2011 State Teacher Policy Yearbook

District of Columbia





Acknowledgments

STATES

State education agencies remain our most important partners in this effort, and their gracious cooperation has helped to ensure the factual accuracy of the final product. Every state formally received a draft of the *Yearbook* in July 2011 for comment and correction; states also received a final draft of their reports a month prior to release. All but one state responded to our inquiries. While states do not always agree with the recommendations, their willingness to acknowledge the imperfections of their teacher policies is an important first step toward reform.

We also thank the many state pension boards that reviewed our drafts and responded to our inquiries.

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National Council on Teacher Quality

Executive Summary

For five years running, the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) has tracked states' teacher policies, preparing a detailed and thorough compendium of teacher policy in the United States on topics related to teacher preparation, licensure, evaluation, career advancement, tenure, compensation, pensions and dismissal.

The 2011 State Teacher Policy Yearbook includes NCTQ's biennial, 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 36 policy goals focused on helping states put in place a comprehensive framework in support of preparing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers. For the first time, the Yearbook includes a progress rating for states on goals that have been measured over time. An overall progress ranking is also included, showing how states compare to each other in moving forward on their teacher policies.

District of Columbia at a Glance Overall 2011 Yearbook Grade:

Area Grades 2011 2009 Area 1 Delivering Well Prepared Teachers D D С Area 2 Expanding the Teaching Pool D+ F. Area 3 Identifying Effective Teachers F. Area 4 Retaining Effective Teachers D+ D-Area 5 Exiting Ineffective Teachers D-D+

Overall 2009 Yearbook Grade: D-

Overall Progress



Highlights from recent progress in District of Columbia include:

- Assessment of professional knowledge by means of a pedagogy test
- Alternate route program admission requirements
- Teacher pension system sustainability

How is District of Columbia Faring?

Area 1 Delivering Well Prepared Teachers

Policy Strengths

Middle school teachers may not teach on a K-8 generalist license, and they must appropriately pass a single-subject content test.

Policy Weaknesses

- Teacher candidates are not required to pass a test of academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs.
- Elementary teachers are not adequately prepared to teach the rigorous content associated with the Common Core Standards.
- Preparation programs are not required to address the science of reading, and candidates are not required to pass a test to ensure knowledge.
- Neither teacher preparation program nor licensure test requirements ensure that new elementary teachers are adequately prepared to teach mathematics.

All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test.

D

C

- Although most secondary teachers must pass a content test to teach a core subject area, some secondary science and social studies teachers are not required to pass content tests for each discipline they intend to teach.
- The District offers a K-12 special education certification.
- Requirements for teacher preparation do not ensure a high-quality student teaching experience.
- The District's teacher preparation program approval process does not hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce.

Area 2 Expanding the Pool of Teachers

Policy Strengths

- Admission criteria for the alternate route to certification are selective and provide flexibility for nontraditional candidates.
- There are no restrictions on alternate route usage or providers.

Policy Weaknesses

- Alternate route preparation is not streamlined or geared toward the immediate needs of new teachers.
- The District does not offer a license with minimal requirements that would allow content experts to teach part time.
- Out-of-state teachers are not required to meet the District's testing requirements, and there are additional obstacles that do not support licensure reciprocity.

How is District of Columbia Faring?

Area 3 Identifying Effective Teachers

Policy Weaknesses

- There is no state-level data system with the capacity to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.
- Objective evidence of student learning is not the preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations.
- There is no state-level policy addressing the number of times teachers must be evaluated.
- Tenure decisions are not connected to evidence of teacher effectiveness.
- Licensure advancement and renewal are not based on teacher effectiveness.

F

D+

D-

 Little school-level data are reported that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent.

Area 4 Retaining Effective Teachers

Policy Strengths

Districts are given full authority for how teachers are paid, although they are not discouraged from basing salary schedules solely on years of experience and advanced degrees.

