	C-	D+	D	D
Vermont	C	C	C-	D+
Virginia	B-	C+	C-	C-
Washington	D+	D+	D+	D+
West Virginia	C+	C+	C-	C-
Wisconsin	C	C-	D+	D
Wyoming	D-	F	F	F
wvomine				

Figure B	
Delivering well-	
prepared teachers	2014 GRADE
Florida	B+
Indiana	B+
Rhode Island	B+
New York	В
Texas	В
Alabama	B-
Connecticut	B-
Delaware	B-
Kentucky	B-
Massachusetts	B-
Missouri	B-
New Jersey	B-
Tennessee	B-
Virginia	B-
Arkansas	C+
Georgia	C+
Minnesota	C+
North Carolina	C+
South Carolina	C+
West Virginia	C+
Louisiana	С
Mississippi	С
OHIO	C
Oklahoma	С
Pennsylvania	С
Vermont	С
Wisconsin	С
District of Columbia	C-
New Hampshire	C-
Utah	C-
California	D+
Idaho	D+
Illinois	D+
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Kansas	D+
Maine	D+
Maryland	D+
Michigan	D+
New Mexico	D+
Oregon	D+
Washington	D+ D
Arizona  North Dakota	D
South Dakota	D
Colorado	D-
Hawaii	D-
Nebraska	D-
Nevada	D-
Wyoming	D-
Alaska	F
Montana	F
Average State Grade	C
, State Glade	

## **Elementary Teacher Preparation**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- 1. The state should ensure that all elementary teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that college- and career-readiness standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should require that all new elementary teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - B. The state should ensure that all new elementary teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new elementary teachers of English language arts are prepared to support struggling readers.
- 2. 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.
- 3. The state should ensure that all elementary teacher candidates, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, possess sufficient content knowledge in all core subjects, including mathematics.
- 4. 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 45 credit hours to ensure appropriate depth in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies and fine arts.
- 5. 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.



### Elementary Teacher Prep Analysis: Ohio

### PREPARING ELEMENTARY TEACHERS FOR COLLEGE- AND **CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS**

The new demands of college- and career-readiness standards for students heighten the need for elementary teachers to have a strong content background in all of the subject matter taught in the elementary grades. Ohio, like most states, has adopted such standards and must ensure that its preparation and licensure requirements for new teachers address this need.

Currently, Ohio's early childhood education certification is the state's de facto elementary license to teach grades PreK-3. Teachers may also opt to teach grades 4-5 on this license provided they pass additional content tests. Key licensing requirements for elementary school teachers in Ohio include:



### OHIO **ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREP SNAPSHOT**



State requires passing a content test in each of the four core subjects.



State requires adequate test on the science of reading.



State requires academic content specialization.



N/A State has adequate/appropriate requirements for teachers who teach elementary grades on an early childhood license.





In addition to the strong content background called for by college- and career-readiness standards, teacher candidates must also be prepared for the key instructional shifts that differentiate these standards from their predecessors. Early childhood education teachers, who are allowed to teach up through grade 3, need only pass the Ohio Assessments for Educators (OAE) Early Childhood Education test, which does not include the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with the state's college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Elementary teachers in Ohio opting to teach grades 4 and 5 must pass the OAE elementary exam. The testing framework requires teachers to "demonstrate knowledge of the characteristics and features of various types of informational, persuasive, and functional texts, and strategies for promoting students' comprehension of various types of texts and analysis of text structures."

Neither standards nor testing frameworks adequately address incorporating literacy into other content areas. The state's ear-

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Ohio fails to address the major instructional shifts of college- and career-readiness standards. The state is therefore encouraged to strengthen its teacher preparation requirements and ensure that all elementary candidates have the ability to adequately incorporate complex informational text into classroom instruction.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that elementary students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Ohio should also—either through testing frameworks or teacher standards—include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

### Support struggling readers.

Ohio should articulate specific requirements ensuring that elementary teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling. The early elementary grades are an especially important time to address reading deficiencies before students fall behind.

ly childhood education test vaguely requires teachers to "apply knowledge of approaches for integrating literacy with other areas of the curriculum and with everyday activities."

Ohio also does not have adequate requirements for the preparation of elementary teachers that address struggling readers. Its framework for the early childhood test only requires that teachers "demonstrate knowledge of literacy development, factors that affect the development of reading skills, and indicators that a child may be experiencing difficulties or demonstrating exceptional abilities in reading."

Beginning July 1, 2017, all new candidates for Ohio's PreK-3 and 4-9 licenses will be required to earn a passing score on an examination of principles of scientifically research-based reading instruction. A testing framework is not available at this time.

### **Supporting Research**

Ohio Assessments for Educators www.oh.nesinc.com Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-05 Ohio Revised Code 3301.077 and 3319.24

#### **OHIO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS**

Ohio contended that early childhood PK-3 teachers must pass both the Assessment of Professional Knowledge: Early Childhood (PK-3) assessment (pedagogical knowledge) and the Early Childhood Education test (content). Candidates seeking to teach grades 4 and 5 have three options: 1) hold the early childhood (PK-3) license and add the early childhood generalist endorsement 2) hold the middle childhood (4-9) license and pass the language arts and reading assessment or 3) hold the middle childhood (4-9) license and pass the Elementary Education test.

Regarding struggling readers, Ohio asserted that early childhood (PK-3), middle childhood (4-9), and intervention specialist teaching candidates must successfully complete 12 semester hours of reading that include at least one three-semester hour courses in teaching phonics, and coursework on knowledge and beliefs about reading; knowledge base; individual differences; reading difficulties; creating a literate environment; word identification, vocabulary and spelling; comprehension; study strategies; writing; assessment; communicating information about reading; curriculum development; professional development; research; supervision of paraprofessionals; and professionalism for the early childhood license, the middle childhood license, the intervention specialist license and the early childhood intervention specialist license. Ohio particularly noted Standard 8, which addresses the "assessment and diagnosis of reading difficulties."

