

Acknowledgments

STATES

State education agencies remain our most important partners in this effort, and their gracious cooperation has helped to ensure the factual accuracy of the final product. Every state formally received a draft of the *Yearbook* in June 2015 for comment and correction; states also received a final draft of their reports a month prior to release. All but three states responded to our inquiries. While states do not always agree with our recommendations, their willingness to engage in dialogue and often acknowledge the imperfections of their teacher policies is an important step forward.

FUNDERS

The primary funders for the 2015 Yearbook were:

- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- The Joyce Foundation
- The Walton Family Foundation

The National Council on Teacher Quality does not accept any direct funding from the federal government.

NCTQ PROJECT TEAM

Sandi Jacobs, Project Director; Kathryn M. Doherty; Nithya Joseph; Kelli Lakis; Lisa Staresina; Caryn Wasbotten

Special thanks to Leigh Zimnisky and Lauren DeSha at Ironmark for their design of the 2015 *Yearbook*. Thanks also to Colleen Hale and Jeff Hale at EFA Solutions for the original *Yearbook* design and ongoing technical support.



Executive Summary

The 2015 State Teacher Policy Yearbook includes the National Council on Teacher Quality's (NCTQ) full review of the state laws, rules and regulations that govern the teaching profession. This year's report measures state progress against a set of 32 policy goals focused on helping states put in place a comprehensive framework in support of preparing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers.

Montana at a Glance



Overall 2015 Yearbook Grade

2013

2011

2009





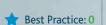


2015 Montana Area Goal Scores

AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers	F
Admission into Teacher Preparation	•
Elementary Teacher Preparation	
Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction	
Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics	
Early Childhood Teacher Preparation	N/A
Middle School Teacher Preparation	
Secondary Teacher Preparation	
Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science and Social Studies	
Special Education Teacher Preparation	
Special Education Preparation in Reading	
Assessing Professional Knowledge	
Student Teaching	
Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	•
AREA 2: Expanding the Teacher Pool	F
Alternate Route Eligibility	0
Alternate Route Preparation	
Alternate Route Usage and Providers	
Part-Time Teaching Licenses	•
Licensure Reciprocity	

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers	F
State Data Systems	0
Evaluation of Effectiveness	
Frequency of Evaluations	
Tenure	
Licensure Advancement	
Equitable Distribution	•
AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers	D-
Induction	
Professional Development	
Professional Development Pay Scales and Performance Pay	•
·	•
Pay Scales and Performance Pay	• •
Pay Scales and Performance Pay Differential Pay	• •
Pay Scales and Performance Pay Differential Pay Compensation for Prior Work Experience	F
Pay Scales and Performance Pay Differential Pay Compensation for Prior Work Experience AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers	F

Goal Summary







Meets Only a Small Part: 7

Does Not Meet: 22

Progress on Goals Since 2013



Progress Increased: 1



Progress Decreased: 0

Teacher Policy Priorities for Montana

AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Elementary Teacher Preparation

- As a condition of initial licensure, require that all elementary candidates pass a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects and require a meaningful passing score for each area.
- Require a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction for all elementary candidates.
- Ensure all new elementary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

Middle School Teacher Preparation

- Require middle school teacher candidates to pass a content test in every core area they are licensed to teach as a condition of initial licensure.
- Eliminate the generalist K-8 license.
- Ensure that all new middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and careerreadiness standards.

Secondary Teacher Preparation

- As a condition of initial licensure, require secondary candidates to pass a content test in each subject they are licensed to teach.
- Require secondary science and social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.
- Ensure that all new secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and careerreadiness standards.

Special Education Teacher Preparation

- Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and require licenses that differentiate between the 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.
- Ensure that all new special education candidates are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

Assessing Professional Knowledge

Require that all new teachers pass a pedagogy test.

Student Teaching

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

Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

■ Hold teacher preparation programs accountable by 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.

AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Alternate Routes to Certification

- Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs, including a high bar for academic proficiency and passage of a subject-matter test.
- Establish guidelines for alternate route programs that require preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. Ensure programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.
- Allow a diversity of providers for alternate route programs.

License Reciprocity

Grant certification to teachers from other states who can demonstrate evidence of effectiveness and/or meet licensure test requirements.

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

State Data Systems

■ Ensure that the state longitudinal data system has the capacity to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness, including an appropriate definition of teacher of record and a strong data link between teachers and students. Publish data on teacher production.

Teacher Evaluation

- Require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.
- Require annual evaluations for all teachers.

Tenure

■ Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the most important factor in tenure decisions.

Licensure Advancement

Base licensure advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license and licensure renewal on evidence of effectiveness.

Equitable Distribution of Teachers

 Publish aggregate school-level teacher evaluation ratings from an evaluation system based on instructional effectiveness.

AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

New Teacher Induction

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

Professional Development

■ Link professional development activities to findings in individual teacher evaluations. Make sure teachers receive actionable feedback about their performance and place teachers with less than effective ratings on structured improvement plans.

Compensation

■ While leaving districts flexibility to determine their own pay scales, support pay systems that recognize teachers for their effectiveness and for teaching in both subject-shortage areas and high-need schools and discourage systems tied to advanced degrees and/or experience.

AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Extending Emergency Licenses

Award standard licenses to teachers only after they have passed all required subject-matter licensing tests.

Dismissal for Poor Performance

■ Make classroom ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal, and ensure that teachers terminated for ineffectiveness have the opportunity to appeal within a reasonable time frame.

Reductions in Force

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

How to Read the Yearbook

GOAL SCORE

The extent to which each goal has been met:



Best Practice



Fully Meets



Nearly Meets



Partially Meets



Meets Only a Small Part



Does Not Meet

PROGRESS INDICATOR

Whether the state has advanced on the goal or the state has lost ground on that topic:



Goal progress has increased since 2013



Goal progress has decreased since 2013

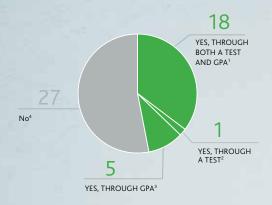
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



Indicates the criteria to meet the goal have been raised since the 2013 Yearbook.

READING CHARTS AND TABLES:

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



This year's edition of the *State Teacher Policy* Yearbook features a new format for presenting state and national data.

Each state's volume is now summarized to present the most important information about key teacher quality policies in an infographic format. Full narrative versions -- including detailed analyses and recommendations as well as the state response for each policy topic -- can now be found online, using NCTO's State Policy Dashboard



(http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard).

The National Summary maintains the traditional Yearbook format and presentation. Topics are organized as policy goals, including the specific components that form the basis of each analysis. National findings are included for each goal, as well



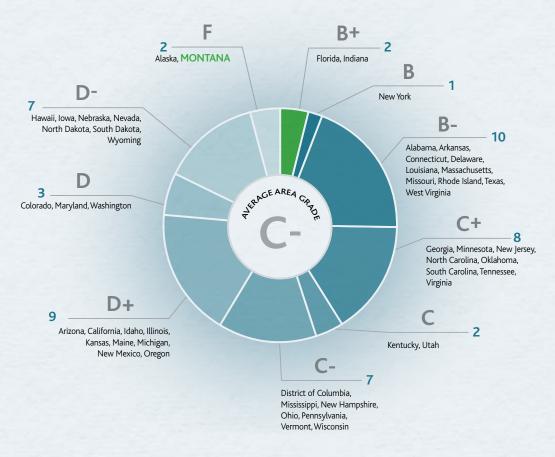
as a comprehensive set of tables and graphs that provide a national overview of the teacher policy landscape.

Area 1 Summary



How States are Faring on Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- Admission into Teacher Preparation
- Elementary Teacher Preparation
- Middle School Teacher Preparation
- Secondary Teacher Preparation

- Special Education Teacher Preparation
- · Assessing Professional Knowledge
- Student Teaching
- Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

Admission into Teacher Prep

For more information about
MONTANA and other states'
admission into teacher prep
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

MONTANA Ratings Admission into Teacher Prep Preparation programs only admit candidates with strong academic records. Prully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013

	MONTA Admissi	ANA Snapshot ion into Teacher Prep
*	Yes	A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for admission to a teacher preparation program.
₹	No	A test of academic proficiency normed to the college-bound population is required prior to admission to a teacher preparation program.

MONTANA Admi	ssion into Teacher Prep Characteristics
Test Requirement	Not required
GPA Requirement	3.0

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP POLICIES IN MONTANA

 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, Montana might also want to consider requiring content testing prior to program admission as opposed to at the point of program completion.

Examples of Best Practice

While many states now require CAEP accreditation, which includes a standard requiring strong admission practices, Delaware, Rhode Island and West Virginia have set a high bar independent of the accreditation process, ensuring that the state's expectations are clear. These states require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general college-bound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware, Rhode Island and West Virginia require teacher candidates to have a 3.0 GPA or to be in the top 50th percentile for general education coursework completed. Rhode Island and West Virginia also require an average cohort GPA of 3.0, and, beginning in 2016, the cohort mean score on nationally normed tests such as the ACT, SAT or GRE must be in the top 50th percentile. In 2020, the requirement for the mean test score will increase from the top half to the top third.

