

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.

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- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
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NCTQ PROJECT TEAM

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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.

Oklahoma at a Glance



Overall 2015 Yearbook Grade

2013

2011

2009







2015 Oklahoma Area Goal Scores

| 2013 Oktanoma Area Goat Score | 3 |
|---|--|
| AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers | C+ |
| Admission into Teacher Preparation | • • |
| Elementary Teacher Preparation | • |
| Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction | |
| Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics | • |
| Early Childhood Teacher Preparation | |
| 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 | C- |
| Alternate Route Eligibility | • |
| Alternate Route Preparation | • |
| Alternate Route Usage and Providers | |
| Part-Time Teaching Licenses | 0 |
| Licensure Reciprocity | |
| | AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers Admission into Teacher Preparation Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Middle School Teacher Preparation Secondary 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 Alternate Route Eligibility Alternate Route Usage and Providers Part-Time Teaching Licenses |

| AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers | C+ |
|--|----|
| State Data Systems | • |
| Evaluation of Effectiveness | |
| Frequency of Evaluations | • |
| Tenure | • |
| Licensure Advancement | |
| Equitable Distribution | |
| AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers | C+ |
| Induction | |
| Professional Development | • |
| Pay Scales and Performance Pay | |
| Differential Pay | |
| Compensation for Prior Work Experience | |
| AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers | A- |
| Extended Emergency Licenses | • |
| Dismissal for Poor Performance | |
| Reductions in Force | |

Goal Summary







Meets Only a Small Part: 5

Does Not Meet: 5

Progress on Goals Since 2013



Progress Increased: 1



Progress Decreased: 0

Teacher Policy Priorities for Oklahoma

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.
- 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.
- Establish equivalent requirements for teachers who may teach elementary grades on an early childhood license.

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 1-8 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

- Require secondary social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.
- Ensure 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 career-readiness 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.
- Ensure secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.

Student Teaching

■ Ensure that student teachers are only placed with cooperating teachers who have demonstrated effectiveness as measured by student learning.

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

- 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.
- Broaden alternate route usage.

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

Develop a definition of teacher of record that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness, and publish data on teacher production.

Teacher Evaluation

Require annual evaluations for all teachers.

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.

Compensation

■ While leaving districts flexibility to determine their own pay scales, discourage systems tied to advanced degrees and/or experience.

| Figure A | Overall State Grade 2015 | Overall State | Overall State | Overall State Grade 2009 |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Florida | B+ | B+ | В | С |
| Indiana | В | B- | C+ | D |
| Louisiana | В | В | C- | C- |
| New York | В | B- | С | D+ |
| Tennessee | В | В | B- | C- |
| Arkansas | B- | B- | С | C- |
| Connecticut | B- | B- | C- | D+ |
| Delaware | B- | C+ | С | D |
| Georgia | B- | B- | С | C- |
| Massachusetts | B- | B- | С | D+ |
| Ohio | B- | B- | C+ | D+ |
| OKLAHOMA | B- | B- | B- | D+ |
| Rhode Island | B- | В | B- | D |
| Illinois | C+ | C+ | С | D+ |
| Michigan | C+ | B- | C+ | D- |
| New Jersey | C+ | B- | D+ | D+ |
| Utah | C+ | С | C- | D |
| Virginia | C+ | C+ | D+ | D+ |
| Colorado | С | C+ | С | D+ |
| Kentucky | С | С | D+ | D+ |
| Mississippi | С | С | D+ | D+ |
| New Mexico | С | D+ | D+ | D+ |
| South Carolina | С | C- | C- | C- |
| Arizona | C- | C- | D+ | D+ |
| Idaho | C- | D+ | D+ | D- F |
| Maine Minnesota | C- | C- | D- C- | D- |
| Missouri | C- | C- | D | D- |
| Nevada | C- | C- | C- | D- |
| North Carolina | C- | С | D+ | D+ |
| Pennsylvania | C- | C- | D+ | D |
| Texas | C- | C- | C- | C- |
| Washington | C- | C- | C- | D+ |
| West Virginia | C- | C- | D+ | D+ |
| Alabama | D+ | C- | C- | C- |
| District of Columbia | D+ | D+ | D | D- |
| Hawaii | D+ | D+ | D- | D- |
| Kansas | D+ | D | D | D- |
| Maryland | D+ | D+ | D+ | D |
| California | D | D+ | D+ | D+ |
| lowa | D | D | D | D |
| Nebraska | D | D- | D- | D- |
| New Hampshire | D | D | D- | D- |
| North Dakota | D | D | D | D- |
| Oregon | D | D D | D- | D- |
| Wisconsin | D | D+ | D | D |
| Wyoming | D | D | D | D- |
| Alaska South Dakota | D- | D- | D D | D D |
| Vermont | D- | D- | D- | F |
| Montana | Б- F | F | D- F | F |
| . Torrunu | | | | |

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

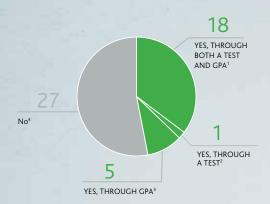
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



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



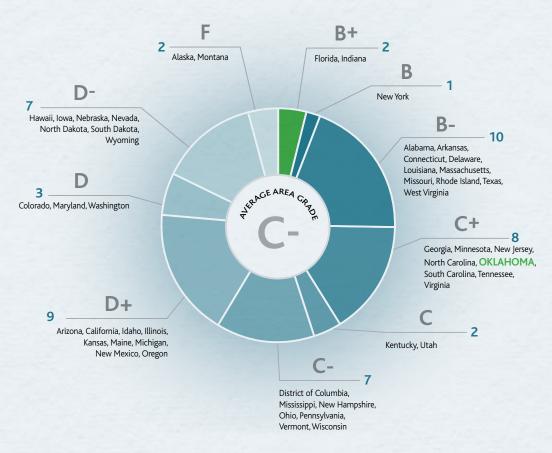
as a comprehensive set of tables and graphs that provide a national overview of the teacher policy landscape.