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

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

Ohio should ensure that its elementary content test is appropriately aligned with its college- and career-readiness standards. The state should require separate, meaningful passing scores for each core subject covered on the test, including reading/language arts, math, science and social studies. A candidate may achieve a passing score and still be seriously deficient in a particular subject area. Mathematics content in particular should be assessed with a rigorous assessment tool, such as the test required in Massachusetts, that evaluates mathematics knowledge beyond an elementary school level and challenges candidates' understanding of underlying mathematics concepts.

In addition, Ohio is urged to require all early childhood education teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass the same rigorous subject-matter test as grades 4 and 5 teachers. Although Ohio is on the right track by administering a two-part licensing test, thus making it harder for teachers to pass if they fail some subject areas, the state is encouraged to further strengthen its policy and require separate passing scores for each core subject on its multiple-subject 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 Ohio 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.

#### OHIO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS CONTINUED

The state reiterated its requirement that beginning July 1, 2017, new elementary teachers, including those who teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, must pass a rigorous test of reading instruction. It added that its requirement of "coursework in teaching reading and phonics required for certain initial provisional license applicants" also supports a focus on preparing teachers with the knowledge and skills to address struggling readers.

Ohio further noted that the enactment of its "fourth grade reading capability" initiative addresses the specifics related to supporting student reading competency, and that its "third grade guarantee" ensures that every struggling reader gets the support he or she needs to be able to learn and achieve." In kindergarten through grade 3, schools evaluate students to determine reading levels. Those falling behind are given a reading improvement plan, which addresses each student's unique reading problems. Schools then monitor the plan to ensure improvement and work closely with parents to create a remedy and allow for support. Except under special circumstances, students must meet a minimum score on the state reading test to advance to grade 4. Students remaining in grade 3 must be provided with a high-performing reading teacher and 90 minutes of reading instruction each school day.

#### **Supporting Research**

ORC Section 3319.24; 3313.608

http://www.uso.edu/ning/twelve\_semester-hour\_reading\_requirement\_ohio\_educator\_licensure\_program\_standards%20.pdf http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/ Third-Grade-Reading-Guarantee

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

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

Ohio 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 45 credit hours in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies and fine arts.

Figure 1		INCORPORATIONAL TEXT SKILLS INTERTING	SUPORTNG STRUGGING
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## SUMMARY OF ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREP FIGURES

■ Figure 1

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

- Figure 2

  Content test requirements
- **Figure 3**Specific subject-matter requirements
- **Figure 4**Science of reading requirements
- Figure 5

  Math requirements
- Figure 6
  Requirements for academic concentrations
- Figure 7
  Requirements for early childhood teachers
- Figure 8

  Teacher Prep Review findings about elementary teacher prep

Figure 2		Lementary Content (ex-	Elementary Content	± /
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### **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

Both Arkansas and California ensure that elementary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of collegeand career-readiness standards for students. These states specify that elementary teacher candidates must have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts, but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity.

Candidates are also required to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

In addition, Indiana ensures that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades, including early childhood education candidates, possess the requisite knowledge of core content and of the key elements of scientifically based reading instruction before entering the classroom. Elementary and early childhood teacher candidates are required to pass a content test comprised of four independently scored subtests, including mathematics. In addition, these candidates are required to pass a comprehensive assessment that tests the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Elementary teacher candidates in Indiana must also earn either a major or minor in an academic content area.

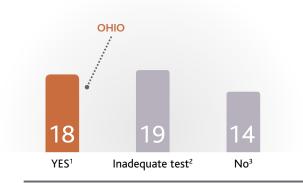
Massachusetts's MTEL mathematics subtest continues to set the standard in this area by evaluating mathematics knowledge beyond an elementary school level and challenging candidates' understanding of underlying mathematics concepts.

- 1. Alaska does not require testing for initial licensure.
- 2. Massachusetts and North Carolina require a general curriculum test that does not report scores for each elementary subject. A separate score is reported for math.
- 3. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass a content test in Ohio.

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Figure 4

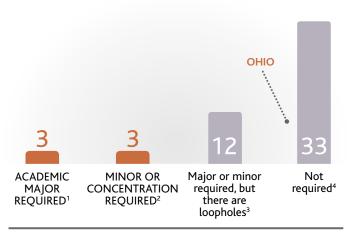
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, California<sup>4</sup>, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming
- 3. Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota
- California allows an exemption from the state's reading test for teachers who already have a single subject credential.
- 5. Teachers have until their second year to pass the reading test.

Figure 6

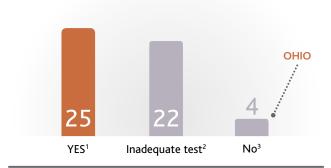
Do states expect elementary teachers to complete an academic concentration?



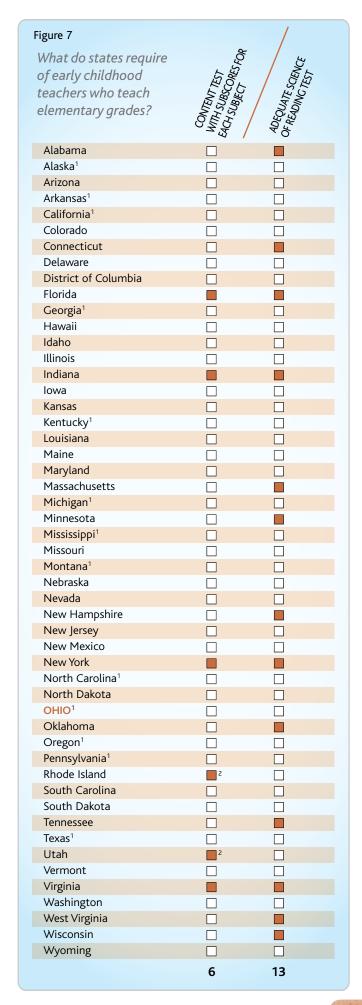
- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico
- 2. Strong Practice: Indiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma
- California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia
- These states require a major, minor or concentration but there is no 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, New Hampshire<sup>5</sup>, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Only K-8 teachers must complete an area of concentration in a field such as humanities, fine arts, social sciences and sciences.