Policy Weaknesses

- All new teachers do not receive mentoring or other induction support.
- The District could do more to ensure that professional development is aligned with findings from teachers' evaluations.
- There is no state-level support for performance pay or additional compensation for relevant prior work experience, working in high-need schools or teaching in shortage subject areas.

- The pension plan for teachers is well funded.
- Teachers are only offered a defined benefit pension plan, and pension policies are not portable, flexible or fair to all teachers.
- The District does not contribute to the funding of its pension system for teachers.
- Retirement benefits are determined by a formula that is not neutral, meaning that pension wealth does not accumulate uniformly for each year a teacher works.

Area 5 Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Policy Strengths

The District has taken steps to ensure that licensure testing requirements are met by all teachers within one year.

Policy Weaknesses

- There is no assurance that teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluations will be placed on structured improvement plans or that they will be eligible for dismissal if they fail to improve.
- Ineffective classroom performance is not grounds for dismissal according to state policy, and there is no state-level policy governing teacher dismissal.
- At the state level, performance is not considered in determining which teachers to lay off during reductions in force.

District of Columbia Goal Summary

	Goal Breakdown	
	★ Best Practice	1
	Fully Meets	3
	Nearly Meets	2
	Partially Meets	6
	Only Meets a Small Part	4
	O Does Not Meet	20
	Progress on Goals Since 2009	
]	Area 1: Delivering Well Prepared Teachers	
	1-A: Admission into Preparation Programs	0
	1-B: Elementary Teacher Preparation	0
	1-C: Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction	0
	1-D: Teacher Preparation in Mathematics	٢
	1-E: Middle School Teacher Preparation	٩
	1-F: Secondary Teacher Preparation	\bigcirc
	1-G: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science	•
	1-H: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Social Studies	•
	1-I: Special Education Teacher Preparation	0
	1-J: Assessing Professional Knowledge	
	1-K: Student Teaching	0
	1-L: Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	0
	Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers	
	2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility	★●
	2-B: Alternate Route Preparation	0
	2-C: Alternate Route Usage and Providers	
	2-D: Part Time Teaching Licenses	0
	2-E: Licensure Reciprocity	0

Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers		
3-A: State Data Systems	٠	
3-B: Evaluation of Effectiveness	0	
3-C: Frequency of Evaluations	0	
3-D: Tenure	0	
3-E: Licensure Advancement	0	
3-F: Equitable Distribution	٢	
Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers		
4-A: Induction	0	
4-B: Professional Development	0	
4-C: Pay Scales	•	
4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience	0	
4-E: Differential Pay	0	
4-F: Performance Pay	0	
4-G: Pension Flexibility	٢	
4-H: Pension Sustainability		
4-I: Pension Neutrality	0	
Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers		
5-A: Licensure Loopholes	•	
5-B: Unsatisfactory Evaluations	0	
5-C: Dismissal for Poor Performance	0	
5-D: Reductions in Force	0	

About the Yearbook

The National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) has long argued that no educational improvement strategies states take on are likely to have a greater impact than policies that seek to maximize teacher effectiveness. In this fifth edition of the *State Teacher Policy Yearbook*, NCTQ provides a detailed examination of state laws, rules and regulations that govern the teaching profession, covering the full breadth of policies including teacher preparation, licensure, evaluation, career advancement, tenure, compensation, pensions and dismissal.

The *Yearbook* is a 52-volume compendium of customized state reports for the 50 states and the District of Columbia, as well as a national summary overview, measuring state progress against a set of 36 specific policy goals. All of the reports are available from NCTQ's website at www.nctq.org/stpy.