SUMMARY OF ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP FIGURES

Figure 1 Academic proficiency requirements

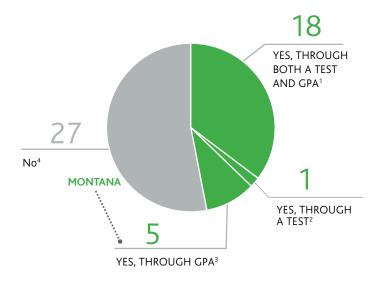
Other admission figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Admission tests (p. 4)
- Minimum GPA for admission (p. 5)

For more information about MONTANA's admission into teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 1

Do states set a high academic bar for admission to teacher preparation programs?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama⁵, Arkansas⁵, Delaware⁶, District of Columbia⁵, Indiana⁵, Louisiana⁵, Michigan⁵, New Jersey⁷, New York³, North Carolina⁵, Oklahoma⁵, Oregon⁵, Rhode Island, South Carolina⁵, Tennessee⁵, Utah⁶, Virginia⁵, West Virginia
- 2. Strong Practice: Texas
- 3. Strong Practice: Georgia, Hawaii⁸, Mississippi, Montana, Pennsylvania⁹
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Requirement for admissions test normed to college-bound population and cohort minimum GPA of 3.0 are based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admissions policies.
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{6}}.$ Candidates can qualify for admission through the GPA or test requirement.
- 7. New Jersey requires a cohort minimum GPA of 3.0. The requirement for admissions test normed to college-bound population is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admissions policies.
- Requirement for cohort minimum GPA of 3.0 is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not Hawaii's own admission standards. Hawaii exempts candidates with a bachelor's degree from admission testing requirements.
- Candidates can also be admitted with a combination of a 2.8 GPA and qualifying scores on the basic skills test or SAT/ACT.

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

Elementary Teacher Preparation

MONTANA Ratings	
Content Knowledge New elementary teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	•
Reading Instruction New elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction and understand the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.	
Mathematics New elementary teachers have deep knowledge of the math content taught in elementary grades.	•
Early Childhood Teachers who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license are appropriately prepared for the elementary classroom.	N/A
Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets • Meets only a small part • Does not meet • N/A Not Appli	cable
↑ Progress increased since 2013 ↓ Lost ground since 2013 ♠ Bar raised for this goal	

	MONTA Elemen	ANA Snapshot tary Teacher Preparation
*	No	Content test required for elementary teachers in each of the four core subjects.
*	No	An adequate science of reading test is required.
*	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for elementary teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.
*	No	Elementary teachers must have an academic content specialization.
	N/A	Teachers who teach elementary grades on an early childhood license are held to appropriate content and early reading requirements.

MONTANA Elem	entary Teacher Preparation Characteristics
Elementary Licenses	K-8
Content Tests	Content tests are not required for initial licensure.
Science of Reading Requirements	Not required
Academic Specialization	Not required
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Not addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN MONTANA

Require elementary teacher candidates to pass a subject-matter test, as a condition of initial licensure, designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all core subjects including reading/ language arts, math, science and social studies.

Montana should require a rigorous content test with separate, meaningful passing scores for each core academic area to assure elementary teachers have adequate knowledge in each subject area they are licensed to teach.

Require teacher candidates to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

Montana should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared in all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

SUMMARY OF ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

- **Figure 2** Content test requirements
- **Figure 3** Science of reading tests
- **Figure 4** Instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards
- Figure 5 Math requirements
- **Figure 6** Requirements for early childhood teachers

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

- Academic concentrations (p. 8)
- Science of reading preparation and testing requirements (p. 11)
- Early childhood content tests (p. 18)
- Early childhood science of reading tests (p. 19)
- Early childhood math tests (p. 19)
- Early childhood instructional shifts associated with college- and careerreadiness standards (p. 20)

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 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.

Montana is encouraged to strengthen its teacher preparation requirements and ensure that all teachers licensed to teach at the elementary level have the ability to adequately incorporate complex informational text into classroom instruction—as a condition of initial licensure.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that elementary school students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Montana should include specific teacher preparation requirements for all teachers licensed to teach at the elementary level regarding literacy skills and using text as a means to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

Montana should articulate requirements ensuring that all teachers licensed to teach at the elementary level are prepared to identify and support students who are struggling.

 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 Montana take higher-level academic coursework.

Examples of Best Practice

Unfortunately, NCTQ cannot award "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of elementary teacher preparation. However, three states—Florida, Indiana and Virginia—are worthy of mention for holding early childhood candidates who are licensed to teach elementary grades to the same standards as all other elementary teachers. Each state requires its early childhood candidates to pass a content test with separately scored subtests, as well as a test of scientifically based reading instruction. Florida also ensures that both early childhood and elementary education teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

California stands out for its focus on elementary teachers' readiness to teach reading and literacy skills. All elementary education candidates must pass a comprehensive assessment that specifically tests the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. California's test frameworks go further than most states in ensuring that elementary teacher candidates have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts, but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates must also show they know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

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

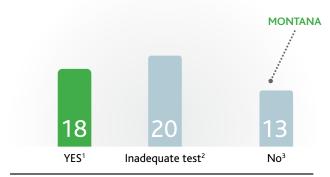
EEMENTARY CONTENT PASSING SCORE FOR EACH Elementary content test for some subjects Elementary content test Figure 2 Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content? Alabama Alaska 1 Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia П П П Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho П П Illinois Indiana Iowa П Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine П Maryland П П ____Z Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota П Mississippi Missouri **MONTANA** Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire П New Jersey П П New Mexico New York П П North Carolina North Dakota П Ohio 3 Oklahoma Oregon П П Pennsylvania Rhode Island П П South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas П П Utah П Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 5 22 9 15

Figure 2

- 1. Alaska does not require testing for initial licensure.
- Massachusetts and North Carolina require a general curriculum test that does not report scores for each elementary subject. A separate score is reported for math.
- 3. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass a content test in Ohio.
- 4. New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.

Figure 3

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

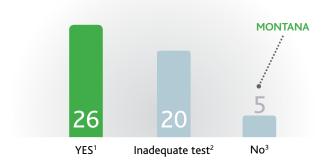


- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee⁶, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky,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

Figure 4	pared 70 /	(TEXT	SUPORTING STRUGGIN.	S
Are states ensuring that new	/	X /	LITE, BEC CC,	
elementary teachers are pre	nared .	$\frac{1}{2}$	38 / 38	
	pared		412 VGS	
for the instructional shifts	, 8	\ \disp\{		
associated with college- and	1 0	/ 85	ER O	
career-readiness standards?	35/	2K 17	REAL	
Alabama				
Alaska				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida				
Georgia				
Hawaii				
Idaho				
Illinois				
Indiana				
lowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
MONTANA				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin Wisconsin				

Figure 5

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



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

Figure 6

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

Figure 6		/
	エエ	
What do states require	Z Z	/ & '
of early childhood	£ &	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
teachers who teach	PRES.	NG A
elementary grades?	CONTENT TEST WITH SUBJECT FOR EACH	40¢QUATE SORWE
Alabama		
Alaska ¹		
Arizona		
Arkansas ¹		
California ¹		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida	2	
Georgia ¹		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky ¹		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan ¹		
Minnesota		
Mississippi ¹		
Missouri		
MONTANA ¹		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina ¹		
North Dakota		
Ohio ¹		
Oklahoma		
Oregon ¹		
Pennsylvania ¹		
Rhode Island	3	
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		4
Texas ¹		
Utah	3	
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wisconsin Wyoming		

For more information about MONTANA and other states' middle school teacher prep policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Middle School **Teacher Preparation**

MONTANA Ratings

Middle School Teacher Preparation



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



Fully meets • Nearly meets









♠ Progress increased since 2013



Lost ground since 2013



Bar raised for this goal



MONTANA Snapshot Middle School Teacher Preparation

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

MONTANA Middle School Teacher Preparation Characteristics			
Middle School Licenses	K-8		
Content Tests	Not required		
Academic Requirements	No requirements for major or minors		
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career-Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Not addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed		

Struggling readers: Not addressed

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN MONTANA

Require content testing in all core areas.

Montana 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.

- Eliminate the K-8 generalist license.
 - Montana 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.
- 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.

Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, Montana 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 middle school students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Montana 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.

Support struggling readers.

Montana should articulate requirements ensuring that middle school teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

Examples of Best Practice

Arkansas ensures that all middle school teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach middle school-level content. The state does not offer a K-8 generalist license, requires passing scores on subject-specific content tests and explicitly requires at least two content-area minors. Arkansas also ensures that middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. The state's competencies for the middle grades specify that middle school candidates must have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates must also know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

- **Figure 7** Distinctions in licenses between middle and elementary teachers
- Figure 8 Content test requirements
- Figure 9 Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college-and career-readiness standards

For more information about MONTANA's middle school teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 7	. K-8 LICENSE N	K-8 license of free for	suo _o
Do states distinguish	S	to /	K-8 license of
middle grade preparation from	n s	, 60f) / e
elementary preparation?	Ę.	, cens	/ ,&
31 1	K-81	K-811 Self-C	/ ₋₈ /
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			<u> </u>
Arkansas			
California		2	
Colorado Connecticut	_		
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana	ī		
Maine	$\overline{}$		
Maryland		$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{}$
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			
Pennsylvania Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Carolina South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			1
Wyoming			
	32	6	13
	32	U	13

^{1.} Offers 1-8 license.

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

Figure 8			ort Rubje	ľes
Do middle school teachers		No test does not ro.	No. K-8 license r.	No, tec:
have to pass an appropriate		8,00)]e / []	[Fair
content test in every core		7 9 3		£ /;
subject they are licensed		\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	1,40
to teach?	ZES /	2 3 3 V	/ <i>3 \(\infty</i>	/ ≥,
Alabama				
Alaska				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia Florida				
Georgia Hawaii				
Idaho			3	
Illinois				
Indiana				
lowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland	5			
Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
MONTANA				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire			6	
New Jersey				
New Mexico	7			
New York North Carolina	8			
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon	П			
Pennsylvania			$\overline{}$	
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee	9			
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	26	2	14	9

- ${\it 1. Alaska does \ not \ require \ content \ tests \ for \ initial \ licensure.}$
- 2. Candidates teaching multiple subjects only have to pass the elementary test. Single-subject credential does not require content test.
- 3. For K-8 license, Idaho also requires one single-subject test.
- 4. Illinois requires candidates to take a middle level core content test if a test is available. It is not clear that this will result in teachers passing a test in each subject.
- 5. Maryland allows elementary teachers to teach in departmentalized middle schools if not less than 50 percent of the teaching assignment is within the elementary grades.
- 6. New Hampshire requires K-8 candidates to have a core concentration and to pass a middle school content test in a core area. Teachers with a 5-8 license must pass a Praxis II assessment.
- 7. For nondepartmentalized classrooms, generalist in middle childhood education candidates must pass the new assessment with three subtests.
- 8. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.