Figure !

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, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska<sup>4</sup>, Hawaii, Montana, Ohio<sup>5</sup>
- 4. Testing is not required for initial licensure.
- 5. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass an adequate content test.



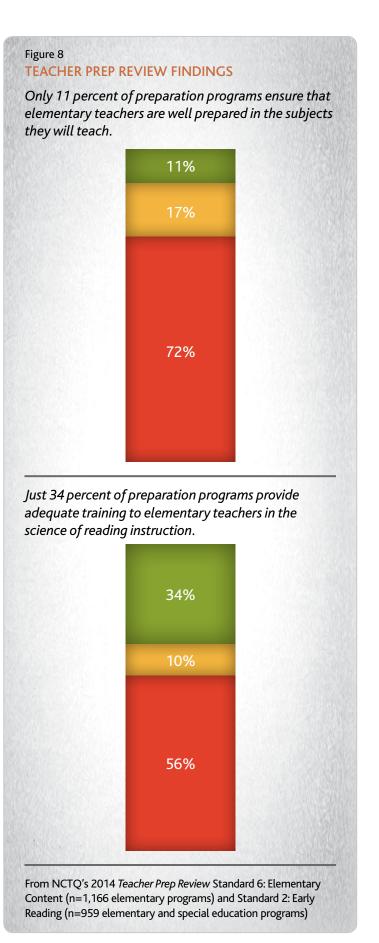


Figure 7

- 1. These states do not offer a standalone early childhood certification that includes elementary grades or the state's early childhood certification is the de facto license to teach elementary grades.
- Early childhood candidates may pass either multiple subjects (subscores) or content knowledge (no subscores) test.

## Middle School Teacher Preparation

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should ensure that all middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that college- and career-readiness English language arts standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should require that all new middle school teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - B. The state should ensure that all new middle school teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new middle school teachers of English language arts are prepared to support struggling readers.
- 2. The state should require that new middle school teachers pass a licensing test in every core academic area they are licensed to teach.
- 3. 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.



How well are states ensuring that middle school teachers are prepared for college- and career-readiness standards?

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

### Middle School Teacher Prep Analysis: Ohio

### PREPARING MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR COLLEGE-AND CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS

The middle school years are critical to students' education, but, too often, states fail to distinguish the knowledge and skills needed by middle school teachers from those needed by an elementary teacher. Middle school teachers should not only be prepared to teach grade-level content, but should also be prepared to meet the increased instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Currently, Ohio offers a middle school license to teach grades 4-9. Key licensing requirements for middle school teachers in Ohio include:





State requires middle school teachers to hold a middle grade or secondary license.



Yes



each subject they teach.

No

Preparation and licensure requirements for middle school teachers must address more than just content knowledge; the key instructional shifts articulated in college- and career-readiness standards must also be incorporated. Ohio addresses some of the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with the state's college- and career-readiness standards for students through its required assessment for middle school English teachers, the Ohio Assessments for Educators Middle Grades English Language Arts test.

As of July 1, 2017, all middle school candidates will have to pass a science of reading test; however, a framework is not available at this time.

Neither teacher standards nor testing frameworks in other content areas address incorporating literacy skills.

Ohio has no requirements for the preparation of middle school teachers that address struggling readers.

### **Supporting Research**

Ohio Assessment for Educators

www.oh.nesinc.com

Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-05

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

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

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that middle school students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Ohio should also—either through testing frameworks or teacher standards—include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

Ohio should articulate requirements ensuring that middle school teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling. While college- and career-readiness standards will increase the need for all middle school teachers to be able to help struggling readers to comprehend grade-level material, training for English language arts teachers in particular must emphasize identification and remediation of reading deficiencies.

### **OHIO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS**

Ohio asserted that early childhood (PK-3), middle childhood (4-9) and intervention specialist teaching candidates must successfully complete 12 semester-hours of reading that includes support for struggling readers. This requirement includes at least one separate three-semester-hour course in teaching phonics and coursework on knowledge and beliefs about reading; knowledge base; individual differences; reading difficulties; creating a literate environment; word identification, vocabulary and spelling; comprehension; study strategies; writing; assessment; communicating information about reading; curriculum development; professional development; research; supervision of paraprofessionals; and professionalism for the early childhood license, the middle childhood license, the intervention specialist license and the early childhood intervention specialist license. In particular, Standard 8 addresses the "assessment and diagnosis of reading difficulties."

Ohio also noted that new middle school teachers must pass a licensing test in every core academic area they are licensed to teach, and that the Ohio Assessments for Educators are aligned with national and state standards.

The state pointed out that its educator preparation programs are required to align with the current educator licensure standards, Ohio's academic content standards and related assessments. Each December, the state collects and publishes data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs. These data include value-added analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent. Ohio also collects other meaningful data that reflect program performance, including an annual report card produced by the Board or Regents. Finally, the state added that it holds full authority over the program approval process.