The 36 *Yearbook* goals are focused on helping states put in place a comprehensive policy framework in support of preparing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers. The goals were developed based on input and ongoing feedback from state officials, practitioners, policy groups and other education organizations, as well as from NCTQ's own nationally respected advisory board. These goals meet five criteria for an effective reform framework:

- 1. They are supported by a strong rationale, grounded in the best research available. The rationale and research citations supporting each goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy.
- 2. They offer practical rather than pie-in-the-sky solutions for improving teacher quality.
- 3. They take on the teaching profession's most pressing needs, including making the profession more responsive to the current labor market.
- 4. They are, for the most part, relatively cost neutral.
- 5. They respect the legitimate constraints that some states face so that the goals can work in all 50 states.

The need to ensure that all children have effective teachers has captured the attention of the public and policymakers across the country like never before. The *Yearbook* offers state school chiefs, school boards, legislatures and the many advocates who press hard for reform a concrete set of recommendations as they work to maximize teacher quality for their students.

How to Read the Yearbook

NCTQ rates state teacher policy in several ways.

For each of the 36 individual teacher policy goals, states receive two ratings. The first rating indicates whether, or to what extent, a state has met the goal. NCTQ uses these familiar graphics to indicate the extent to which each goal has been met:



A new feature of this year's *Yearbook* is a progress rating for each goal NCTQ has measured over time. These ratings are intended to give states a meaningful sense of the changes in teacher policy since the 2009 *Yearbook* was published. Using the symbols below, NCTQ determines whether each state has advanced on the goal, if the state policy has remained unchanged, or if the state has actually lost ground on that topic.

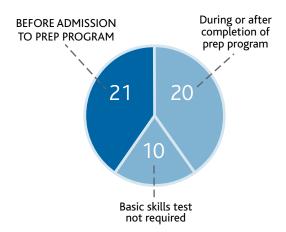


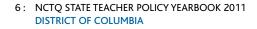
Some goals are marked with this symbol , which indicates that the bar has been raised for this goal since the 2009 *Yearbook*. With many states making considerable progress in advancing teacher effectiveness policy, NCTQ raised the standards for some goals where the bar had been quite low. As this may have a negative impact on some states' scores, those goals are always marked with the above symbol.

States receive grades in the five goal areas under which the 36 goals are organized: 1) delivering well prepared teachers; 2) expanding the pool of teachers; 3) identifying effective teachers; 4) retaining effective teachers and 5) exiting ineffective teachers. States also receive an overall grade that summarizes state performance across the five goal areas, giving an overall perspective on how states measure up against NCTQ benchmarks. New this year, states also receive an overall progress ranking, indicating how much progress each state has made compared to other states.

As always, the *Yearbook* provides a detailed narrative accounting of the policy strengths and weaknesses in each policy area for each state and for the nation as a whole. Best practices are highlighted. The reports are also chock full of reader-friendly charts and tables that provide a national perspective on each goal and serve as a quick reference on how states perform relative to one another, goal by goal.

Another new feature this year makes it easier to distinguish strong policies from weaker ones on our charts and tables. The policies NCTQ considers strong practices or the ideal policy positions for states are capitalized. This provides a quick thumbnail for readers to size up state policies against the policy option that aligns with NCTQ benchmarks for meeting each policy goal. For example, on the chart below, "BEFORE ADMISSION TO PREP PROGRAM" is capitalized, as that is the optimal timing for testing teacher candidates' academic proficiency.





Goals

AREA 1: DELIVERING WELL PREPARED TEACHERS

1-A: Admission into Preparation Programs

The state should require undergraduate teacher preparation programs to admit only candidates with good academic records.

1-B: Elementary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that its teacher preparation programs provide elementary teachers with a broad liberal arts education, the necessary foundation for teaching to the Common Core Standards.

1-C: Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction.

1-D: Teacher Preparation in Mathematics

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers have sufficient knowledge of the mathematics content taught in elementary grades.

1-E: Middle School Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

1-F: Secondary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

1-G: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science

The state should ensure that science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

1-H: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Social Studies

The state should ensure that social studies teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

1-I: Special Education Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that special education teachers know the subject matter they will be required to teach.