Are states ensuring that new	al e- oy rds?	MCORPORATIVE IT	SUPPLY
middle school teachers are	W.		44.S
prepared for the instructional	al 🔊	1 2 5	? / ;
shifts associated with college	e- (4)	/ 85	/ d
and career-readiness standa	rds? Š /	\$ \$	/ જ
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii Idaho			L
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts		Ē	
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
MONTANA			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			L
North Dakota			L
Ohio			
Oklahoma Oregon			L
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

Secondary Teacher Preparation

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

MONTANA Ratings	
Content Knowledge New secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content and for the ways that college-and career-readiness standards affect instruction.	
General Science and Social Studies Secondary science and social studies teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	•
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet	
↑ Progress increased since 2013 ↓ Lost ground since 2013 ♠ Bar raised for this goal	

		MONTA Second	ANA Snapshot ary Teacher Preparation
	P	No	Secondary teachers must pass a content test to teach any single core subject.
•	₩	No	Only single-subject science certifications are offered or general science license has appropriate requirements to ensure teachers know each included subject.
•	₩	No	Only single-subject social studies certifications are offered or general social studies license has appropriate requirements to ensure teachers know each included subject.
•	X	No	A content test is required to add an endorsement to a license.
•	X	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for secondary school teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

MONTANA Secondary Teacher Preparation Characteristics				
Secondary Licenses	5-12			
Content Tests	Not required for initial licensure			
General Science License and Testing Requirements	Broad field science license offered; content tests are not required for initial licensure			
General Social Studies License and Testing Requirements	Broad field social studies license offered; content tests are not required for initial licensure			
Endorsement Requirements	Content test not required			
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Not addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN MONTANA

 Require subject-matter testing for secondary teacher candidates.

As a condition of licensure, Montana should require its secondary teacher candidates to pass a content test in each subject area they plan to teach to ensure that they possess adequate subject-matter knowledge and are prepared to teach grade-level content.

 Require subject-matter testing when adding subject-area endorsements.

Montana should require passing scores on subject-specific content tests, regardless of other coursework or degree requirements, for teachers who are licensed in core secondary subjects and wish to add another subject area, or endorsement, to their licenses.

SUMMARY OF SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

Montana should require content assessments, as a condition of initial licensure, for that is the only way to ensure that teachers possess adequate knowledge of the subject area.

 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.

Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, Montana 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 secondary students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Montana 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.

Support struggling readers.

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

Examples of Best Practice

Missouri requires that secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subjects. Of particular note, Missouri ensures that its secondary science teachers know the content they teach by taking a dual approach to general secondary science certification. The state offers general science certification but only allows these candidates to teach general science courses. Missouri also offers an umbrella certification—called unified science—that requires candidates to pass individual subtests in biology, chemistry, earth science and physics. These certifications are offered in addition to single-subject licenses. In addition, Missouri requires general social studies teachers to pass a multi-content test with six independently scored subtests.

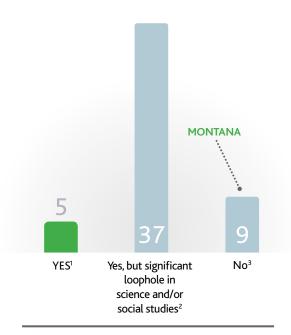
Arkansas also ensures that secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. The state's competencies specify that secondary teacher candidates must have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates must also know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

For more information about MONTANA's secondary teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 10

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



- $1. \ Strong \ Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, South \ Dakota, Tennessee ^4$
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska⁶, Arizona⁷, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Iowa, Montana, Washington, Wyoming
- New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.
- 5. Teachers may also have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 6. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.
- 7. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.

Are states ensuring that new secondary teachers are prepared for the instructional shifts associated with college-and career- readiness standards? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California	□ USE OF WEGS.	MCORPORATING!	SUPPORTING STRUE
are prepared for the instructional shifts associated with college-and career- readiness standards? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California		MCORPORATIVE	SUPPORTING STR
instructional shifts associated with college-and career- readiness standards? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California		MCORPORATI	SUPPORTING READERS
with college-and career- readiness standards? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California		INCORPO	SUPPORTI READERS
readiness standards? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California		NCO)	SUPP READE!
Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California		/ & % /	S S
Alaska Arizona Arkansas California			
Arizona Arkansas California			
Arkansas California			
California			
6.11			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware		П	
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
MONTANA			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

Special Education Teacher Preparation

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

MONTANA Ratings	
Content Knowledge New special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	•
Reading Instruction New elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction and understand the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards	
 Fully meets → Nearly meets → Partially meets → Meets only a small part → Does not meet ↑ Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013 	

	MONTA Special	ANA Snapshot Education Teacher Preparation
*	No	Only discrete elementary and secondary special education licenses are offered.
X	No	Elementary subject-matter test is required for elementary special education license.
*	No	Secondary-level test in at least one subject area is required for secondary special education license.
	No	An adequate test on the science of reading is required for elementary special education teachers.
₹	No	Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for special education teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

MONTANA Speci	al Education Teacher Preparation Characteristics
Special Education License(s)	PreK-12
Content Tests	Not required
Science of Reading Test	Not required
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Not addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN MONTANA

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 Montana to ensure that a K-12 special education teacher knows all the subject matter he or she is expected to be able to teach. 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.

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

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

Science of reading tests (p. 39)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 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 multi-subject secondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements as single-subject teachers, Montana's current policy of requiring no subject-matter testing is problematic and will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards.

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

Montana should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that special education teacher candidates are adequately prepared in all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

■ Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, Montana 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.

Examples of Best Practice

Unfortunately, NCTQ cannot award "best practice" honors to any state's policy in the area of special education. However, **New York** and **Rhode Island** are worthy of mention for taking steps in the right direction in ensuring that all special education teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach. These states require that elementary special education candidates pass the same elementary content tests, which are comprised of individual subtests, as general education elementary teachers.

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

In addition, California ensures that all special education teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and careerreadiness standards for students. All special education candidates must pass a comprehensive assessment that specifically tests the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. California's test frameworks go further than most states and ensure that special education teacher candidates have the ability to not only build content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts but also to challenge students with texts of increasing complexity. Candidates also must know how to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

For more information about MONTANA's special education teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

Montana 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.

■ Prepare special education teachers to support struggling readers.

Montana 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.

Figure 12

- Missouri offers a K-12 certification but candidates must pass either the Elementary Multi-Content Assessment or the new Middle/Secondary Content Assessment (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) or choose one of the specific content assessment for a specific area of certification.
- Although New Jersey does issue a K-12 certificate, candidates must meet discrete elementary and/or secondary requirements.
- 3. Candidates must meet requirements for both the K-8 and 7-12 special education licenses.

Figure 12	DOESNOTOFFER	Offes K. 12 and	ation(s)
Do states distinguish	E E		Certification a K-72
Do states distinguish	0,0	Z / L	0 / 2 c
between elementary	0 k	2 K / 3	on (
and secondary special education teachers?	0FS] Je.3 Je.3	Triffer
education teachers?	0 7	/ O & /	/ O &
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho	-		
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri	1		
MONTANA			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	2		
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Carolina South Dakota			
Tennessee Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			3
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	14	16	21

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

Elementary Subject-Matter Test						
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri¹, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania², Rhode Island, West Virginia³, Wisconsin					
Required for a K-12 special education license	Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, North Carolina ⁴					
Secondary Subject-Matter Test(s)						
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	Missouri ¹ , New York ⁵ , Wisconsin ⁶					
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania², Rhode Island, West Virginia³					
Required for a K-12 special education license	None					

- 1. Missouri offers a K-12 certification but candidates must pass either the Elementary Multi-Content Assessment or the new Middle/Secondary Content Assessment (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) or choose one of the specific content assessment for a specific area of certification.
- In Pennsylvania, a candidate who opts for dual certification in elementary or secondary special education as a reading specialist does not have to take a content test.
- 3. West Virginia also allows elementary special education candidates to earn dual certification in early childhood, which would not require a content test. Secondary special education candidates earning a dual certification as a reading specialist are similarly exempted.
- North Carolina gives teachers until their second year to earn a passing score, provided they attempt to pass during their first year.
- 5. New York requires a multi-subject content test specifically geared to secondary special education candidates. It is divided into three subtests.
- Wisconsin requires a middle school level content area test which does not report subscores for each area.

gure 14	the ollege-	MCORPORATING!	SUPPORTING STRICTS READERS
re states ensuring that new special	Š	14 / III	257
ducation teachers are prepared for	the ූරි		
structional shifts associated with co	ollege- 🕺	185	180
nd career-readiness standards?	o Jass	/ Z Z ,	PEACE AND
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi Missouri			
MONTANA			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island South Carolina			
South Carolina South Dakota			
South Dakota Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

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

Assessing Professional Knowledge

MONTANA Ratin	gs
Pedagogy Test Teachers are required to d	demonstrate professional knowledge of teaching and learning.
Fully meets	neets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet
↑ Progress increased since 2013	3 Lost ground since 2013
MONTANA Pedagogy	Snapshot
No All ne	w teachers must pass a pedagogy test.
MONTANA Pedaş	gogy Characteristics
Pedagogy Test	No test
Type of Test	None
Teachers Included	None

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE POLICIES IN MONTANA

 Require that all new teachers pass a pedagogy test.

Montana should verify that all new teachers meet professional standards through a test of professional knowledge.

Examples of Best Practice

Although no state stands out for its pedagogy test policy, eight states are worthy of mention for the licensing test they require to verify that all new teachers meet state standards. Arizona, Florida, Indiana, Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma and Texas ensure that all new teachers take a pedagogy test that specifically is aligned with each state's own professional standards.