#### **Supporting Research**

http://www.uso.edu/ning/twelve\_semester-hour\_reading\_requirement\_ohio\_educator\_licensure\_program\_standards%20.pdf http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3319.24

http://www.oh.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN\_ AlignmentStudies.html

Figure 9  Are states ensuring that new middle school teachers are prepared for the instructional shifts associated with collegend career-readiness standard.  Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California		MCORPORATING LITTE	SUPPORTING STRUE
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prepared for the instructional	Ş	82	
shifts associated with college-	<i>₹</i>	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	\$ 2
and career-readiness standard	25 /	V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
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Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
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Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
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Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland Massachusetts			
Michigan			
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Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana			
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New Hampshire			
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New Mexico			
New York			
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Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina South Dakota			
Tennessee Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

## SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREP FIGURES

### Figure 9

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

### ■ Figure 10

Distinctions in licenses betweeen middle and elementary teachers

### ■ Figure 11

Content test requirements

### ■ Figure 12

*Teacher Prep Review* findings about middle school teacher prep

Figure 10		JFFEREL T	swo
Do states distinguish	0,0		lassic Pered
middle grade preparation from		100	7 / 6
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elementary preparation?	K-8 LICENSE NOT	K-8 license office of for	K-8 license offered
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Alaska			
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Arkansas			
California		2	
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			1
OHIO			
Oklahoma			3
Oregon			4
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			<b>1</b>
Wyoming			
Wyoning			



### **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

**Illinois** ensures that middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. The state's new standards for the middle grades include the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these standards. The standards also address the needs of struggling readers.

Illinois's requirements connecting literacy to all subject areas are particularly noteworthy. All middle school teachers must understand "the role, perspective and purpose of text in specific disciplines" and be able to perform tasks such as scaffolding reading to allow students to understand and learn from challenging text; guiding reading discussions that require students to identify key ideas and details of a text; analyze craft and structure and critically evaluate the text; and model reading strategies to improve comprehension.

In addition, **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.

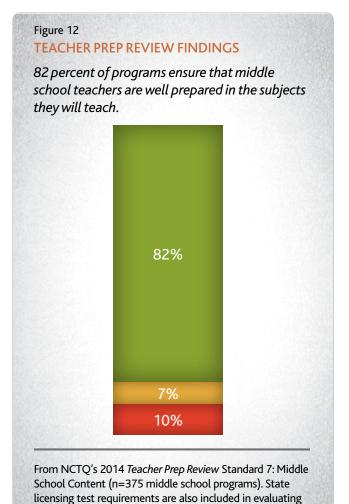
<sup>1.</sup> Offers 1-8 license.

<sup>2.</sup> California offers a K-12 generalist license for all self-contained classrooms.

 $<sup>3.</sup> With \ the \ exception \ of \ mathematics.$ 

<sup>4.</sup> Oregon offers 3-8 license.

No testing of all subjects Figure 11 Do middle school teachers have to pass an appropriate content test in every core subject they are licensed YES to teach? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas П П П П 2 California Colorado Connecticut Delaware П П District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho П П 4 Illinois П Indiana П Iowa Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana П П П Maine 5 Maryland Massachusetts  $\Box$ Michigan П Minnesota П Mississippi Missouri П П П Montana Nebraska П П Nevada 6 New Hampshire П П New Jersey New Mexico New York П П North Carolina North Dakota ОНЮ П П Oklahoma Oregon П Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina П South Dakota Tennessee Texas П Utah Vermont Virginia Washington П П West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 27 2 15 7



1. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.

this standard.

- 2. Candidates teaching multiple subjects only have to pass the elementary test. Single-subject credential does not require content test.
- 3. For K-8 license, Idaho also requires one single-subject test.
- 4. Illinois requires candidates to take a middle level core content test if a test is available. It is not clear that this will result in teachers passing a test in each subject and draft test frameworks are not yet available for review.
- Maryland allows elementary teachers to teach in departmentalized middle schools if not less than 50 percent of the teaching assignment is within the elementary grades.
- 6. New Hampshire requires K-8 candidates to pass a middle school content test in one core area.
- 7. For nondepartmentalized classrooms, generalist in middle childhood education candidates must pass the new assessment with three subtests.
- 8. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.

## **Secondary Teacher Preparation**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should ensure that all secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that collegeand career-readiness English language arts standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should require that all new secondary teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - B. The state should ensure that all new secondary teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new secondary teachers of English language arts are prepared to support struggling readers.
- 2. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a licensing test in every subject they are licensed to teach.
- 3. The state should require secondary general science and general social studies teachers to pass a subject-matter test of each discipline they are licensed to teach.
- 4. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a content test when adding subject-area endorsements to an existing license.



### Secondary Teacher Prep Analysis: Ohio

## PREPARING SECONDARY TEACHERS FOR COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS

To be prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for their students, secondary teachers must be experts in the subject matter they teach. States should ensure that secondary teachers have sufficient content knowledge in all the subjects they are licensed to teach.

Currently, Ohio offers single subject secondary licenses to teach grades 7-12. Key licensing requirements for secondary school teachers in Ohio include:



## OHIO SECONDARY TEACHER PREP SNAPSHOT



State requires a content test to teach any single core subject.



State offers only single-subject science certifications or has appropriate requirements for teachers with general science license.



State offers only single-subject social studies certifications or has appropriate requirements for teachers with general social studies license.



State requires a content test in order to add an endorsement to a license.



Yes



Not only must secondary teachers possess strong backgrounds in content knowledge as required by college- and career-readiness standards, they must also be able to address the key instructional shifts associated with the standards. Ohio requires secondary English teachers to pass the OAE English Language Arts assessment, which includes some of the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with the state's college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Neither teacher standards nor secondary tests in other content areas address incorporating literacy skills.

Ohio also has no requirements for the preparation of secondary teachers that address struggling readers.

### **Supporting Research**

Ohio Assessment for Educators

www.oh.nesinc.com

Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-05(3)

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

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

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that secondary students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Ohio should also—either through testing frameworks or teacher standards—include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

### Support struggling readers.

Ohio should articulate requirements ensuring that secondary teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling. While college- and career-readiness standards will increase the need for all secondary teachers to be able to help struggling readers to comprehend grade-level material, training for English language arts teachers in particular must emphasize identification and remediation of reading deficiencies.