1-J: Assessing Professional Knowledge

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

1-K: Student Teaching

The state should ensure that teacher preparation programs provide teacher candidates with a high-quality clinical experience.

1-L: Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

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

AREA 2: EXPANDING THE POOL OF TEACHERS

2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility

The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.

2-B: Alternate Route Preparation

The state should ensure that its alternate routes provide streamlined preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers.

2-C: Alternate Route Usage and Providers

The state should provide an alternate route that is free from regulatory obstacles that limit its usage and providers.

2-D: Part Time Teaching Licenses

The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time.

2-E: Licensure Reciprocity

The state should help to make licenses fully portable among states, with appropriate safeguards.

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Goals

AREA 3: IDENTIFYING EFFECTIVE TEACHERS

3-A: State Data Systems

The state should have a data system that contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness.

3-B: Evaluation of Effectiveness

The state should require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.

3-C: Frequency of Evaluations

The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.

3-D: Tenure

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

3-E: Licensure Advancement

The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

3-F: Equitable Distribution

The state should publicly report districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged children.

AREA 4: RETAINING EFFECTIVE TEACHERS

4-A: Induction

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

4-B: Professional Development

The state should require professional development to be based on needs identified through teacher evaluations.

4-C: Pay Scales

The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.

4-D: Compensation for Prior Work Experience

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

4-E: Differential Pay

The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas.

4-F: Performance Pay

The state should support performance pay but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.

4-G: Pension Flexibility

The state should ensure that pension systems are portable, flexible and fair to all teachers.

4-H: Pension Sustainability

The state should ensure that excessive resources are not committed to funding teachers' pension systems.

4-1: Pension Neutrality

The state should ensure that pension systems are neutral, uniformly increasing pension wealth with each additional year of work.

AREA 5: EXITING INEFFECTIVE TEACHERS

5-A: Licensure Loopholes

The state should close loopholes that allow teachers who have not met licensure requirements to continue teaching.

5-B: Unsatisfactory Evaluations

The state should articulate consequences for teachers with unsatisfactory evaluations, including specifying that teachers with multiple unsatisfactory evaluations should be eligible for dismissal.

5-C: Dismissal for Poor Performance

The state should articulate that ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and ensure that the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.

5-D: Reductions in Force

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

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Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal A – Admission into Preparation Programs

The state should require undergraduate teacher preparation programs to admit only candidates with good academic records.

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should require teacher candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, writing and mathematics skills as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs.
- 2. All preparation programs in a state should use a common admissions test to facilitate program comparison, and the test should allow comparison of applicants to the general college-going population and selection of applicants in the top half of that population.
- Programs should have the option of exempting candidates from this test who submit comparable SAT or ACT scores at a level set by the state.

The components for this goal have changed since 2009. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

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

Figure 1

How States are Faring in Admission Requirements **Best Practice State** 1 Texas States Meet Goal 11 States Nearly Meet Goal Connecticut, Georgia 1, Hawaii 1, Indiana¹, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Rhode Island 1, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia 6 States Partly Meet Goal Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa 1, Missouri, Nebraska, Washington States Meet a Small Part of Goal 2 Florida, Wisconsin States Do Not Meet Goal 31 Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

> 1:6 👄 : 45 **↓**:0

Area 1: Goal A District of Columbia Analysis



State Does Not Meet Goal

Bar Raised for this Goal 🛛 🧲

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not require aspiring teachers to pass a test of academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs, instead delaying its basic skills assessment until teacher candidates are ready to apply for licensure.

Supporting Research D.C. Municipal Regulations 5-1601

RECOMMENDATION

Require teacher candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, writing and mathematics skills as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs.

Teacher preparation programs that do not screen candidates end up investing considerable resources in individuals who may not be able to successfully complete the program and pass licensing tests. Candidates needing additional support should complete remediation prior to program entry, avoiding the possibility of an unsuccessful investment of significant public tax dollars.