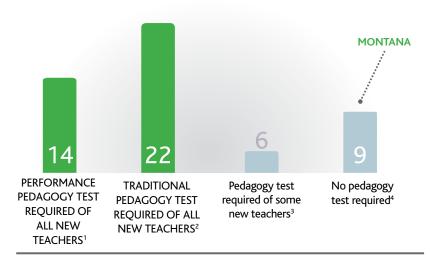
SUMMARY OF ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE FIGURES

Figure 15 Pedagogy tests

assessing professional knowledge policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 15

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

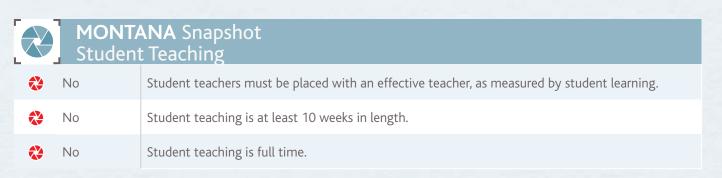


- Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois⁵, Iowa⁶, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Tennessee⁶, Washington, Wisconsin
- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina⁷, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia
- 3. Connecticut, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Utah⁸
- 4. Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming
- 5. All new teachers must also pass a traditional pedagogy test.
- 6. Teachers have the option of the edTPA or a traditional Praxis pedagogy test.
- 7. North Carolina teachers have until their second year to pass if they attempt to pass during their first year.
- 8. Not required in Utah until a teacher advances from a Level One to a Level Two license.

Student Teaching

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





MONTANA Stude	ent Teaching Characteristics
Duration of Student Teaching	No specific requirements
Selection of Cooperating Teachers Connected to Effectiveness	No specific requirements
Other Criteria for Selection of Cooperating Teachers	No specific requirements

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES IN MONTANA

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 Montana should also be carefully screened for their

capacity to further student achievement.

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

 Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting

candidates from completing this requirement abroad.

Outsourcing arrangements for student teaching makes it impossible to ensure the selection of the best cooperating teacher and adequate supervision of the student teacher and may prevent training of the teacher on relevant state instruc-

tional frameworks

Examples of Best Practice

Rhode Island and Tennessee not only require teacher candidates to complete at least 10 weeks of full-time student teaching, but they also require that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning. Further, both of these states ensure that student teaching is completed locally, which better ensures teacher training on relevant state instructional frameworks and allows a higher degree of program oversight and feedback to the teacher candidate.

SUMMARY OF STUDENT TEACHING FIGURES

Figure 16 Student teaching requirements

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

- Effectiveness as a factor in selection of cooperating teachers (p. 44)
- Student teaching duration (p. 45)

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

Figure 16	TEACHER	STUDENT TEACHING
Do states ensure a	ASE, TWC	
high-quality student	\$ 5 G	
teaching experience?		1925
Alabama		■ 2
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
Iowa		
Kansas	Ä	
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
MONTANA		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wyoming		
Wyoming		
	13	34

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

Teacher Prep Program Accountability

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

	MONTA Teacher	ANA Snapshot Prep Program Accountability
*	No	Data are collected that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.
	Yes	Other objective data related to the performance of teacher preparation programs are collected.
	No	Minimum standards for program performance have been established.
	No	Report cards showing program performance are available to the public.
	No	The state maintains full authority over program approval.

MONTANA Teacher Prep Program Accountability Characteristics				
Use of Student Achievement Data	None			
Other Data Collected	Satisfaction of completers with the relevance and effectiveness of their preparation; employer surveys			
Performance Standards for Data Collected	None			
Program Report Cards	None			
Role of National Accreditation	National accreditation may be substituted for state approval			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY POLICIES IN MONTANA

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

Montana should consider the academic achievement gains of students taught by programs' graduates, averaged over the first three years of teaching and disaggregated by specific preparation programs. Montana should report all collected data at the program level for accountability purposes.

■ Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

While Montana does collect employer survey data, the state's accountability system should include other objective measures in addition to student growth that show how well programs are preparing teachers for the classroom including, but not limited to, candidate's evaluation results from the first and/or second year of teaching and average raw scores on licensing tests including academic proficiency, subject matter and professional knowledge tests.

SUMMARY OF TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY FIGURES

- Figure 17 Use of student achievement data
- Figure 18 Accountability requirements

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

National accreditation (p. 49)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

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

card on individual teacher preparation programs, which should be published on the state's website at the program level and presented in a manner that clearly conveys whether programs have met performance standards.

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

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

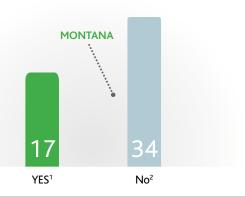
Examples of Best Practice

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

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

Figure 17

Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



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

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

Figure 18	OBJECTIVE PROCERM.	MINIMUM STANDARDS	DATA PUBLICY AVAILABLE ON WE
Do states hold teacher	\$ \frac{\alpha}{2} \frac{\alpha}{2} \frac{\alpha}{2}	NAY NAM	
preparation programs	7 7	1 3 6	PUB,
accountable?	SEC		Z Z Z
accountable:	0 g /	z 5 /	Q, 4,
Alabama		■ ¹	
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			2
Hawaii Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			3
Kansas			
Kentucky			4
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland	5		
Massachusetts			
Michigan		1	1
Minnesota			
Mississippi	1		
Missouri			
MONTANA			
Nebraska			
Nevada	■ 1	■ 1	
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	1 1		1
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina	6		6
North Dakota			
Ohio	1		1
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania Rhode Island	1		
South Carolina			3
South Carolina South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia	1		
Washington			
West Virginia	1		
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	27	10	25
	37	10	25

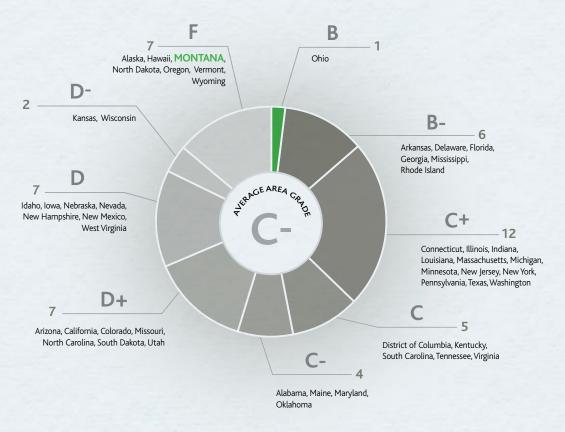
- $1. \ For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$
- 2. Report cards only include limited data.
- 3. Report cards are at the institution rather than the program level.
- ${\it 4. Non-university based alternate route programs are not included.}$
- $5. \ For \ alternate \ route \ programs \ only.$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

Area 2 Summary



How States are Faring in Expanding the Pool of Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- Alternate Routes to Certification
- Part-Time Teaching Licenses

Licensure Reciprocity

Alternate Routes to Certification

For more information about MONTANA and other states' alternate routes to certification policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

MONTANA Ratings	
Eligibility Alternate route programs only admit candidates with strong academic records while also providing flexibility for nontraditional candidates.	
Preparation Alternate route programs provide efficient preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers, as well as adequate mentoring and support.	
Usage and Providers Alternate routes are free from limitations on usage, and a diversity of providers is allowed.	•
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013	

	MONTA Alterna	ANA Snapshot te Routes to Certification
*	No	A rigorous academic standard is required for program entry.
*	No	A subject-matter test is required for admission.
*	No	Subject-matter test can be used in lieu of a major to demonstrate content knowledge.
	No	A practice teaching opportunity is required prior to becoming teacher of record.
	No	Intensive mentoring is required to support new teachers.
*	No	Coursework requirements are streamlined.
*	No	Coursework requirements are limited to relevant topics.
*	Yes	Alternate routes are offered without limitation by grades, subjects or geographic areas.
*	No	Providers other than institutions of higher education are permitted.

MONTANA Alternate Routes to Certification Characteristics					
Name of Route(s)	Class 5 Alternative License				
Academic Requirements for Entry	None				
Subject-Matter Requirements for Entry	None				
Coursework Requirements	None				
Practice Teaching/Mentoring Requirements	None				
Usage	No limit with regard to subject, grade or geographic area				
Eligible Providers	Requirements are articulated in terms of credit hours, effectively precluding nonhigher education providers				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION POLICIES IN MONTANA

- Screen candidates for academic ability. Montana should require that candidates to its alternate routes provide some evidence of good academic performance, such as the GRE or a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Require applicants to pass a subjectmatter 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.

SUMMARY OF ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION FIGURES

- **Figure 19** Quality of alternate routes
- Figure 20 Alternate route requirements

Other alternate routes to certification figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

- Admission requirements (p. 54)
- Minimum GPA for admission (p. 55)
- Flexibility in demonstrating content knowledge (p. 56)
- Preparation requirements (p. 59)
- Diversity of usage and providers (p. 62)
- Providers of alternate route programs (p. 62)

For more information about MONTANA's alternate routes to certification policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 Consider flexibility in fulfilling teaching experience requirement.

Montana should allow candidates to test out of coursework requirements. While the state should consider whether it is also appropriate to allow candidates who already have the requisite knowledge and skills to demonstrate such by passing a rigorous test.

 Establish coursework guidelines for alternate route preparation programs.

Montana should ensure that coursework requirements are manageable and contribute to the immediate needs of new teachers, through exposure to topics like methodology in the content area, classroom management, assessment and scientifically based early reading instruction.

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

Montana should provide detailed mentoring and field-experience guidelines to ensure that new teachers will receive the support they need to facilitate their success in the classroom. The state should consider strategies like practice teaching prior to teaching in the classroom or intensive mentoring with full classroom support in the first few weeks or months of school.

Ensure program completion in less than two years.

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

■ Encourage diversity of alternate route providers.

Montana should specifically authorize alternate route programs run by local school districts and nonprofits, as well as institutions of higher education.