 Require secondary teachers with umbrella certifications to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach

By allowing general social studies and general science certifications—and only requiring general knowledge exams for each—Ohio is not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. The state's required general social studies assessment combines all topical

### **OHIO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS**

Ohio asserted that it requires a minimum of three semester hours on the teaching of reading in the content area that includes instruction in organizing instruction; use of protocols for oral language development; strategies for word skill development; strategies for reading comprehension; and assessment strategies for instructional purposes for the multiage license, the adolescence to young adult license and the career technical license.

Ohio added that all new secondary teachers must pass a licensing test in every subject they are licensed to teach.

### **Supporting Research**

https://www.ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/education-prep/documents/3\_semester\_hour\_requirement.pdf

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

areas (e.g., history, geography, economics), and its required general science assessment combines subject areas that include biology, chemistry and physics. Neither assessment reports separate scores for each area. Therefore, candidates could answer many—perhaps all—chemistry questions, for example, incorrectly, yet still be licensed to teach chemistry to high school students.

Figure 13 Are states ensuring that	J USE OF WORM	14/	SUPPORTING STRICTS READERS
new secondary teachers		Ø / E	
are prepared for the	Ž		52/2
instructional shifts associate	ed §	1 2 5	
with college-and career-	ď	\ \delta \delta \sqrt{\delta \sqrt{\d	\\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\
readiness standards?	35		\$ 50 A
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Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
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Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
OHIO			
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## SUMMARY OF SECONDARY TEACHER PREP FIGURES

■ Figure 13

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

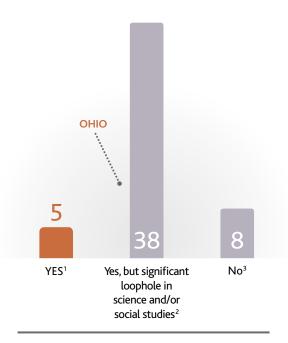
- **Figure 14**Content test requirements
- **Figure 15**Requirements for general science teachers
- Figure 16

  Requirements for general social studies teachers
- Figure 17

  Teacher Prep Review findings about secondary teacher prep

Figure 14

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



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, 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 Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina<sup>4</sup>, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin [For more on loopholes, see Figure 15 (science) and Figure 16 (social studies).}
- 3. Alaska<sup>5</sup>, Arizona<sup>6</sup>, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Montana, Washington, Wyoming
- 4. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 5. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.
- 6. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.



### **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

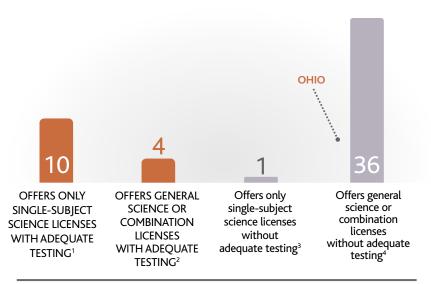
Arkansas has done more than other states to ensure that secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. Not only does the state address the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these new standards in its educator competencies for secondary English language arts teachers, it also requires teachers to incorporate literacy skills into all content areas. For example, the secondary social studies competency to "incorporate disciplinary literacy" states that "reading competencies for literacy in history/social studies for grades 7-12 include the ability to read informational texts in history and social studies closely and critically to analyze the key ideas and details as well as craft and structure with the purpose of integrating knowledge and ideas both within and across texts." A similar competency exists for both the life science and physical science secondary certifications.

Indiana, Minnesota and Tennessee require that all secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core subject—both as a condition of licensure and to add an additional field to a secondary license. Further, neither of these states offers secondary certification in general social studies or science; all teachers must be certified in a specific discipline.

Also worthy of mention is **Missouri**, which requires general social studies teachers to pass a multi-content test with six independently scored subtests. Missouri also offers a general science license that can only be used to teach general science courses. All other science teachers must be certified in a specific discipline.

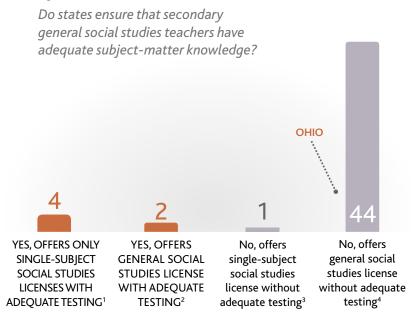
Figure 15

Do states ensure that secondary general science teachers have adequate subject-matter knowledge?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia
- 2. Strong Practice: Missouri, New Jersey, Rhode Island<sup>5</sup>, West Virginia<sup>5</sup>
- 3. California
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona<sup>6</sup>, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia<sup>7</sup>, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 5. Teachers with the general science license may only teach general science courses.
- Arizona limits teachers with the general science license to teaching only general science courses.However, candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.
- 7. Georgia's science test consists of two subtests.

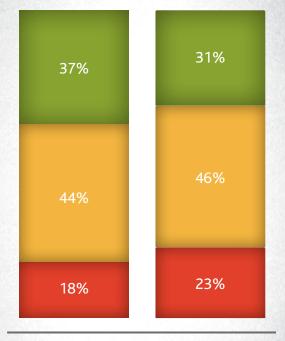
Figure 16



- 1. Strong Practice: Georgia, Indiana, South Dakota, Tennessee
- 2. Strong Practice: Minnesota<sup>5</sup>, Missouri
- 3. Arizona<sup>6</sup>
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, 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, Oklahoma<sup>7</sup>, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 5. Minnesota's test for general social studies is divided into two individually scored subtests.
- 6. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.
- 7. Oklahoma offers combination licenses without adequate testing.



Less than 40 percent of preparation programs ensure that secondary teachers are well prepared in the subjects they will teach.



Undergraduate (n=765)

Graduate (n=345)

From NCTQ's 2014 *Teacher Prep Review* Standard 8: High School Content (n=1,110 high school programs). State licensing test requirements are also considered in evaluating this standard.