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

The basic skills tests in use in most states largely assess middle school-level skills. To improve the selectivity of teacher candidates—a common characteristic in countries whose students consistently outperform ours in international comparisons—the District of Columbia should require an assessment that demonstrates that candidates are academically competitive with all peers, regardless of their intended profession. Requiring a common test normed to the general college population would allow for the selection of applicants in the top half of their class, as well as facilitate program comparison.

Exempt candidates with comparable SAT or ACT scores.

The District of Columbia should waive the basic skills test requirement for candidates whose SAT or ACT scores demonstrate that they are in the top half of their class.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District asserted that it has two pathways for accreditation of educator preparation units and state approval of educator preparation programs. The traditional pathway is primarily geared toward educator preparation programs housed at institutions of higher education, and the District does not require applicants to pass a basic skills test for program entry. However, independent of any District requirements, all institutions with educator preparation units accredited under the traditional pathway require that candidates pass the basic skills tests prior to being admitted. The State-Only Post-Baccalaureate accreditation



and program approval pathway is targeted primarily at organizations and local education agencies that prepare alternate route teacher candidates. The District contended that for this pathway, it requires the successful completion of the basic skills tests as a condition of entry.

Further, the District noted that effective January 1, 2011, licensure applicants and teacher preparation program participants may use SAT, ACT and/or GRE scores to meet the basic skills testing requirement.

Supporting Research

osse.dc.gov/service/accreditation-pathway-ii http://www.osse.dc.gov/seo/frames.asp?doc=/seo/lib/seo/educatorlicensingaccred/PRAXIS_TESTING_FLYER.pdf

LAST WORD

The District should consider flipping its requirement, so that the basic skills test is required for traditional undergraduate preparation programs rather than for Post-Baccalaureate programs, whether traditional or alternative. As discussed in Goal 2-A, basic skills tests measure minimum competency—essentially those skills that a person should have acquired in middle school—and are inappropriate for candidates who have already earned a bachelor's degree. For graduate programs, the District should consider other measures of academic proficiency, such as the GRE.

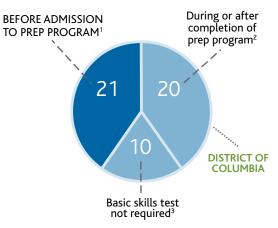


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Although there are a number of states that require teacher candidates to pass a basic skills test as a criterion for admission to a preparation program, **Texas** is the only state that requires a test of academic proficiency normed to the general college bound population rather than just to prospective teachers. In addition, the state's minimum scores for admission appear to be relatively selective when compared to other tests used across the country.

Figure 3

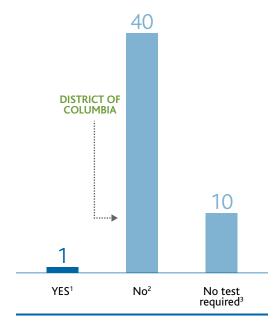
When do states test teacher candidates' basic skills?



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

Figure 2

Do states require a test of academic proficiency that is normed to the general college-going population?



1. Strong Practice: Texas

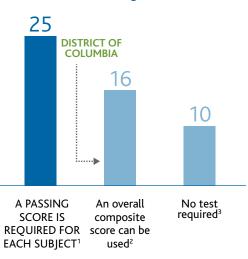
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina,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

Figure 4

Figure 4		Test normed of the processing	Test normed only to tear	ler /	
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academic proficiency?	RMED DPI	befo	Ped o, durit	of pre	
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West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	1	20	20	10	
	I	20	20	10	

Figure 5

Do states measure performance in reading, mathematics and writing?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. California⁴, District of Columbia⁴, Hawaii⁴, Indiana, Iowa, Maine⁴, Maryland, New Hampshire⁴, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota⁵, Pennsylvania⁴, Rhode Island⁴, Vermont, Virginia
- 3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming
- 4. Minimum score must be met in each section.
- 5. Composite score can only be used if passing score is met on two of three subtests.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal B – Elementary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that its teacher preparation programs provide elementary teachers with a broad liberal arts education, the necessary foundation for teaching to the Common Core Standards.