Examples of Best Practice

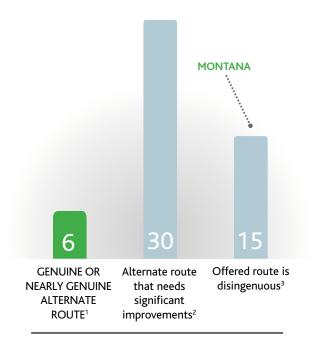
No state can be singled out for its overall alternate route policies. There are, however, states that offer best practices in individual alternate route policy areas.

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

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

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

Figure 19
Do states provide real alternative pathways to certification?



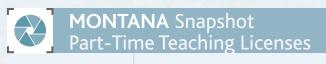
- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, New Jersey, Rhode Island
- Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New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

gure 20	ц.					FWO.	<u>ي</u>	NWC /	
	PREREQUISITE OF PROMINE OF COMMAN AGENCE					8 / 2		0 / 4	, / Odd
/hat are the	7 C/S				ž / 2		/ W	540	/ $^{\prime}$
haracteristics of states'	N. K. C.		7/ 3/6		₹ / ₹	/ 5	1/5/	100	/ 1/5
lternate routes?	PREREQUISITE OF PERFONN A 4 DE A	VERIFICATION OF KNOWED	AVAILABILITY OF TE	STREAMLINED	RELEVANT COLIT	PRACTICE TEACL.	INTENSIVE MEA.	BROAD USAGE	DIVERSITY OF PROVINCE
Alabama			*						
Alaska									
Arizona			*			*		<u>*</u>	*
Arkansas		*	*	*	*		*		*
California							*	*	*
Colorado			*	*				*	*
Connecticut	<u>*</u>			*	*	*		*	*
Delaware				*	*	*	*		*
District of Columbia	<u>*</u>	*	*			*	*	*	*
Florida		*	*					*	*
Georgia			*	*	*		*	*	*
Hawaii									
Idaho									
Illinois	*	*						*	*
Indiana				*				*	*
lowa				*					
Kansas		*							
Kentucky							*	*	*
Louisiana		*	*					*	*
Maine		*	*						
Maryland					*	*	*	*	*
Massachusetts		*	*		*	*		*	*
Michigan	*	*	*						*
Minnesota	*	*	*				*	*	
Mississippi		*	*	*	*				
Missouri							*	⊿	
MONTANA									
Nebraska			★	*		*		★	★
Nevada								A	
New Hampshire	_	*		★	★		<u> </u>	*	★
New Jersey New Mexico		*				□ ★		*	
New York	*	*						*	*
North Carolina			*					*	*
North Dakota Ohio		*	<u></u>	<u></u> ★		*		<u></u> ★	*
Oklahoma		*	*	*					*
Oregon									
Pennsylvania		*						*	*
Rhode Island	*		*	*		*		*	*
South Carolina		*		*	*		*		*
South Dakota		*							
Tennessee			*					*	*
Texas	*		*					*	*
Utah								*	
Vermont						*		*	
Virginia		*		*				*	*
Washington		*	*				*	*	*
West Virginia		*			*				*
Wisconsin									*
Wyoming									
11,51111116									

MONTANA and other states' parttime teaching licenses policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Part-Time Teaching Licenses

MONTANA Ratings Part-Time Teaching Licenses A license with minimal requirements is offered that allows content experts to teach part time. Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013



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

MONTANA Part-Time Teaching Licenses Characteristics						
Name of License	Class 8 Dual Credit-only Postsecondary Faculty license, restricted to current faculty members at an approved college/university to teach dual enrollment courses					
Subject-Matter Requirements	Recommendation from an accredited professional educator preparation program stating the applicant's degree/major and verifying competency as it relates to instruction					
Other Requirements	None					

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES POLICIES IN MONTANA

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

The state should expand on the Montana's Class 8 license and offer a license that permits all individuals with deep subject-area knowledge to teach a limited number of courses without fulfilling a complete set of certification requirements. The state should verify content knowledge through a rigorous test and conduct background checks as appropriate, while waiving all other licensure requirements.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES FIGURES

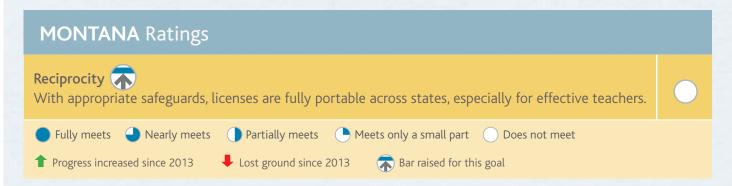
■ Figure 21 Part-time licenses

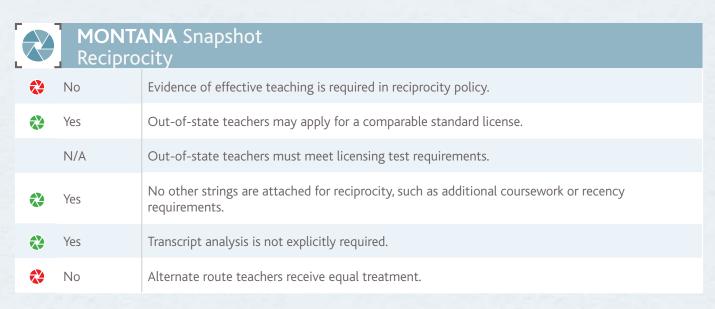
For more information about MONTANA's part-time teaching licenses policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Do states offered!		Restricted or yan	ono /
Do states offer a license with minimal requirements		\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	Pa,
that allows content experts		, fed	* /
to teach part time?	(0	stri nse	
to teach part time:	YES	/ &	/ &
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia Florida	-		
Georgia Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
MONTANA			L
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			_
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wyoming			
Wyoming			
	10	16	2.

Licensure Reciprocity

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





MONTANA Recip	MONTANA Reciprocity Characteristics						
License Available to Fully Certified Out-of-State Teachers	A comparable license						
Effectiveness Requirements None							
Testing Requirements	No mandatory testing required for any Montana license						
Coursework and/or Recency Requirements	None						
Additional Alternate Route Requirements	Must verify completion of a supervised teaching experience as part of an accredited professional educator preparation program.						

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RECIPROCITY POLICIES IN MONTANA

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

To facilitate the movement of effective teachers between states, Montana should require that evidence of teacher effectiveness, as determined by an evaluation that includes objective measures of student growth, be considered for all out-of-state candidates.

- Adopt testing requirements and then require that teachers coming from other states meet those requirements. Montana should adopt testing requirements that require all teachers, without exception, to pass licensing tests within one year of hire.
- 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.

SUMMARY OF RECIPROCITY FIGURES

Figure 22 Requirements for licensing teachers from other states

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

- Licensure tests (p. 70)
- Evidence of effectiveness (p. 71)
- Traditional versus alternate route requirements (p. 72)

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

Examples of Best Practice

Although no state stands out for its overall reciprocity policies, two states are worthy of mention for their connection of reciprocal licensure to evidence of teacher effectiveness. When determining eligibility for full certification, both **Delaware** and **Idaho** consider teacher evaluations from previous employment that include objective measures of student growth. NCTQ also commends **Indiana**, **Massachusetts**, **Mississippi**, **North Carolina**, **Ohio**, **Pennsylvania**, **Rhode Island** and **Texas** for appropriately supporting licensure reciprocity by requiring that certified teachers from other states meet their own testing requirements, and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate route teachers.

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

Figure 22		PASSAGE OF LICE.	SURE CLES
	Č	IESS FLICE	NO OTHER OBSTACLES
What do states require of	<i>y</i>	£/ £	THE L
teachers transferring from	IDE FCT	3/3	200, REC,
other states?	EF EF	\ \ <u>\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \</u>	≥ 0
Alabama			
Alaska		2	
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
MONTANA			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey New Mexico			
New York			
New York North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee		3	
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	2	20	21

Obstacles include transcript analysis, recency and/or coursework requirements, and additional requirements for teachers certified through alternate routes.

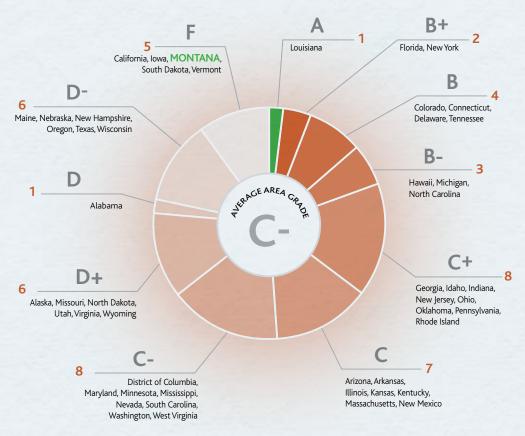
^{2.} Alaska allows up to three years to meet testing requirements.

Area 3 Summary



How States are Faring in Identifying Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

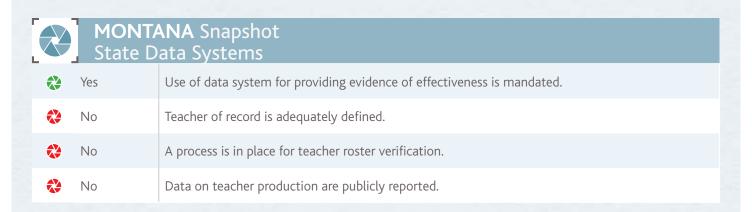
- State Data Systems
- Teacher Evaluation
- Tenure

- · Licensure Advancement
- · Equitable Distribution of Teachers

State Data Systems

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

MONTANA Ratings State Data Systems The state's data system contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness. Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013 Bar raised for this goal



MONTANA State Data System Characteristics					
Teacher Student Data Link	Lacks capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time				
Teacher of Record Definition	None				
Other Characteristics	No roster verification or ability to connect multiple teachers to a single student				
Teacher Production Data/ Hiring Statistics	Not reported				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STATE DATA SYSTEM POLICIES IN MONTANA

- Develop capacity of state data system. Montana should develop a strong teacher-student data link that matches teachers to students by course.
- Develop a definition of "teacher of record" that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.
 Montana should articulate a definition of teacher of record that reflects instruction.
- Strengthen data link between teachers and students.