## Special Education Teacher Preparation

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should ensure that all special education teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that college- and career-readiness English language arts standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should ensure that all new secondary special education teachers are prepared to support struggling readers.
  - B. The state should require that all new secondary special education teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new secondary special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
- 2. The state should require that new elementary special education teachers pass a rigorous test of reading instruction in order to attain licensure.
- 3. 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.
- 4. All elementary special education candidates should be required to pass a subject-matter test for licensure that is no less rigorous than what is required of general education candidates.
- The state should ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.



### Special Education Teacher Prep Analysis: Ohio

### PREPARING SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS FOR **COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS**

Although most special education students are expected to meet the same high college- and career-readiness standards as typical students, too many states set an even lower bar for the preparation and licensure requirements of special education teachers. States must ensure that special education teachers are well grounded in all of the subject matter they will be licensed to teach.

Currently, Ohio offers a special education license to teach grades K-12. Key licensing requirements for special education teachers in Ohio include:



### OHIO

### SPECIAL ED TEACHER PREP SNAPSHOT



X State only offers discrete elementary and secondary special education licenses.



Elementary subject-matter test required for special education license.



Secondary test in at least one subject area required for secondary special education license.



Yes



Special education teachers must also be prepared for the key instructional shifts that differentiate college- and career-readiness standards from previous student standards.

Ohio's preparation and licensure requirements for special education teachers are not aligned with the state's college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Although Ohio requires special education candidates to take coursework in science of reading instruction, the state does not require a passing score on a rigorous reading test. The state also does not require content testing, and teacher standards do not address informational texts or literacy skills.

Ohio has no requirements for the preparation of elementary or secondary special education teachers that address struggling readers.

### **Supporting Research**

Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-05(A)(5)

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

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

Ohio should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its elementary special education teacher candidates are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom. The state is now requiring teacher candidates applying for its PK-3 and 4-9 general education licenses to pass a science of reading test. Ohio should expand its new policy and mandate a similar requirement for its special education teachers. It is especially critical that these teacher candidates possess the knowledge and skills related to the science of reading and pass a rigorous test that addresses all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Elementary special education teachers who do not possess the minimum knowledge in this area should not be eligible for licensure.

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, Ohio should specifically address the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with the state's college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that special education students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Ohio should also include specific requirements regarding literacy skills and using text as a means to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

### **OHIO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS**

Ohio asserted that early childhood (PK-3), middle childhood (4-9) and intervention specialist teaching candidates must successfully complete 12 semester hours of reading that includes struggling readers. This requirement includes at least one separate three-semester-hour course in teaching phonics, and coursework on knowledge and beliefs about reading; knowledge base; individual differences; reading difficulties; creating a literate environment; word identification, vocabulary and spelling; comprehension; study strategies; writing; assessment; communicating information about reading; curriculum development; professional development; research; supervision of paraprofessionals; and professionalism for the early childhood license, the middle childhood license, the intervention specialist license and the early childhood intervention specialist license. In particular, Standard 8 addresses the "assessment and diagnosis of reading difficulties."

Ohio added that its preparation and licensure requirements for special education teachers are aligned with the following: Ohio Educational Preparation Standards, 2010 NAEYC Standards for Initial and Advanced Early Childhood Professional Preparation Programs, Council for Exceptional Children (CEC): Initial Level Special Educator Preparation Standards (Updated 2012), Ohio Educators Standards, and Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession.

### **Supporting Research**

http://www.uso.edu/ning/twelve\_semester-hour\_reading\_requirement\_ohio\_educator\_licensure\_program\_standards%20.pdf http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3319.24

http://www.oh.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN\_AlignmentStudies.html

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

### Support struggling readers.

Ohio should articulate requirements ensuring that all special education teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling with reading. With reading difficulties generally representing the primary reason for special education placements, it is essential that all special education teachers have the knowledge and skills to diagnose and support students with literacy needs.

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

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

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

### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

 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, Ohio'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, Ohio 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.

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### SUMMARY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION **TEACHER PREP FIGURES**

### Figure 18

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

### Figure 19

Distinctions in licenses between elementary and secondary teachers

### Figure 20

Content test requirements

### Figure 21

Science of reading requirements

### Figure 22

Teacher Prep Review findings about special education teacher prep



### **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

Although all states have weaknesses when it comes to special education teachers' preparedness to meet the instructional requirements of college- and careerreadiness standards for students, both Indiana and New York are notable for addressing the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these standards.

Unfortunately, states are also weak in other areas of special education teacher preparation. However, three states—Missouri, 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. These three states require that elementary special education candidates pass the same elementary content tests, which are comprised of individual subtests, as general education elementary teachers.

Secondary special education teachers in New York must pass a multi-subject content test for special education teachers comprised of three separately scored sections. Rhode Island requires its secondary special education teachers to hold certification in another secondary area. Secondary special education teachers in Missouri can either take a multi-subject test comprised of four separately scored sections or a single-subject secondary assessment.

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and secondary special		1 3 8	105
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Figure 20
Which states require subject-matter testing for special education teachers?