Area 1 Summary



How States are Faring on Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

State Area Grades



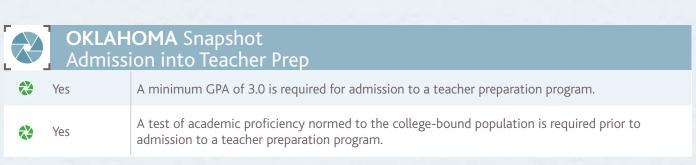
Topics Included In This Area

- 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
OKLAHOMA and other states'
admission into teacher prep
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations
and state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





| OKLAHOMA Adn | nission into Teacher Prep Characteristics |
|------------------|---|
| Test Requirement | Requirement for cohort average above the 50th percentile on admissions test normed to college-bound population is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admissions policy. |
| GPA Requirement | Required cohort minimum GPA of 3.0 is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admissions policy. |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

- Establish rigorous admission criteria independent of accreditation process. While the CAEP standards set an admirably high bar for admission to teacher preparation programs, Oklahoma should enact its own policy articulating rigorous criteria for admission. Clear state policy would send an unequivocal message to programs about the state's expectations.
- 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, Oklahoma 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

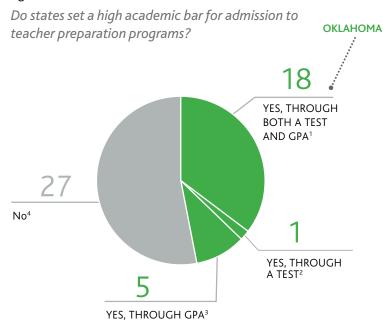
Figure 1 Academic proficiency requirements

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

Figure 1

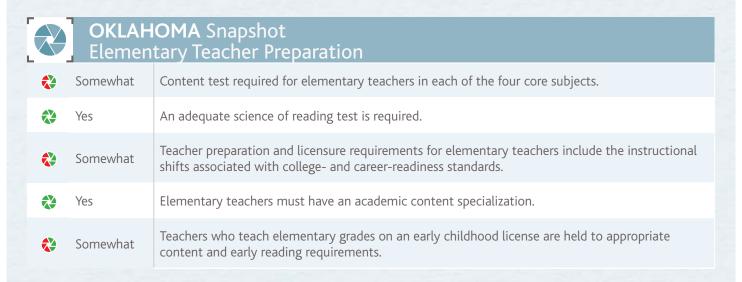


- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama⁵, Arkansas⁵, Delaware⁶, District of Columbia⁵, Indiana⁵, Louisiana⁵, Michigan⁵, New Jersey⁷, New York³, North Carolina⁵, Oklahoma⁵, Oregon⁵, Rhode Island, South Carolina⁵, Tennessee⁵, Utah⁶, Virginia⁵, West Virginia
- 2. Strong Practice: Texas
- 3. Strong Practice: Georgia, 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.
- 8. 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
OKLAHOMA and other states'
elementary teacher preparation
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Elementary Teacher Preparation

| OKLAHOMA 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. | • |
| Fully meets → Nearly meets → Partially meets → Meets only a small part → Does not meet N/A Not Appli Progress increased since 2013 → Lost ground since 2013 → Bar raised for this goal | cable |



| OKLAHOMA Eler | nentary Teacher Preparation Characteristics |
|--|--|
| Elementary Licenses | 1-8; PreK-3 |
| Content Tests | Certification Examinations for Oklahoma Educators (CEOE) General Elementary content test (1-8); not required PreK-3 |
| Science of Reading Requirements | Science of reading test must be passed as a condition of program completion |
| Academic Specialization | Academic concentration required |
| Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards | Complex informational text: Partially addressed (1-8); Not addressed (PreK-3) Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Fully addressed |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all subjects including reading/language arts, math, science and social studies. Although Oklahoma is on the right track

by administering a two-part licensing test to elementary education candidates, thus making it harder for teachers to pass if they fail some subject areas, the state is encouraged to further strengthen its policy and require separate passing scores for each core subject on its licensing test. The state should also require all early childhood teacher candidates who teach the elementary grades to pass a content test

with separate passing scores for each of

the core subject areas.

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 careerreadiness 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 OKLAHOMA's elementary teacher prep policies, including analysis and state response, see ... http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Ensure that the science of reading test is meaningful.

To ensure that its science of reading test is meaningful, Oklahoma should evaluate its passing score to make certain it reflects a high standard of performance.

Ensure that elementary and early childhood teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Oklahoma 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, Oklahoma 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.

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.

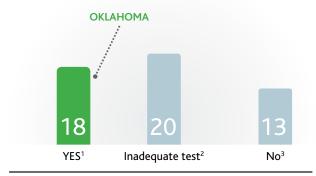
EEMENTARY CONTENT PASSING SCORE FOR EACH Elementary content test for some subjects Elementary content test Figure 2 Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content? Alabama Alaska 1 Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia П П П Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho П П Illinois Indiana Iowa П Kansas Kentucky П Louisiana Maine 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 22 9 5 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?

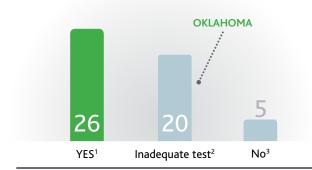


- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee⁶, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, 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 Are states ensuring that new elementary teachers are prepared for the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards? Alabama | Figure 4 | | 184 | SZ / |
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| Alaska | Are states ensuring that now | / | M4/ | SEC SEC |
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| | Wyoming | | | |
| Fully addresses instructional component <a> Partially addresses instructional component | | _ | | |

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 | | / |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Figure 6 | 7.7 | / |
| What do states require | Z Z Z | / <u>y</u> |
| of early childhood | \$ 5 | |
| teachers who teach | RES ST | NG G |
| elementary grades? | | 75.2 |
| | | ADE OF R |
| Alabama | SUBSCORESTORM SUBJECT | ADEQUATE SOGNUE OF READING TEST |
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| Arizona | | |
| Arkansas ¹ | | |
| California ¹ | | |
| Colorado | | |
| Connecticut | | |
| Delaware | | |
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| Florida | 2 | |
| Georgia ¹ Hawaii | | |
| Idaho | | |
| Illinois | | |
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| Wisconsin | | |
| Wyoming | | |
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For more information about **OKLAHOMA** 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**

OKLAHOMA 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







Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet



♠ Progress increased since 2013



Lost ground since 2013



Bar raised for this goal



OKLAHOMA 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. |
| (2) | No | Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for middle school teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards. |

| OKLAHOMA Mid | OKLAHOMA Middle School Teacher Preparation Characteristics | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Middle School Licenses | 5-8; 1-8 generalist license (cannot be used to teach middle grades mathematics) | | | | |
| Content Tests | 5-8: Certification Examinations for Oklahoma Educators (CEOE) Middle Level single-subject tests 1-8: CEOE General Elementary content test | | | | |
| Academic Requirements | A content-area major is 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 MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

Require content testing in all core areas.