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should require that its approved teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours to ensure appropriate depth in the core subject areas of English, science, social studies and fine arts. (Mathematics preparation for elementary teachers is discussed in Goal 1-D.)
- 2. The state should require elementary teacher candidates to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all subjects.
- 3. The state should require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area. In addition to enhancing content knowledge, this requirement also ensures that prospective teachers have taken higher level academic coursework.
- 4. Arts and sciences faculty, rather than education faculty, should in most cases teach liberal arts coursework to teacher candidates.

Background

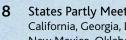
A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy.

Figure 6

How States are Faring in Elementary **Teacher Preparation**



States Nearly Meet Goal Indiana¹, Massachusetts, Minnesota¹, New Hampshire



States Partly Meet Goal California, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Washington

18 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah 1, Virginia, West Virginia

21 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

4 : 4 1:3 •:44

Area 1: Goal B **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Although the District of Columbia has adopted the Common Core Standards, the District does not ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach the rigorous content associated with these standards.

The District requires candidates to pass the Praxis II general elementary content test, which does not report teacher performance in each subject area, meaning that it is possible to pass the test and still fail some subject areas, especially given the District's low passing score. Further, based on available information on the Praxis II, there is no reason to expect that the current version would be well aligned with the Common Core Standards.

Although the District does not specify any coursework requirements for general education or elementary teacher candidates, it relies upon the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) standards for articulating the subject-matter knowledge that elementary teacher candidates must have.

However, ACEI standards fall far short of the mark by offering no mention of world and American history; world, British and American literature; American government; or grammar and composition. ACEI standards do mention important topics in science, but even in those areas, its standards consist mainly of extremely general competencies that programs should help teacher candidates to achieve.

Finally, there is no assurance that arts and sciences faculty will teach liberal arts classes to elementary teacher candidates.

Supporting Research Praxis II www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

Require a content test that ensures sufficient knowledge in all subjects.

The District of Columbia should ensure that its subject-matter test for elementary teacher candidates is well aligned with the Common Core Standards, which represent an effort to significantly raise the standards for the knowledge and skills American students will need for college readiness and global competitiveness.

The District should also require separate passing scores for each content area on the test because without them it is impossible to measure knowledge of individual subjects. Further, to be meaning-ful, the District should ensure that these passing scores reflect high levels of performance.

Provide broad liberal arts coursework relevant to the elementary classroom.

The District of Columbia should either articulate a more specific set of standards or establish comprehensive coursework requirements that are specifically geared to the areas of knowledge needed by PK-6 teachers. Further, the District should align its requirements for elementary teacher candidates with the Common Core Standards to ensure that candidates will complete coursework relevant to the common topics in elementary grades. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours in the core subject areas of English, science, social studies and fine arts.



Require at least an academic concentration.

An academic concentration, if not a full academic major, would not only enhance District of Columbia teachers' content knowledge, but it would also ensure that prospective teachers have taken higher-level academic coursework. Further, it would provide an option for teacher candidates unable to fulfill student teaching or other professional requirements to still earn a degree.

Ensure arts and sciences faculty teach liberal arts coursework.

Although an education professor is best suited to teach effective methodologies in subject instruction, faculty from the university's college of arts and sciences should provide subject-matter foundation.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia contended that although the analysis is accurate in that the District does not have an explicit stipulation requiring educator preparation units to deliver a comprehensive liberal arts course of study, there are multiple, obvious reasons for this that are not addressed.