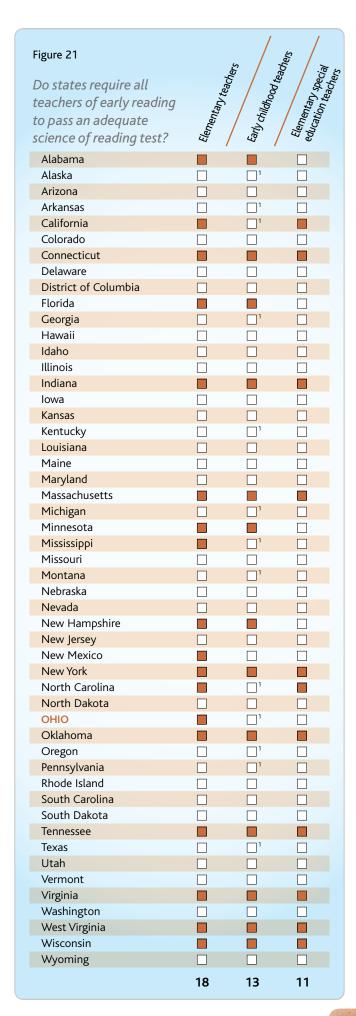
joi special education tea	0.70.75.					
Elementa	ry Subject-Matter Test					
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri <sup>1</sup> , New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania <sup>2</sup> , Rhode Island, West Virginia <sup>3</sup> , Wisconsin					
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	Missouri¹, New York⁴, Wisconsin⁵					
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania², Rhode Island, West Virginia³					
Required for a K-12 special education license	None					
Missouri offers a K-12 certification but candidates must pass either the elementary multi-content assessment or the middle/secondary multi-content assessment.						
	s for dual certification in elementary or secondary ecialist does not have to take a content test.					
3. West Virginia also allows elementary special education candidates to earn dual certification in early childhood, which would not require a content test. Secondary special education candidates earning a dual certification as a reading specialist are similarly exempted.						

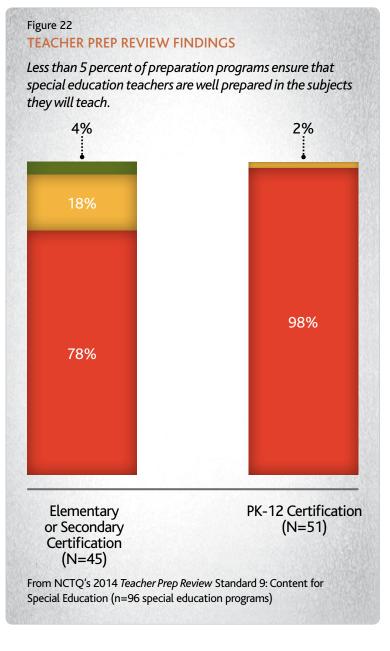
Figure 19

Missouri, New Jersey, Oregon and Vermont issue a K-12 certificate, but candidates must meet discrete elementary and/or secondary requirements.

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

5. Wisconsin requires a middle school level content area test which does not report subscores for each area.





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.

## **Admission into Teacher Preparation**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- 1. The state should limit admission to teacher preparation programs to candidates in the top half of the college-going population.
- 2. 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. Alternatively, academic proficiency could be demonstrated by grade point average.



### Admission into Teacher Prep Analysis: Ohio

### RAISING THE BAR FOR TEACHER PREP THROUGH HIGHER ADMISSION STANDARDS

NCTQ has repeatedly found that too many teacher preparation programs are in need of major improvement, graduating first-year teachers lacking skills and content knowledge adequate to thrive in the classroom. One important way states can raise the bar for teacher preparation programs is to set more ambitious admission requirements for new elementary, secondary and special education teachers. This is even more relevant and important as the increasing expectations of college- and career-readiness standards demand more from teachers academically. A key criterion for admissions is evidence of a strong academic background, and states should require programs to select candidates from the top half of the college-going population. Countries like Singapore and Finland are even more restrictive in admissions; the top half goal is realistic and achievable while representing a significantly higher standard for programs throughout the United States. Until recently, few states had rigorous academic standards for admission, but with states like Rhode Island and Delaware significantly raising the bar by taking the lead in establishing higher standards and new accreditation requirements from CAEP, this is beginning to change.



### OHIO

### **ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP SNAPSHOT**



State requires a minimum GPA of 3.0 for admission into teacher prep.



State requires a test normed to college-bound population prior to admission to prep program.



Yes



No

Ohio does not require prospective teachers to pass a test of academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs or any time thereafter.

### **Supporting Research**

Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-03

### **OHIO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS**

While not asked to respond to the full analysis for this section, Ohio did not indicate any policy updates related to admission to teacher preparation.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

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

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

Ohio should require programs to use an assessment demonstrating 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, Ohio 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.

Figure 23	<u> </u>	# \$ \$ \$ \ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \	her	No test required
Do states measure the	Ő	1 8 8 E	Programmer Services	
academic proficiency o	$f \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Q}}^{\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Q}}}$	2 3 3 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	15 Page 1	1. ed 1. of
teacher candidates?	8 8		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	10 C
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	13	18	13	7

## SUMMARY OF ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP FIGURES

- **Figure 23**Test of academic proficiency requirements
- **Figure 24**GPA requirements
- Figure 25

  Teacher Prep Review findings about admissions



### **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

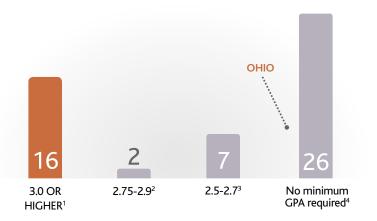
While many states now require CAEP accreditation which includes a standard requiring strong admission practices, **Rhode Island** and **Delaware** have set requirements independent of the accreditation process, ensuring that the states' expectations are clear. Both states require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general college-bound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware 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.

Requirements for admissions test normed to college-bound population is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admission policy.

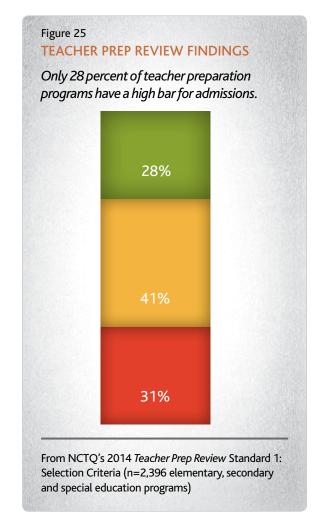
<sup>2.</sup> Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission with a 3.0 GPA.