Oklahoma 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 1-8 generalist license.
 - Oklahoma 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, Oklahoma 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 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, Oklahoma should also include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

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 OKLAHOMA's middle school teacher prep policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Support struggling readers.

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

| Figure 7 | K-8 LICENSE NOT OFFE | K-8 license offered for | swo. |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Do states distinguish | <i>5</i> 0, | Jesep Jesep | De le |
| middle grade preparation from | SF \ |) off 100 pg | / Ho : |
| elementary preparation? | <i>\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</i> | erse Intali | , sense |
| etementary preparation: | K-8 LN | K-8lic | K-8 license offered |
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| West Virginia | | | |
| Wisconsin | | | 1 |
| Wyoming | | | |
| | 22 | | 12 |
| | 32 | 6 | 13 |
| | | | |

^{1.} Offers 1-8 license.

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

^{3.} With the exception of mathematics.

| Figure 8 | | No, test doe not res | No. K.8 license re | No, tecs: |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Do middle school teachers | | /* | | |
| have to pass an appropriate | | 1 8 |) Je | |
| content test in every core | | 7 9 9 | | 7/, |
| subject they are licensed | | \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ | \ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \ | / tes. |
| to teach? | YES / | 28 | / 2 E | / 8 |
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| Wisconsin Wyoming | | | | |
| vvyorimig | | | | |
| | 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 | USCFWORK | MCORPORATMELTER SKILLSINTO | SUPORT. |
|---------------------------------|------------|--|---------|
| middle school teachers are | Ž | | 774 |
| prepared for the instructional | . ≱ | \ \disp\{\din\{\disp\{\disp\{\disp\{\disp\{\disp\{\disp\{\din\{\\\\\\\\\\ |) / % |
| shifts associated with college- | 40, | / \$\\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ | / day |
| and career-readiness standards | ? 5 / | € 8 | / 8 4 |
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| West Virginia Wisconsin | | | |
| | | | |
| Wyoming | | | |

Secondary Teacher Preparation

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

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

Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013

Bar raised for this goal

OKLAHOMA Snapshot Secondary Teacher Preparation Yes Secondary teachers must pass a content test to teach any single core subject. 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. Somewhat A content test is required to add an endorsement to a license. Teacher preparation and licensure requirements for secondary school teachers include the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

| OKLAHOMA Seco | ondary Teacher Preparation Characteristics |
|--|---|
| Secondary Licenses | 7-12; 9-12 |
| Content Tests | Certification Examinations for Oklahoma Educators (CEOE) single-subject test required for initial licensure |
| General Science License and Testing Requirements | General science not offered. Physical science license offered, but teachers with this license may only teach physical science courses |
| General Social Studies License and Testing Requirements | Combination social studies license offered; requires only combination social studies test |
| Endorsement Requirements | Content tests are required to add endorsements; combination social studies endorsements only require combination social studies tests |
| 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 OKLAHOMA

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

By allowing combination social studies certifications—and allowing combination exams that do not separately measure content knowledge of each included subject—Oklahoma is not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge.

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

 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, Oklahoma 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 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, Oklahoma 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.

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

Examples of Best Practice

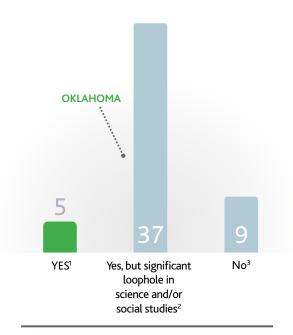
Missouri requires that secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subjects. Of particular note, Missouri ensures that its secondary science teachers know the content they teach by taking a dual approach to general secondary science certification. The state offers general 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 OKLAHOMA'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, Tennessee⁴
- 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.

| Figure 11 | | $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}}$ | \$ \ \ |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--|---|
| Are states ensuring that | | Ž / 5 | |
| new secondary teachers | | | |
| are prepared for the | Ž | Z / Z | ¥ / Ş |
| instructional shifts associate | d ≱ ^O | \ \Q \ \\ \Q \ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \ | 2 / 18 |
| with college-and career- | .6 | 10,5 | PP C |
| readiness standards? | 5 | INCORPORATING | \ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \ |
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Special Education Teacher Preparation

For more information about
OKLAHOMA and other states'
special education teacher prep
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

| OKLAHOMA 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 | |

| | OKLAH Special | OMA Snapshot Education Teacher Preparation |
|------------|------------------|---|
| | No | Only discrete elementary and secondary special education licenses are offered. |
| | 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. |
| ₹ } | Yes | 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. |

| OKLAHOMA Spec | cial Education Teacher Preparation Characteristics |
|--|--|
| Special Education License(s) | K-12 |
| Content Tests | Not required |
| Science of Reading Test | Science of reading test must be passed as a condition of program completion |
| Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards | Complex informational text: Not addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Partially addressed |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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 Oklahoma 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.

Oklahoma 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.

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

Ensure that the science of reading test is meaningful.

To ensure that its science of reading test is meaningful, Oklahoma should evaluate its passing score to make certain it reflects a high standard of performance.

- 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, Oklahoma 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 college- and career-readiness standards for students.
- Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

Oklahoma 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.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Prepare special education teachers to support struggling readers.