Montana should put in place a process for teacher roster verification, which is of particular importance for using the data system to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness, and ensure that its teacher-student data link is able to connect more than one educator to a particular student in a given course.

■ Publish data on teacher production.

Montana should look to Maryland's

"Teacher Staffing Report" as a model
whose primary purpose is to determine
teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus.

Examples of Best Practice

Hawaii and West Virginia are leaders in using their state data systems to support the identification and supply of effective teachers. Both states have all three elements needed to assess teacher effectiveness, and both states have also developed definitions of teacher of record that reflect instruction. Their data links can connect multiple teachers to a particular student, and there is a process for teacher roster verification. In addition, Hawaii and West Virginia publish teacher production data. Maryland remains worthy of mention for its "Teacher Staffing Report," which serves as a model for other states. The report's primary purpose is to determine teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus.

SUMMARY OF STATE DATA SYSTEMS FIGURES

Figure 23 Using data system elements to assess teacher effectiveness

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

Teacher production data (p. 77)

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

Figure 23		6 /	7 × 7
Do states' data systems		Z / Z	8/
include elements needed	7		η _α / ^Ψ ες
to assess teacher	74		
effectiveness?	250 080	CAN CONNECT MO.	TEACHER ROSTER
	A A	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	/ 25
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana Maine ¹			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota	Ī		
Mississippi			
Missouri			
MONTANA ¹			
Nebraska			
Nevada ¹			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota ¹			
Tennessee			
Texas Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

^{1.} Lacks capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time.

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

Teacher Evaluation

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

	MONTA Teacher	ANA Snapshot Evaluation
	No	Objective student data is the preponderant or a significant criterion of teacher evaluations.
	No	All teachers are evaluated annually.
	No	Multiple observations are required for all teachers.
₹¥	No	More than two rating categories are used.
₹ <mark>Y</mark>	No	New teachers receive feedback early in the school year.
	No	Surveys (student, parent, peer) are explicitly required or allowed.

MONTANA Teach	ner Evaluation Characteristics
Use of Student Achievement Data in Evaluation	Not required
Types of Required Student Data	Not required
Other Required Measures	None
Number of Rating Categories	2
Frequency of Evaluations	Tenured teachers must be evaluated "according to a regular schedule adopted by the district." Nontenured teachers must be evaluated at least annually.
Number of Observations	Not required
System Structure	State provides some criteria for district-designed evaluation systems
Surveys (Parent, Student, Peer)	No mention
Evaluator Requirements	None

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER EVALUATION POLICIES IN MONTANA

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

Montana should require that student learning be the most significant criterion by not enabling a teacher to receive a satisfactory rating if found ineffective in the classroom.

 Require annual formal evaluations for all teachers.

All teachers in Montana should be evaluated annually, as a means to reward good teachers, help average teachers improve and hold weak teachers accountable for poor performance.

Examples of Best Practice

Tennessee requires that objective measures of student growth be the preponderant criterion of all evaluations. All teachers in the state must be evaluated annually, and multiple observations are required, with a postobservation conference scheduled after each to discuss performance. The state's observation schedule ensures that new teachers receive feedback early in the year. Tennessee also requires the use of five performance rating categories.

Idaho, New Jersey and Washington also require annual evaluations and multiple observations for all teachers, and they ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback during the first half of the school year.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 Utilize rating categories that meaningfully differentiate among various levels of teacher performance.

Montana should require districts to utilize multiple rating categories, such as highly effective, effective, needs improvement and ineffective.

Base evaluations on multiple observations.

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

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

Montana should not only require that its evaluations include classroom observations, but also the state should ensure that the primary component of a classroom observation be quality of instruction, as measured by student time on task, student grasp or mastery of the lesson objective and efficient use of class time.

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

Montana 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.

SUMMARY OF TEACHER EVALUATION FIGURES

- Figure 24 Use of student learning data
- Figure 25 Frequency of evaluations

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

- Use of surveys (p. 81)
- Rating categories (p. 81)
- State role in evaluations (p. 82)
- Evaluator requirements (p. 83)
- Annual evaluations (p. 85)
- Classroom observation requirements (p. 87)
- Observation frequency (p. 87)
- Timing of observations for new teachers (p. 88)

Figure 24	DE.	$\frac{1}{2}$	Policit	is _a	ire Taing
Do states	7.57	Requires that student Senties that student Senties and Security Senties that student	Requires that student significances that students significances that s	Acquires some of contents	Sudent achievement
Do states consider	\$ <u>\$</u>	至差数			
classroom effectiveness	F. E. S.		rest		
as part of teacher	2 \(\frac{1}{2} \)				ing ferit
evaluations?	7 7 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	7 & 'E		Red Land	Stuc
Alabama			, П		, ·
Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas		П			
California		\Box	\Box		
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida					
Georgia					
Hawaii					
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine		П			
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
MONTANA					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					1
New Jersey		2			
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					■ 1
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia		3			
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					

EQ ANCTO STATE TEACHED DOLLEY VEADDOOK 2015 TEACHED EVALUATION I MON

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

In 2014-15, student achievement was 10% of the total evaluation rating; for 2015-16, it is 20%. This appears connected to test transition rather than permanent lowering of student growth percentage.

3. Explicitly defined for 2014-15 school year.

Figure 25	,	CHERS
Do states require districts	14 J	ZE / ZE
to evaluate all teachers	7 8	\ \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
each year?	1, E.	482
euch yeur.	OF ALL VETER LATIO.	ANN EACHER
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 Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington West Virginia	-	
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	27	45

Tenure

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





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

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TENURE POLICIES IN MONTANA

- End the automatic awarding of tenure. Montana should base tenure decisions on consideration of a teacher's commitment and actual evidence of classroom effectiveness.
- Ensure that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.

Montana 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.

Montana 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.

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF TENURE FIGURES

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

For more information about MONTANA's tenure policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 26	£X2	ER/ON	cher red	/ ح
How are tenure	25		nside	Ture
decisions made?	27.5	<i>\</i> ફ્રે / છું		
decisions made.	EVDENCE OF STUDENCE OF STUDENC	Some evidence of 4	Virtually autom	No polisy/No tenure
Alabama				
Alaska				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware District of Columbia				
Florida	<u> </u>			
Georgia				
Hawaii				
Idaho				
Illinois				
Indiana	П			
lowa				
Kansas				2
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi Missouri				
MONTANA				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey			- Ē	
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina		3		
North Dakota				4
Ohio				
Oklahoma	5			
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
, 0				

- Florida only awards annual contracts; decisions are connected to effectiveness.
- 2. Kansas only awards annual contracts; decisions are not connected to effectiveness.
- 3. North Carolina generally awards only one-year contracts, except that teachers can be awarded a two- or four-year contract if they have "shown effectiveness as demonstrated by proficiency on the evaluation instrument."
- 4. No state-level policy.
- Oklahoma has created a loophole by essentially waiving student learning requirements and allowing the principal of a school to petition for career-teacher status.

How long before a teacher							
earns tenure?							/_
	,j _j	/ ,	/ 6	/ 6	/ S	\ S	Jn _E
	No policy	7 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 YEARS	SYEARS	No tenure
Alabama							
Alaska							
Arizona							
Arkansas							
California Colorado							
Connecticut							
Delaware							
District of Columbia						П	
Florida							1
Georgia							
Hawaii							
Idaho				2			
Illinois							
Indiana							
lowa							
Kansas Kentucky							3
Louisiana							
Maine							
Maryland						П	
Massachusetts							
Michigan							
Minnesota							
Mississippi							
Missouri							
MONTANA							
Nebraska Nevada							
New Hampshire							
New Jersey							П
New Mexico							
New York	П					П	
North Carolina							4
North Dakota							
Ohio						5	
Oklahoma				6			
Oregon							
Pennsylvania Rhode Island							
South Carolina							
South Dakota							
Tennessee					Ä		
Texas							
Utah							
Vermont							
Virginia				7			
Washington				8			
West Virginia							
Wisconsin							
Wyoming							

- 1. Florida only awards annual contracts.
- 2. Idaho limits teacher contract terms to one year.
- 3. Kansas has eliminated due process rights associated with tenure.
- 4. North Carolina teachers can be awarded a two- or four-year contract if they have "shown effectiveness as demonstrated by proficiency on the evaluation instrument." However, no student growth measures required.
- 5. In Ohio, teachers must hold an educator license for at least 7 years, and have taught in the district at least 3 of the last 5 years.
- Oklahoma teachers may also earn career status with an average rating of at least effective for a four-year period and a rating of at least "effective" for the last two years.
- 7. In Virginia, local school boards may extend up to five years.
- 8. In Washington, at a district's discretion, a teacher may be granted tenure after the second year if he/she receives one of the top two evaluation ratings.

Licensure Advancement

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

MONTANA Ratings Licensure Advancement Licensure advancement is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness. Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013

	MONTANA Snapshot Licensure Advancement						
♦	No	Advancement from a probationary to a professional license is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.					
*	No	Renewal of a professional license is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.					
(2)	No	Other advancement/renewal requirements have a direct connection to classroom effectiveness.					
	Somewhat	An advanced degree is not a requirement for license advancement.					

MONTANA Licensure Advancement Characteristics				
Performance Requirements to Advance from a Probationary to Professional License	None			
Other Requirements for Advancement	Class 1 (optional): master's degree and 3 years' teaching experience			
Initial Certification Period	5 years			
Performance Requirements to Renew a Professional License	None			
Other Requirements for Renewal	Various combinations of semester credits and renewal units.			
Renewal Period	5 years			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT POLICIES IN MONTANA

- Require evidence of effectiveness as a part of teacher licensing policy.
 - Montana should require evidence of teacher effectiveness to be a factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license.
- Discontinue license requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.
 - While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Montana's general, nonspecific coursework requirements for license advancement and renewal do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.
- End requirement tying teacher advancement to master's degrees.
 - Montana should remove its mandate that teachers obtain a master's degree for optional license advancement, as research is conclusive that master's degrees do not have any significant correlation to performance.