Figure 24

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



- Strong Practice: Delaware, District of Columbia<sup>5</sup>, Georgia<sup>6</sup>, Hawaii<sup>5</sup>, Louisiana<sup>5</sup>, Michigan<sup>5</sup>, Mississippi<sup>6</sup>, New Jersey<sup>6</sup>, New York<sup>5</sup>, North Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Oklahoma<sup>7</sup>, Pennsylvania<sup>8</sup>, Rhode Island, South Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Utah, Virginia<sup>5</sup>
- 2. Kentucky, Texas
- 3. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut<sup>9</sup>, Florida, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wisconsin<sup>10</sup>
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 5. Required minimum GPA of 3.0 is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admission policy.
- 6. The 3.0 GPA requirement is a cohort average; individual candidates in Mississippi and New Jersey must have a 2.75 GPA. Individual candidates in Georgia must have a 2.5 GPA.
- 7. Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission by passing a basic skills test.
- 8. 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.



## **Teacher Preparation Program Accountability**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should incorporate preparation to teach to college- and career-readiness standards into its accountability requirements for teacher preparation programs.
- 2. 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.
- 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.
- The state should retain full authority over its process for approving teacher preparation programs.



How well are states ensuring that teacher preparation programs are accountable for their performance?

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

### Teacher Prep Program Accountability Analysis: Ohio

## HOLDING PREPARATION PROGRAMS ACCOUNTABLE FOR RESULTS

The ultimate goal of teacher preparation programs should be to produce teachers who are effective in educating their students and ensure that they are ready for college and career. As programs operate by virtue of state approval, it is the state's responsibility to connect approval to accountability measures that ensure high performance. While this goal may have been hard to assess a few years ago, that is no longer the case. Redesigned evaluations of teacher effectiveness in the majority of states offer an opportunity for states to collect meaningful objective data on the performance of program graduates. To date, few states connect their process of approving teacher preparation programs to measurable outcome data about programs' graduates.



### OHIO

### TEACHER PREP ACCOUNTABILITY SNAPSHOT



State collects data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.



State collects other meaningful data that reflect program performance.



State has set minimum standards for program performance.



State publishes an annual report card on its own website.



State retains full authority over its approval process.



Yes



No

Although Ohio is doing more than most states when it comes to holding programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce, the state's approval process for its traditional and alternate route teacher preparation programs leaves room for improvement.

Ohio collects some objective data that reflect program performance, including value-added data on the achievement gains of program graduates' students. The state reports these data for institutions of higher education on the state's website to inform the public with meaningful, readily understandable indicators of how well programs are doing. These data are disaggregated by certification area but not for alternate route programs.

Report cards of teacher preparation programs include the following: licensure test scores, value-added data (EVAAS), candidate academic measures, field/clinical experiences, preservice teacher candidate survey results, national accreditation, resident educa-

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

 Establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.

Ohio should establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data. Programs should then be held accountable for meeting these standards, and there should be consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.

Maintain full authority over teacher preparation program approval.

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

tor persistence data and excellence and innovation initiatives. The state plans to add the following measures to report cards in the future: edTPA scores, preservice principal candidate survey data, teacher alumni survey data, principal internship mentor survey data, teacher/principal survey data and evaluation results. However, Ohio has not established minimum performance standards for any of these indicators.

In Ohio, there is some overlap of accreditation and state approval. Review teams are comprised solely of CAEP members, and the state has delegated its program review process to CAEP.

### **Supporting Research**

Ohio Administrative Code 3301-24-03

**Educator Accountability** 

https://www.ohiohighered.org/educator-accountability/ performance-report

www.ohiohighered.org/education-programs/standards-requirements

Title II State Reports

https://title2.ed.gov

www.ncate.org

#### **OHIO RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS**

While not asked to respond to the full analysis for this section, Ohio did not indicate any policy updates related to teacher prep program accountability. Ohio did reiterate that the state collects and publishes each December data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs. These data include value added analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent. The state identified other data that are collected and noted that it publishes an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs.

Figure 26	Š.	MEGTED R	
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Wyoming			
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### SUMMARY OF TEACHER PREP PROGRAM **ACCOUNTABILITY FIGURES**

Figure 26

Accountability requirements

Figure 27

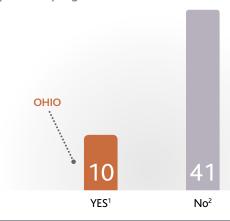
Use of student achievement data



### **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

No state has yet implemented a full accountability system for teacher preparation that features data, including student achievement gains, connected to teacher preparation programs (not just the institution level); has clear minimum standards of performance for those data; and publishes the results for use by prospective teachers, hiring school districts and the general public. Some states are well on their way. Georgia and Louisiana collect student achievement gains and set minimum standards of performance, while Ohio and Tennessee have published report cards that include connections to student achievement gains.

Figure 27 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<sup>3</sup>, Hawaii<sup>3</sup>, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland³, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York<sup>3</sup>, 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.

### Teacher Preparation Policy Priorities for Ohio

## Prepare all teachers to meet the instructional shifts of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

- Strengthen preparation requirements to ensure teacher candidates have the ability to address the use of
  informational texts as well as incorporate complex informational texts into classroom instruction.
   Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.
- Through testing frameworks or teacher standards, include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

  \*Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.\*
- Ensure teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling with reading. Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.

### Additional priorities for elementary teacher preparation:

- Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects, including mathematics, and requires a meaningful passing score for each area.
- Require a content specialization in an academic subject area.

### Additional priorities for secondary teacher preparation:

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

### Additional priorities for special education teacher preparation:

- Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and require licenses that differentiate between preparation of elementary and secondary teacher candidates.
- Require elementary special education candidates to pass a rigorous content test as a condition of initial licensure, as well as a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
- Ensure secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.

### Raise admission requirements:

Limit admission to teacher preparation programs to candidates in the top half of the college-going population, measured by a test normed to the general college-bound population or minimum GPA.

### Hold preparation programs accountable:

 Set minimum standards for program performance with consequences for failure to meet those standards.