Oklahoma should articulate more specific 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 | DOESNOTOFIEM | Offers K-12 and | ation(s) |
|--|--|----------------------|--------------------|
| | A. A | | Offers only a K-12 |
| Do states distinguish | ,5 , | 5 / 5 | |
| between elementary | 9,5 | , / ⁷ , , | rior rior |
| and secondary special | Z. Z. | fers de-s | fers fific |
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Figure 13
Which states require subject-matter testing for special education teachers?

| Elementa | ry 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.

| igure 14 | | NCORDORATMO, I | SUPPORTING STRUCT |
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For more information about
OKLAHOMA and other states'
assessing professional knowledge
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Assessing Professional Knowledge





Yes All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test.

| OKLAHOMA Ped | agogy Characteristics |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pedagogy Test | Oklahoma Professional Teaching Exam |
| Type of Test | Multiple choice |
| Teachers Included | All new teachers |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

 As a result of Oklahoma's strong policies for assessing professional knowledge, no recommendations are provided.

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

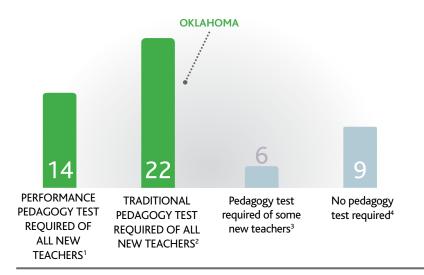
■ Figure 15 Pedagogy tests

For more information about OKLAHOMA's 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?

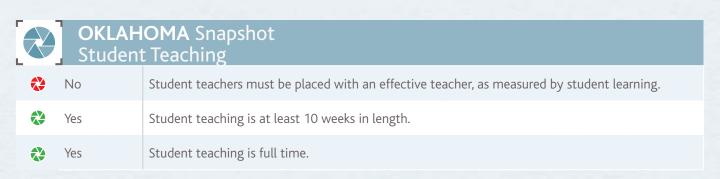


- 1. Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois⁵, Iowa⁶, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Tennessee⁶, Washington, Wisconsin
- 2. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, 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
OKLAHOMA and other states'
student teaching policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and
state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard





| OKLAHOMA Stud | dent Teaching Characteristics |
|--|--|
| Duration of Student Teaching | At least 12 weeks |
| Selection of Cooperating Teachers Connected to Effectiveness | No specific requirements |
| Other Criteria for Selection of Cooperating Teachers | At least 3 years of experience teaching in their area of certification |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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 Oklahoma should also be carefully screened for their

capacity to further student achievement.

Use evidence from the state's teacher evaluation system to select cooperating teachers.

Since Oklahoma requires objective measures of student growth to be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations, the state should utilize its evaluation results in the selection of effective cooperating teachers.

 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 instructional 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 OKLAHOMA's student teaching policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

| Do states ensure a high-quality student teaching experience? 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 | STUDENT TEACHING |
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For more information about
OKLAHOMA and other states'
leacher prep program accountability
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and
state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

↑ Progress increased since 2013

Teacher Prep Program Accountability

OKLAHOMA Ratings Program Accountability The approval process for teacher preparation programs holds programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce. Partially meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet

Lost ground since 2013

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

| OKLAHOMA Tead | cher Prep Program Accountability Characteristics |
|---|--|
| Use of Student Achievement Data | None |
| Other Data Collected | State-level aggregate data includes surveys of first-year teachers and principals and teacher employment supply and demand |
| Performance Standards for Data Collected | None |
| Program Report Cards | Publicly accessible report card |
| Role of National Accreditation | National accreditation required for program approval |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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

Oklahoma 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. Ohio should report all collected data at the program level for accountability purposes.

■ Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

While Oklahoma does collect survey and candidate assessment performance 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. Data could include 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. Oklahoma should establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data, which programs should be held accountable for meeting.
- Maintain full authority over the process for approving teacher preparation programs.
 Oklahoma should ensure that it is the
 - Oklahoma 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.

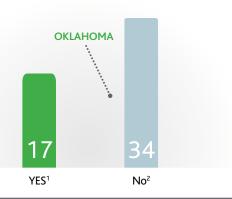
Examples of Best Practice

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 OKLAHOMA's teacher prep program accountability policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

| Figure 18 Do states hold teacher preparation programs accountable? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Ilowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Newada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina | Figure 18 | AN. | CARDS | 138.37 |
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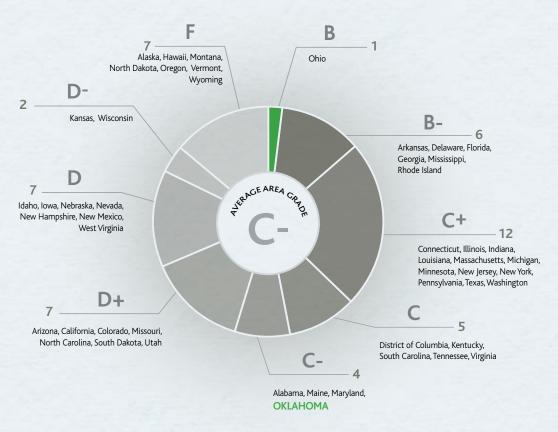
- $1. \ For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$
- ${\it 2. Report\ cards\ only\ include\ limited\ data.}$
- 3. Report cards are at the institution rather than the program level.
- ${\it 4.\ Non-university\ based\ alternate\ route\ programs\ are\ not\ included}.$
- $5. \ For \ alternate \ route \ programs \ only.$
- 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
OKLAHOMA and other states'
alternate routes to certification
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

| OKLAHOMA 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 | |

| | OKLAH Alterna | OMA Snapshot te Routes to Certification |
|-----------|-------------------------|--|
| ♦ | No | A rigorous academic standard is required for program entry. |
| * | Yes | A subject-matter test is required for admission. |
| * | Yes | 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. |
| * | Somewhat | Intensive mentoring is required to support new teachers. |
| | Yes | Coursework requirements are streamlined. |
| ** | No | Coursework requirements are limited to relevant topics. |
| | No | Alternate routes are offered without limitation by grades, subjects or geographic areas. |
| * | Yes | Providers other than institutions of higher education are permitted. |