The District asserted that many of its accredited institutions provide graduate-level educator preparation to post-baccalaureate candidates, and it is expected that in these cases, candidates will have completed a comprehensive liberal arts course of study prior to entering the teacher preparation program. For candidates in undergraduate teacher preparation programs, which are increasingly fewer and far between, most enter during their third year of undergraduate coursework, as they are undertaking and completing the liberal arts course of study cited in the analysis. Educator preparation programs may not be explicitly required to provide a comprehensive liberal arts course of study, but they are required to extensively assess candidates' knowledge of the subject matter.

Further, the District pointed out that it has established requirements for teacher license applicants that outline specific liberal arts or general education expectations for those seeking licensure to teach. These requirements apply directly to teacher candidates who have not participated in a state-approved teacher preparation program, and they outline 48 semester hours of coursework spanning the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and math, and health and physical education.

State Response Citation

http://os.dc.gov/os/frames.asp?doc=/os/lib/os/info/odai/title_5/16.pdf

LAST WORD

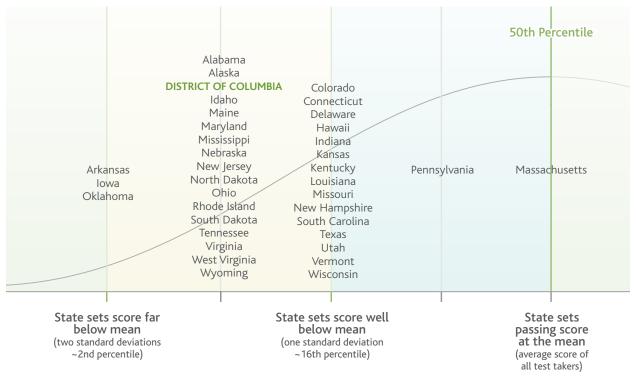
If teacher candidates prepared in traditional undergraduate programs are indeed "increasingly fewer and far between" in the District, that is all the more reason for the District to ensure that its testing requirements appropriately screen and measure the content knowledge of all candidates for licensure. NCTQ agrees that those in a graduate or alternative program must have already acquired subject-area knowledge, and the District must ensure that it does not license those who are lacking. While it may still be helpful for states to outline standards and/or course requirements for undergraduate programs, the bottom line is the test, and the content test currently used by the District does not ensure that any candidates—regardless of program or route—are prepared to teach the rigorous content associated with the Common Core Standards.

★ EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Although no state meets this goal, three states have noteworthy policies. **Massachusetts's** testing requirements, which are based on the state's curriculum, ensure that elementary teachers are provided with a broad liberal arts education. **Indiana** and **Utah** are the first two states to adopt the new Praxis II "Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects" content test, which requires candidates to pass separately scored subtests in reading/language arts, mathematics, social studies and science.

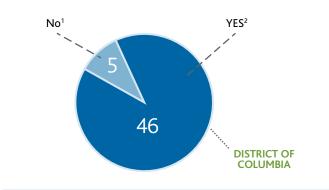
Figure 7

Where do states set the passing score on elementary content licensure tests¹?



1 Based on the most recent technical data that could be obtained; data not available for Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon and Washington. Montana and Nebraska do not require a content test. Colorado score is for Praxis II, not PLACE. Indiana, Maryland, Nevada, South Carolina and Utah now require new Praxis tests for which the technical data are not yet available; analysis is based on previously required test.

Figure 8 Have states adopted the K-12 Common Core State Standards?

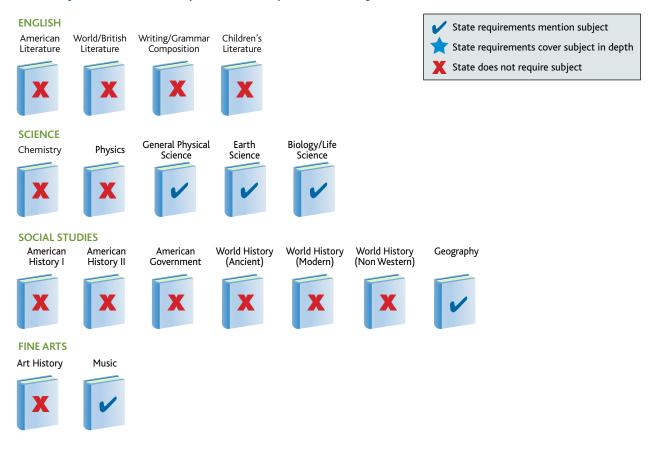


1. Alaska, Minnesota, Nebraska, Texas, Virginia

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

Figure 9

What subjects does **District of Columbia** expect elementary teachers to know?