Examples of Best Practice

Both **Rhode Island** and **Louisiana** are integrating certification, certification renewal and educator evaluations. In Rhode Island, teachers who receive poor evaluations for five consecutive years are not eligible to renew their licenses. In addition, teachers who consistently receive highly effective ratings are eligible for a special license designation. Louisiana requires its teachers to meet the standard for effectiveness for three years during their initial certification or renewal period to be issued a certificate or have their certificate renewed.

SUMMARY OF LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT FIGURES

- Figure 28 Evidence of effectiveness for license advancement
- Figure 29 Advanced degree requirements

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

- Coursework requirements (p. 96)
- Lifetime licenses (p. 96)

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

Figure 28	GBIECTIVE EVIDENCE	Some objective evid.	ر بع	classion mance in a classion of classic of cl
Do states require teachers	ځ			re b tied less
to show evidence of	Q. Q.	,		# \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\
effectiveness before	F E			
conferring professional	<u> </u>			ranc ranc
licensure?	JEC FCT	me,	\ \bar{\partial}	
incensure?	97	Some objective	be, te	Class Per
Alabama				
Alaska				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				$\overline{\Box}$
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida				
Georgia	1			
Hawaii				
Idaho				
Illinois		2		
Indiana				
lowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland		3		
Massachusetts				
Michigan				4
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
MONTANA				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma			Ш	
Oregon				4
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				5
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
Wy Orlining	_	4	12	20
	6	4	12	29

Georgia does not require evidence of effectiveness for each year of renewal period.

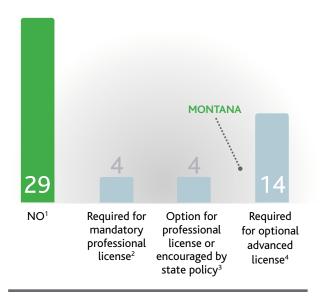
^{2.} Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.

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

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

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

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



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

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

Equitable Distribution of Teachers

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

MONTANA Ratings

Equitable Distribution

Districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools is publicly reported to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged students.





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



♠ Progress increased since 2013





MONTANA Snapshot Equitable Distribution of Teachers

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

MONTANA Equitable Distribution of Teachers Characteristics

Public Reporting of Teacher Effectiveness Data	Not reported
Other Public Reporting Related to Teacher Distribution	Reports teachers on emergency credentials and the percentage of highly qualified teachers for each school. Compares percentage of highly qualified teachers at high-, midrange- and low-poverty schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS POLICIES IN MONTANA

 Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

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

Publish other data that facilitate comparisons across schools.

Montana 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 Montana does with highly qualified teachers, providing comparative data for schools with similar poverty and minority populations would yield an even more comprehensive picture of gaps in the equitable distribution of teachers.

Examples of Best Practice

Although not awarding "best practice" honors for this topic, NCTQ commends the 13 states that give the public access to teacher performance data aggregated to the school level. This transparency can help shine a light on how equitably teachers are distributed across and within school districts and help to ensure that all students have access to effective teachers.

SUMMARY OF EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS FIGURES

Figure 30 Reporting of teacher effectiveness data

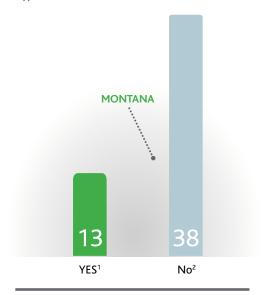
Other equitable distribution of teachers figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Data reporting requirements (p. 99)

equitable distribution of teachers policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 30

Do states require public reporting of school-level data about teacher effectiveness?



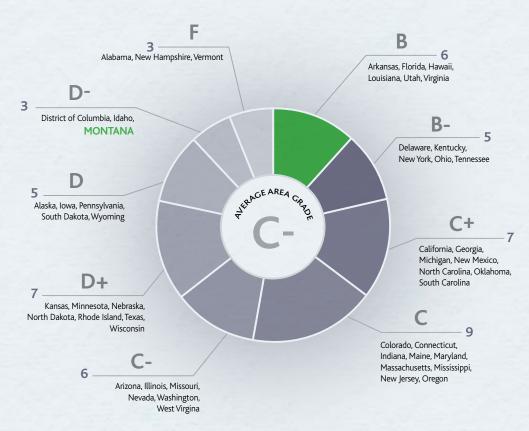
- Strong Practice: Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine,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

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

New Teacher Induction

Compensation

· Professional Development

New Teacher Induction

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

MONTANA Ratings

Induction

Effective induction is available for all new teachers, with special emphasis on teachers in high-need schools.









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



↑ Progress increased since 2013





MONTANA Snapshot New Teacher Induction

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

MONTANA New Teacher Induction Characteristics

Induction Program	Each school must have a mentoring and induction program; no requirement that all new teachers must participate
Requirements for Mentor/ New Teacher Contact	Not specified
Selection Criteria for Mentors	Suggested but not required by state induction standards: Pairing mentors and protegees so that they work in the same school and teach the same subject
Other Mentor Requirements	Suggested but not required by state induction standards: Ongoing professional development for the mentor
Required Induction Strategies Other than Mentoring	Suggested but not required by state induction standards: Release time for weekly meetings between mentor and new teacher

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE NEW TEACHER INDUCTION POLICIES IN MONTANA

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

While Montana encourages districts to provide mentoring to new teachers, the state should ensure that all new teachers—especially any teacher in a low-performing school—receive mentoring support, especially in the first critical weeks of school.

■ Set more specific parameters.

To ensure that all teachers receive high-quality mentoring, Montana should specify how long the program lasts for a new teacher, who selects the mentors and a method of performance evaluation. Of particular importance is that mentors themselves are effective teachers. Teachers without evidence of effectiveness should not be able to serve as mentors.

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

Montana should make certain that induction includes strategies such as intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area and a reduced teaching load and/or frequent release time to observe other teachers.

Examples of Best Practice

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

Arkansas, Illinois, Maryland and New Jersey are also worthy of mention for their requirements related to mentor selection. Arkansas, Illinois and New Jersey require that all mentors must be rated in one of the top two rating categories on their most recent evaluation. Maryland also requires mentors, who are either current or retired teachers, to have obtained effective evaluation ratings.

SUMMARY OF NEW TEACHER INDUCTION FIGURES

Figure 31 Quality of induction policies

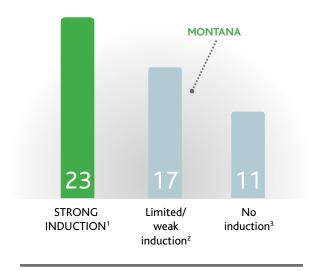
Other new teacher induction figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Elements of induction (p. 104)

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

Figure 31

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



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

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

Professional Development

MONTANA Ratings

Professional Development

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



Fully meets • Nearly meets • Partially meets

Meets only a small part Does not meet

♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



MONTANA Snapshot Professional Development

	No	Teachers must receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations.
*	No	Professional development must be aligned with evaluation results.

Teachers with unsatisfactory/ineffective ratings are placed on improvement plans.

MONTANA Professional Development Characteristics

Connection Between Evaluation and Professional Development	No connection
Evaluation Feedback	Not requried
Improvement Plan	Not requried

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN MONTANA

- Require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their performance.
 - Montana should require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their classroom performance.
- Ensure that professional development is aligned with findings from teachers' evaluations.
 - Montana should ensure that districts utilize teacher evaluation results in determining professional development needs and activities.
- Ensure that teachers receiving less than effective ratings are placed on a professional improvement plan.
 - Montana should adopt a policy requiring that teachers who receive even one unsatisfactory evaluation be placed on structured improvement plans that focus on performance areas directly connected to student learning.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FIGURES

Figure 32 Connecting teacher evaluation to continuous improvement

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

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

For more information about MONTANA's

professional development policies, including
detailed recommendations, full narrative
analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

. http://netq.org/staterolicyDashboa

Figure 32		FVALUATION INFORMS TEACL. COPINE OF THE COPI	MPROVENTINAS WITH POOR RATEGURA MITH POOR RATEGURA MATHER POOR
Do states ensure that	ي	<u>کے</u> \ کے جا	
evaluations are used to	ERS		
help teachers improve?	A P. P. F.	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	\$ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
The second secon	AU TEACHERS RECEIVE FEDRAS	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	MPR REQUI
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			1
Arkansas			1
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			1
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			1
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			1
Louisiana			
Maine			<u></u> 1
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan Minnesota			
Mississippi			1
Missouri			
MONTANA			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			1
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			2
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			

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

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

Compensation

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

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

	MONTA Compe	ANA Snapshot nsation
*	Yes	Districts have flexibility to determine pay structure and scales.
*	No	Effective teachers can receive performance pay.
*	No	Districts are discouraged from tying compensation to advanced degrees.
	No	Teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching shortage subjects.
*	No	Teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching in high-need schools.
**	No	Districts are encouraged to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience.

MONTANA Compensation Characteristics						
Authority for Salary Schedule	Controlled by local districts					
Performance Pay Initiatives	None					
Role of Experience and Advanced Degrees in Salary Schedule	Not explicitly discouraged					
Differential Pay for Shortage Subjects	None; loan forgiveness offered, for up to a maximum of four years and not to exceed \$3,000					
Differential Pay for High-Need Schools	None; loan forgiveness offered, for up to a maximum of four years and not to exceed \$3,000					
Pay for Prior Work Experience	None					

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION POLICIES IN MONTANA

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

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

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

Montana should ensure that performance pay structures thoughtfully measure class-room performance and connect student achievement to teacher effectiveness.

 Expand differential pay initiatives for teachers in both shortage subject-areas and high-need schools.

SUMMARY OF COMPENSATION FIGURES

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

 Consider tying National Board supplements to teaching in high-need schools.