| Name of Route(s) | Alternative Placement Program and American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) |
|---|--|
| Academic Requirements for Entry | Alternative Placement Program: minimum 2.5 GPA; ABCTE: no requirements |
| Subject-Matter Requirements for Entry | Subject-matter exam |
| Coursework Requirements | Alternative Placement Program: 18 college credit hours or 270 clock hours for candidates with a bachelor's degree and 12 college credit hours or 180 clock hours of coursework for candidates with a master's or doctorate degree; coursework is selected based on individual candidates' work experience and degree level; ABCTE: no specific coursework requirements |
| Practice Teaching/Mentoring Requirements | Student teaching or a practice-teaching experience specifically prohibited; Alternative Placement Program: participation in the Oklahoma Resident Teacher Program, a year-long mentoring experience; ABCTE: mentor and induction program required |
| Usage | Alternative Placement is limited to certification in specific elementary, secondary and Career and Technology education subjects; ABCTE is limited to certification in biology, chemistry, English language arts, general science, mathematics, physics, U.S. history and world history |
| Eligible Providers | Diverse providers allowed |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

Increase academic requirements for admission.

Oklahoma should require that candidates to its alternate routes provide some evidence of good academic performance, such as a GPA of 3.0 or higher or taking the GRE.

Consider flexibility in work-experience requirement.

Oklahoma should consider using a candidate's years of experience as a factor in the admission process rather than as a requirement. A work-experience requirement may disqualify potentially talented candidates unnecessarily.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 Establish coursework guidelines for alternate route preparation programs.

Simply mandating coursework without specifying the purpose can inadvertently send the wrong message to program providers—that "anything goes" as long as credits are granted. Oklahoma should ensure programs require appropriate coursework, such as grade-level or subject-level seminars, methodology in the content area, assessment and scientifically based early reading instruction.

Ensure program completion in less than two years.

Although Oklahoma is recognized for requiring a mentoring program, the state should provide more 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.

■ Broaden usage for all alternate routes.

Oklahoma should reconsider grade-level and subject-area restrictions on its alternate route, as a way to expand the teacher pipeline throughout the state.

Examples of Best Practice

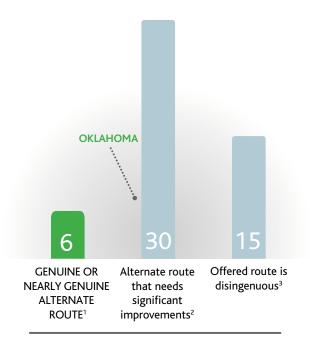
No state can be singled out for its overall alternate route policies. There are, however, states that offer best practices in individual alternate route policy areas.

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.

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For more information about
OKLAHOMA and other states'
part-time teaching licenses policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and
state responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Part-Time Teaching Licenses

OKLAHOMA 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



OKLAHOMA Part-Time Teaching Licenses Characteristics

Name of License

Adjunct License

Subject-Matter Requirements

Available to "persons with distinguished qualifications in their field."

Other Requirements

Limited to 90 clock hours of classroom teaching per semester; no additional guidelines

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

Require applicants to pass a subjectmatter test.

Although Oklahoma offers a license that is designed to enable distinguished individuals to teach, the state should require that these candidates pass a subject-matter test to ensure expertise in a content area. Only a subject-matter test ensures that that these teachers know the specific content they will need to teach.

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

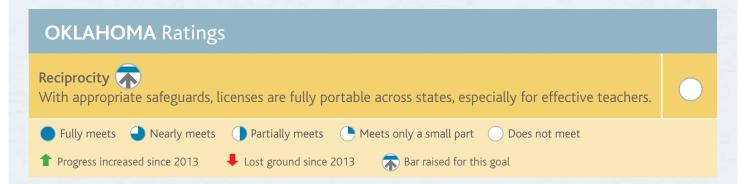
Figure 21 Part-time licenses

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

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Licensure Reciprocity

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



| | OKLAH Recipro | IOMA Snapshot city |
|----|------------------|---|
| < | No | Evidence of effective teaching is required in reciprocity policy. |
| ** | No | Out-of-state teachers may apply for a comparable standard license. |
| ₹ | No | Out-of-state teachers must meet licensing test requirements. |
| < | Yes | No other strings are attached for reciprocity, such as additional coursework or recency requirements. |
| < | Yes | Transcript analysis is not explicitly required. |
| * | Yes | Alternate route teachers receive equal treatment. |

OKLAHOMA Reciprocity Characteristics License Available to Fully Provisional Certified Out-of-State Teachers **Effectiveness Requirements** None Must complete testing requirements and one year of "successful" employment. Waiver available in that teachers may request a review of tests already passed to assess **Testing Requirements** comparability. Out-of-state teachers with five or more years of experience may also waive testing requirements. Coursework and/or Recency None Requirements Additional Alternate Route None Requirements

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RECIPROCITY POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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

To facilitate the movement of effective teachers between states, Oklahoma 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.

■ To uphold standards, require that teachers coming from other states meet testing requirements.

Oklahoma should not provide any waivers of its teacher tests unless an applicant can provide evidence of a passing score under its own standards.

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

Oklahoma should offer standard licenses to certified out-of-state teachers, rather than restricting them to initial ones once they meet the state's requirements.

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 OKLAHOMA'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.

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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.

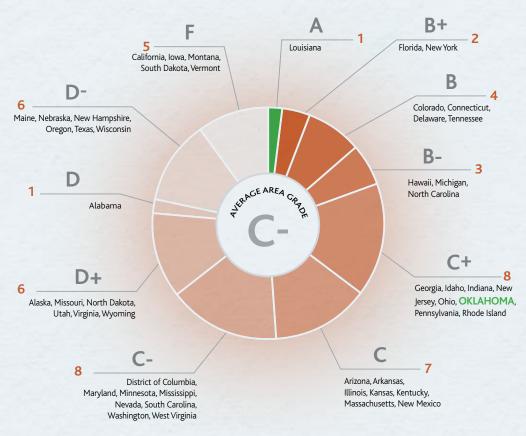
^{3.} Allows up to three years to submit passing scores.

Area 3 Summary



How States are Faring in Identifying Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

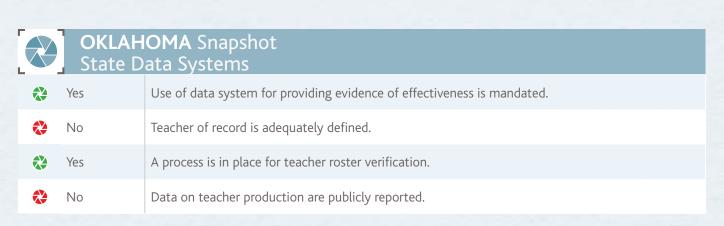
- State Data Systems
- Teacher Evaluation
- Tenure

- · Licensure Advancement
- · Equitable Distribution of Teachers

State Data Systems

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

OKLAHOMA Ratings State Data Systems The state's data system contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness. Fully meets Nearly meets Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013 Bar raised for this goal



| OKLAHOMA Stat | OKLAHOMA State Data System Characteristics | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Teacher Student Data Link | Capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time | | | | | |
| Teacher of Record Definition | None | | | | | |
| Other Characteristics | Roster verification; Ability to connect multiple teachers to a single student | | | | | |
| Teacher Production Data/ Hiring Statistics | Not reported | | | | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STATE DATA SYSTEM POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

- Develop a definition of "teacher of record" that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.
 Oklahoma should articulate a definition of teacher of record that reflects instruction.
- Publish data on teacher production.

 Oklahoma 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 OKLAHOMA's state data system policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

| Figure 23 | | 6 / | 287 |
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^{1.} Lacks capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time.

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

Teacher Evaluation

| OKLAHOMA 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 | |

| | OKLAH Teacher | OMA Snapshot Evaluation |
|----------|------------------|---|
| * | Yes | Objective student data is the preponderant or a significant criterion of teacher evaluations. |
| | Somewhat | All teachers are evaluated annually. |
| * | Somewhat | Multiple observations are required for all teachers. |
| * | Yes | More than two rating categories are used. |
| * | Yes | New teachers receive feedback early in the school year. |
| * | Yes | Surveys (student, parent, peer) are explicitly required or allowed. |

| OKLAHOMA Teacher Evaluation Characteristics | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Use of Student Achievement Data in Evaluation | Preponderant criterion. Teachers receive a quantitative rating. | | | |
| Types of Required Student Data | Based on student growth using multiple years of test data, as available, and performance measures for teachers in grades and subjects without state-mandated assessments. | | | |
| Other Required Measures | The qualitative rating is based on "observable and measurable characteristics of personnel and classroom practices that are correlated to student performance success." | | | |
| Number of Rating Categories | 5 | | | |
| Frequency of Evaluations | Although every teacher must be evaluated once a year, career teachers who receive a qualitative rating of superior or highly effective and a quantitative rating of superior or highly effective may be evaluated once every 2 years. | | | |
| Number of Observations | Probationary teachers must receive formative feedback from the evaluation process at least two times per school year, once during the fall and once during the spring semester. | | | |
| System Structure | Single statewide system | | | |
| Surveys (Parent, Student, Peer) | Student surveys are explicitly allowed. | | | |
| Evaluator Requirements | Training; certification | | | |

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)

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER EVALUATION POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

Require annual evaluations for all teachers.

All teachers in Oklahoma should be evaluated annually, even those who receive high ratings on previous evaluations.

Base evaluations on multiple observations.

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

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 OKLAHOMA's teacher evaluation policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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

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.

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Tenure

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





| OKLAHOMA Tenure Characteristics | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Consideration of Teacher Effectiveness | Must either earn qualitative and quantitative ratings of superior on the evaluation system for 2 of 3 years, with no rating below effective; or averaged qualitative and quantitative ratings of at least effective for a 4-year period, with qualitative and quantitative ratings of at least effective for the last 2 years. Principals may petition for career-teacher status absent these requirements. | | | |
| Length of Probationary Period | Depends on evaluation ratings; 3-4 years. | | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TENURE POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

- Ensure that the probationary period is adequate.
 - Oklahoma should consider extending the time before teachers can earn tenure, making certain that probationary teachers earn at least three consecutive effective ratings prior to the award of tenure.
- Reconsider waiver of effectiveness requirements at principal's request.
 Rather than allowing principals to waive the effectiveness requirements, the state should consider letting them extend the

probationary period for teachers they think warrant further time to develop.

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 OKLAHOMA's tenure policies, including detailed

recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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| | 9 | 14 | 26 | 2 |

- 1. 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." However, no student growth measures required.
- 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.

| Iow long before a teacher arns tenure? | • | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|--------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------------------|
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- 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
OKLAHOMA and other states'
ilicensure advancement policies,
including full narrative analyses,
recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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

| | OKLAH Licensu | OMA Snapshot re 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. |
| * | No | Other advancement/renewal requirements have a direct connection to classroom effectiveness. |
| * | Yes | An advanced degree is not a requirement for license advancement. |

| OKLAHO | OKLAHOMA Licensure Advancement Characteristics | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| Performance Req Advance from a I to Professional Li | Probationary | None | | | |
| Other Requireme Advancement | ents for | Must complete the resident teacher program and meet all testing requirements. | | | |
| Initial Certification | on Period | 1 year | | | |
| Performance Req Renew a Professi | | None | | | |
| Other Requireme Renewal | ents for | Must acquire professional development points. | | | |
| Renewal Period | | 5 years | | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT POLICIES IN **OKLAHOMA**

- Require evidence of effectiveness as a part of teacher licensing policy.
 - Oklahoma 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 renewal requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Oklahoma's nonspecific coursework requirements for license renewal do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.

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 OKLAHOMA's licensure advancement policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see ... http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

| Figure 28 | OBJECTIVE EVIDENCE | Some objective evit | ر ر به | classoom effective but Performance is not tied to Performance not cone; |
|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--|
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| to show evidence of | | S / S | | 7 / je 1 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / 10 / |
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Georgia does not require evidence of effectiveness for each year of renewal period.