Teachers who are National Board Certified are eligible to receive a one-time \$3,000 salary stipend. This differential pay could be an incentive to attract some of Montana's most effective teachers to low-performing schools.

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

Montana should encourage districts to incorporate mechanisms such as starting these teachers at a higher salary than other new teachers. Such policies would be attractive to career changers with related work experience, such as in the STEM subjects.

Examples of Best Practice

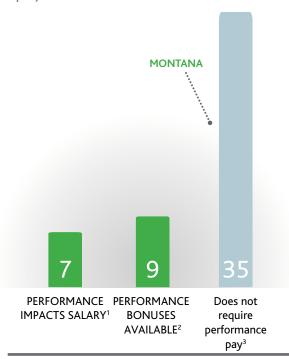
Florida allows local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from prioritizing elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. Local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest salary adjustment available. Florida also supports differential pay by providing salary supplements for teachers in both high-need schools and shortage subject areas.

In addition, **Indiana** and **Utah** both articulate compensation policies that reward effective teachers by requiring performance to be the most important factor in deciding a teacher's salary. **Louisiana** supports differential pay by offering up to \$3,000 per year, for four years, to teach math, biology, chemistry, physics and special education, and up to an additional \$6,000 per year, up to four years, to teach in low-performing schools. **North Carolina** compensates new teachers with relevant prior-work experience by awarding them one year of experience credit for every year of full-time work after earning a bachelor's degree that is related to their area of licensure and work assignment.

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

Figure 33

Do states ensure pay is structured to account for performance?



- Strong Practice: Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Nevada, Utah
- 2. Strong Practice: Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee⁴
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona⁵, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho⁶, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky⁷, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri⁶, Montana, Nebraska⁷, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon⁷, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia⁷, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. A performance component is not required. Districts must differentiate teacher compensation based on at least one of the following criteria: additional roles or responsibilities, hard-to-staff schools or subject areas, and performance based on teacher evaluations.
- Arizona allocates funds for teacher compensation increases based on performance and employment related expenses; there is no clear requirement for compensation connected to evidence of effectiveness.
- Idaho does offer a master teacher premium, but it is dependent on years of experience.
- 7. Performance bonuses are available, but not specifically tied to teacher offsetiveness
- 8. Performance bonuses are available for teachers in schools deemed "academically deficient."

Figure 34

- Louisiana allows districts to set salary schedules based on three criteria: effectiveness, experience and demand. Advanced degrees may be included only as part of demand.
- 2. Only discouraged for those districts implementing $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Q}}$ Comp.
- 3. For advanced degrees earned after April 2014.
- 4. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training"
- Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.

Figure 34		PROHIBITADIO	¥ /	Requires compensation for	5
Do states prevent districts	á				
from basing teacher pay on	P. P.		¹⁵ i6 / ¹⁵ i6	, / Sense	?
	SP	2 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	2	97. Om	
advanced degrees?	\$ 5	CE CE	, / g.s	\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \	
	\$0.5	\$ \Q\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\		Pauji Pa	
	15 A	ANCED DEGRETAM PROHIBITS ADDITION	Leaves pay to district	d A	
Alabama					
Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida					
Georgia					
Hawaii					
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana		1			
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan					
Minnesota			2		
Mississippi Missouri					
MONTANA					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey	$\ddot{\Box}$				
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina	П	3	ī		
North Dakota	$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$			
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island			4		
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas			5		
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	3	2	31	15	

Figure 35		HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	_
Do states provide			DIFFERFACE	\ ADEAC	
incentives to teach in		1 PX		KPX /	
high-need schools		Z / Z	/ 4		/ ½
or shortage subject	F	10 P	FRE		/ oddi
areas?	DIFF	Loan forgiveness	OIFF	AREAS SEA POLICE (PA)	No support
Alabama	Ц				
Alaska					
Arizona Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida					
Georgia					
Hawaii					
Idaho	H				
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa					1
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland	2				
Massachusetts					
Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
MONTANA					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico New York					
North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania	П				
Rhode Island					
South Carolina					
South Dakota					3
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
\\\/a=+\\/!u=!u=!a					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
_					

^{1.} Iowa provides state assistance to supplement salaries of teachers in high-need schools.

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

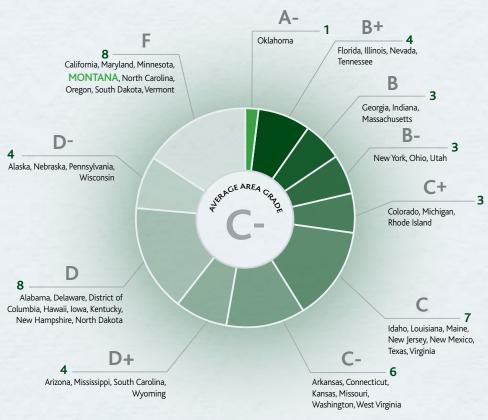
^{3.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in highneed schools.

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

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

Extended Emergency Licenses

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





MONTANA Exter	MONTANA Extended Emergency License Characteristics					
Emergency License Montana does not require subject-matter testing for initial certification.						
Minimum Requirements	Montana does not require subject-matter testing for initial certification.					
Duration	Not applicable					
Renewal Requirements	Not applicable					

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSE POLICIES IN MONTANA

 Award standard licenses to teachers only after they have passed a subjectmatter test.

Permitting individuals who have not yet passed state licensing tests to teach neglects the needs of students, instead extending personal consideration to adults who may not be able to meet minimal state standards.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSES FIGURES

Figure 36 Time to pass licensure tests

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

Emergency licenses (p. 127)

For more information about MONTANA's extended emergency licenses policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

igure 36		/	/	/
How long can new teachers				
practice without passing		/	/	/ હૃ
icensing tests?	\$	/ *	/ \$	170, 170,
recrising tests:	FER	/ 🕺	/ 🕺	12 Or 08 O;
	30°C	Up to Tyear	Up to 2 years	, yea, [was
	NO DEFERRAL	5		3 years or more for unspecified)
Alabama Alaska				
Alaska Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida		1		
Georgia				
Hawaii				
Idaho	2			
Illinois				
Indiana				
lowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland				
Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi				
Missouri				
MONTANA				
Nebraska				
Nevada				
New Hampshire				
New Jersey New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				3
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia	2			
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	9	18	6	18
	_		•	.0

^{1.} Teachers can have up to two additional years to pass licensing tests in the event of "extraordinary extenuating circumstances."

^{2.} Out-of-state teachers can teach on a non-renewable license until all requirements are met.

^{3.} Tennessee does not offer emergency licenses but candidates for initial practitioner license have three years to pass licensure tests.

^{4.} Permits can be extended without passing licensing tests if districts receive hardship approval.

MONTANA and other states'
dismissal policies, including full
harrative analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Dismissal for Poor Performance

MONTANA Ratings Dismissal Ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.

Fully meets → Nearly meets → Partially meets → Meets only a small part → Does not meet
 Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013

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

MONTANA Dismissal Characteristics		
Dismissal for Ineffectiveness	Ineffectiveness not grounds for dismissal	
Due Process Rights of Teachers	No distinction between the due process rights of teachers dismissed for ineffective performance from those facing other charges commonly associated with license revocation, such as a felony and/or morality violations. In fact, no specific grounds at all for termination of teachers' contracts.	
Length of Appeals Process	Multiple opportunities to appeal: After written notice, the teacher is entitled to a hearing within 20 days unless he or she waives the right to a hearing in writing. No time frame specified for this hearing. The teacher may then file additional appeals with the county superintendent and the district court if no collective bargaining agreement. Otherwise, the teacher may appeal to an arbitrator.	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE DISMISSAL POLICIES IN MONTANA

Specify that classroom ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

Montana should explicitly make teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal so that districts do not feel they lack the legal basis for terminating consistently poor performers.

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

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

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

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF DISMISSAL FIGURES

Figure 37 Dismissal due to ineffectiveness

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

Dismissal appeals (p. 130)

dismissal policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 37	VES THROUGH EVALUATION AND	/
Do states articulate that	~ ·	8 j
	\$€)
ineffectiveness is grounds	\$ 7 K	Š /
for dismissal?	5.5.5	
	292	/ %
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		1
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
MONTANA		
Nebraska		2
Nevada		
New Hampshire New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	28	23

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

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

Reductions in Force

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

MONTANA Ratings

Reductions in Force

Districts must consider classroom performance as a factor in determining which teachers are laid off when a reduction in force is necessary.



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



♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



MONTANA Snapshot Reductions in Force



No

Districts must consider classroom performance when determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force.



No

Seniority cannot be the only/primary factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

MONTANA Reductions in Force Characteristics Use of Teacher Performance Consideration of performance not required Use of Seniority Determined by districts Other Factors Determined by districts

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE REDUCTIONS IN FORCE POLICIES IN MONTANA

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

Montana can still leave districts flexibility in determining layoff policies, but it should do so within a framework that ensures classroom performance is considered.

Ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

Although Montana does not require that districts consider seniority, it should do more to prevent districts from making decisions solely on this basis.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF REDUCTIONS IN FORCE FIGURES

■ Figure 38 Layoff criteria

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

- Performance in layoffs (p. 132)
- Emphasis on seniority in layoffs (p. 133)

reductions in force policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 38	155	SENORITY CANNOT BE
Do states prevent districts	S.F.M.	/ 🕺
from basing layoffs solely	ZZZ ERE	7,2
on "last in, first out"?	18 N	13%
	PERFORMANCE MUST	SENIC
Alabama		
Alaska Arizona		
Arizona Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		ī
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
MONTANA		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas	ī	
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	19	22





1120 G Street, NW • Washington, DC 20005 Tel: 202-393-0020 Fax: 202-393-0095 Web: www.nctq.org

Follow NCTQ on Twitter 🕒 and Facebook 🚮

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

For more information, please contact:

Sandi Jacobs
Senior Vice President for State and District Policy
sjacobs@nctq.org
202-393-0020