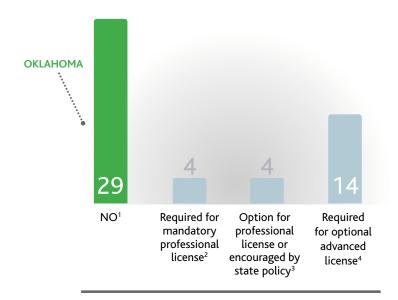
^{2.} Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.

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

^{4.} An optional license requires evidence of 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 **OKLAHOMA** and other states' equitable distribution of teachers policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

OKLAHOMA 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

Lost ground since 2013



OKLAHOMA Snapshot Fauitable 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. |
| ₹ | No | School-level data on percentage of highly qualified teachers are reported. |
| * | No | School-level data on percentage of teachers with emergency credentials are reported. |

OKLAHOMA Equitable Distribution of Teachers Characteristics

| Public Reporting of Teacher Effectiveness Data | Not reported |
|--|--|
| Other Public Reporting Related to Teacher Distribution | Reports percentage of teachers on emergency credentials, the educational attainment of teachers and the percentage of classes taught by highly qualified teachers in high- and low-poverty schools. Reported only at the district level; not updated since 2011. |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

 Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

Oklahoma 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.

Oklahoma 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.

Oklahoma should provide comparative data for schools with similar poverty and minority populations, as this would yield a more comprehensive picture of gaps in the equitable distribution of teachers.

■ Report data at the school level.

Oklahoma should ensure that it is reporting all currently collected data at the school level, rather than aggregated by district.

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

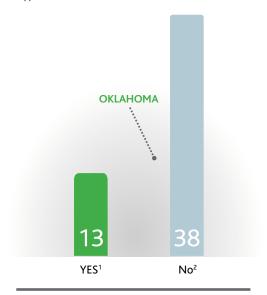
Other equitable distribution of teachers figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

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?



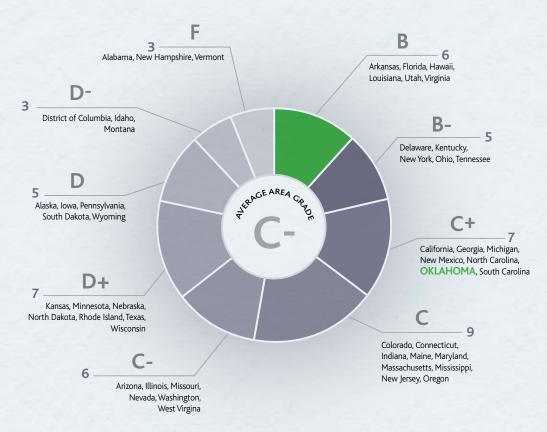
- Strong Practice: Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania
- Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, 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.

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 **OKLAHOMA** and other states' 🐎 new teacher induction policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

OKLAHOMA 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





OKLAHOMA Snapshot New Teacher Induction

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

OKLAHOMA New Teacher Induction Characteristics

| Induction Program | All new teachers receive mentoring. |
|---|---|
| Requirements for Mentor/ New Teacher Contact | Not specified |
| Selection Criteria for Mentors | At least 2 years teaching experience; teaches similar subject matter as new teacher |
| Other Mentor Requirements | Training |
| Required Induction Strategies Other than Mentoring | Not specified |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE NEW TEACHER INDUCTION POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

- Ensure high quality mentors.
 - Oklahoma should establish criteria for the selection of high-quality mentors. 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.
 - Oklahoma 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. The state should also require program evaluation.

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

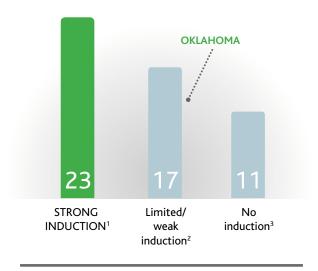
Other new teacher induction figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Elements of induction (p. 104)

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

Professional Development

OKLAHOMA 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



| * | Yes | Teachers must receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations. |
|---|-----|---|
| * | No | Professional development must be aligned with evaluation results. |
| * | Yes | Teachers with unsatisfactory/ineffective ratings are placed on improvement plans. |

OKLAHOMA Professional Development Characteristics

| Connection Between Evaluation and Professional Development | No connection |
|--|--|
| Evaluation Feedback | Provides "feedback to improve student learning and outcomes" |
| Improvement Plan | Required for all teachers who receive qualitative or quantitative ratings of needs improvement or ineffective. |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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

Oklahoma should ensure that districts utilize teacher evaluation results in determining professional development needs and activities.

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 OKLAHOMA's professional development policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

| Figure 32 Do states ensure that evaluations are used to help teachers improve? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Ildinois Ildinois Ildinois Ildinan Ilowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio OkiLAHOMA Oregon Pennsylvania South Dakota Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming Wisconsin Wyoming Wisconsin Wyoming | Figure 32 | |)RMS | 17 / 54 |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|--|---|
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| 38 31 35 | | | 24 | 25 |

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

| OKLAHOMA 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 | | | | |

| | OKLAH Compe | OMA Snapshot nsation |
|----------|----------------|--|
| < | No | Districts have flexibility to determine pay structure and scales. |
| ₹ | Yes | Effective teachers can receive performance pay. |
| * | No | Districts are discouraged from tying compensation to advanced degrees. |
| ₹ | Yes | Teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching shortage subjects. |
| ₹ | Yes | 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. |

| OKLAHOMA Compensation Characteristics | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Authority for Salary Schedule | State provides a minimum salary schedule | | | | |
| Performance Pay Initiatives | School districts may implement incentive pay plans that reward teachers for increasing student and school growth in achievement. Teacher awards will be based on achieving either a superior or highly effective rating under the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System (TLE) and grade-level, subject-area or school-level performance. | | | | |
| Role of Experience and Advanced Degrees in Salary Schedule | Minimum salary schedule is based on teachers' years of experience and earned advanced degrees. | | | | |
| Differential Pay for Shortage Subjects | Districts are encouraged to provide compensation schedules to reflect district policies and circumstances, including differential pay for different subject areas. Loan forgiveness is also available for teachers of math, science or other critical-needs areas. | | | | |
| Differential Pay for High- Need Schools | Districts are encouraged to provide completed schedules to reflect district policies and circumstances, includingspecial incentives for teachers in districts with specific geographical attributes. | | | | |
| Pay for Prior Work Experience | None | | | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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

While Oklahoma may find it appropriate to articulate the starting salary that a teacher should be paid, it should not require districts to adhere to a state-dictated salary schedule.

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

While still leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scales, Oklahoma 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.

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

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

Teachers who are National Board Certified after June 30, 2013 are eligible to receive a \$1,000 salary incentive. This differential pay could be an incentive to attract some of Oklahoma's most effective teachers to low-performing schools.

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

Oklahoma 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

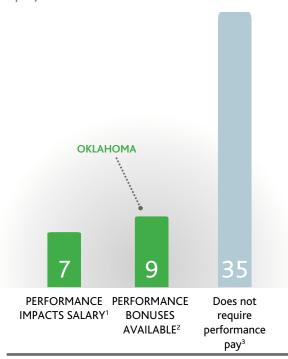
Florida allows local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from prioritizing elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. Local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest salary adjustment 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 OKLAHOMA'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".
- 5. Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.

| Figure 34 | | PROHIITADIO | ¥ / | Requires compensation for |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---|---|--|
| Do states prevent districts | 9 | | | |
| from basing teacher pay on | P. P. | | ¹⁵ ib | , \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ |
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| advanced degrees? | \$ 5 | V 4 7 6 | , / g.s | |
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| Figure 35 | | HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS | / | SHORTAGE SUBJECT | / |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Do states provide | DIFFEREN | | DIFFERFACE | \ ADEAC | |
| incentives to teach in | | Loan forgiveness | | AREAS September 1971 | |
| high-need schools | .4 | | / / | | \ \tau_{c} |
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| | 22 | 9 | 15 | 12 | 20 |

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

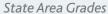
Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in shortage subject areas.

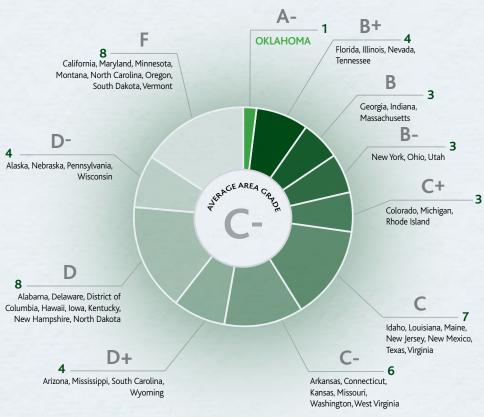
^{3.} South Dakota offers scholarships to teachers in highneed schools.

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers





Topics Included In This Area

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

Extended Emergency Licenses

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





| OKLAHOMA Exte | OKLAHOMA Extended Emergency License Characteristics | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Emergency License Emergency certificate | | | | | |
| Minimum Requirements | Bachelor's degree and academic preparation in the subject area, and verification that the applicant has either passed the requested subject-area test or is registered for the next available test date is required | | | | |
| Duration | 1 year | | | | |
| Renewal Requirements | Nonrenewable | | | | |

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSE POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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

While Oklahoma's policy offering its emergency certificate for one year only minimizes the risks of having classroom teachers who lack sufficient or appropriate subject-matter knowledge, the state could take its policy a step further and require all teachers to meet subject-matter licensure requirements prior to entering the classroom.

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)

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

| Figure 36 | | / | / | / |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|---|
| How long can new teachers | | | | |
| practice without passing | | / | / | ر / |
| | NO DEFERRAL | / / | Up to 2 years | 96.70 |
| licensing tests? | ERR | /69/ | / % | °o', |
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| | 9 | 18 | 6 | 18 |
| | 9 | 10 | O | 10 |

- 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.

For more information about **OKLAHOMA** and other states' dismissal policies, including full arrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Dismissal for Poor Performance

OKLAHOMA 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



| € | Yes | Teacher ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal. |
|----------|-----|--|
| * | Yes | Terminated teachers have one opportunity to appeal. |
| ♦ | Yes | 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. |

OKLAHOMA Dismissal Characteristics

Teachers who receive qualitative and quantitative ratings of ineffective for two consecutive years, or receive qualitative and quantitative ratings of needs improvement or lower for three consecutive years, on the Oklahoma Teachers and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation Dismissal for Ineffectiveness System "shall be dismissed or not reemployed." Teachers who receive a qualitative or quantitative rating of ineffective for two consecutive years, or receive a qualitative or quantitative rating of needs improvement or lower for three consecutive years, "may be dismissed or not reemployed." Same regardless of the grounds for cancellation and include: "repeated negligence in Due Process Rights of Teachers performance of duty, willful neglect of duty, incompetency, instructional ineffectiveness or unsatisfactory teaching performance" One opportunity to appeal: After written notice of dismissal, the teacher may request a **Length of Appeals Process** hearing, which must occur 20 to 60 days after notice. This decision is final.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE DISMISSAL POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

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

Oklahoma could look to differentiate due process rights between loss of employment and issues with far-reaching consequences—such as felonies—that could permanently affect a teacher's right to practice.

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)

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

| Figure 37 | | / |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Do states articulate that | Ŧ | 8 <u>5</u> |
| ineffectiveness is grounds | 25 | ~ / × |
| for dismissal? | 77.75 | ? / |
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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 **OKLAHOMA** and other states' reductions in force policies, including full narrative analyses, recommendations and state responses, see http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

OKLAHOMA 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



OKLAHOMA Snapshot Reductions in Force



Yes

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



Yes

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

OKLAHOMA Reductions in Force Characteristics Use of Teacher Performance Performance, as measured by evaluation system, is primary criterion Use of Seniority May be considered Other Factors Determined by districts

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE REDUCTIONS IN FORCE POLICIES IN OKLAHOMA

As a result of Oklahoma's strong reductions in force policies, no recommendations are provided.

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)

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

| Figure 38 | 157 | SENORITY CANNOT P |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Do states prevent districts | J. F. W. | / 🕺 |
| from basing layoffs solely | ANC FRE | 72 |
| on "last in, first out"? | 78 N 88 N | 186 |
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NCTQ is available to work with individual states to improve teacher policies.

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