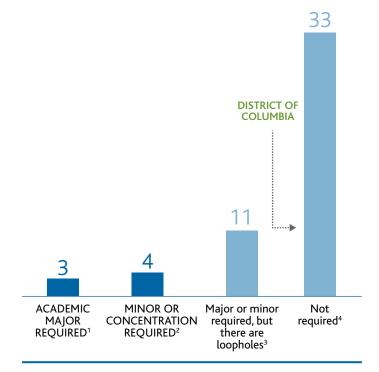


18 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Figure 10				GLISH		/		SCIE							JDIE				FINE ARTS
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Wisconsin																			
Wyoming																			

Figure 11

Do states expect elementary teachers to complete an academic concentration?



- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico
- 2. Strong Practice: Indiana, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Oklahoma
- California, Connecticut, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia These states require a major, minor or concentration but there is no assurance it will be in an academic subject area.
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers



Goal C – Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction.

Goal Components

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

- 1. To ensure that teacher preparation programs adequately prepare candidates in the science of reading instruction, the state should require that these programs train teachers in the five instructional components shown by scientifically based reading research to be essential to teaching children to read.
- The state should require that new elementary teachers pass a rigorous test of reading instruction in order to attain licensure. The design of the test should ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without knowing the science of reading instruction.

Background

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

Figure 12 How States are Faring in Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction **Best Practice States** 3 Connecticut, Massachusetts, Virginia 5 States Meet Goal Alabama 1, Minnesota 1, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania 1, Tennessee 5 States Nearly Meet Goal California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Texas 14 States Partly Meet Goal Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana 1, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico¹, Ohio, Oregon, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia States Meet a Small Part of Goal 2 Arizona, New York 22 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Delaware, **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:5 关 : 46 4:0

Area 1: Goal C District of Columbia Analysis



State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not require that teacher preparation programs for elementary teacher candidates address the science of reading. The District has neither coursework requirements nor standards related to this critical area.

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

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that teacher preparation programs prepare elementary teaching candidates in the science of reading instruction.

The District of Columbia should require that teacher preparation programs train candidates in the five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

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

The District of Columbia should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom. The assessment should clearly test knowledge and skills related to the science of reading, and if it is combined with an assessment that also tests general pedagogy or elementary content, it should report a subscore for the science of reading specifically. Elementary teachers who do not possess the minimum knowledge in this area should not be eligible for licensure.

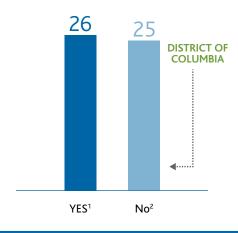
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Eight states meet this goal by requiring that preparation programs for elementary teacher candidates address the science of reading and requiring that candidates pass comprehensive assessments that specifically test the five elements of instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Independent reviews of the assessments used by **Connecticut**, **Massachusetts** and **Virginia** confirm that these tests are rigorous measures of teacher candidates' knowledge of scientifically based reading instruction.

Figure 13

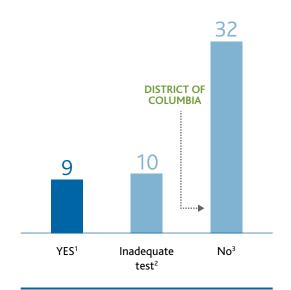
Do states require preparation for elementary teachers in the science of reading?



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

Figure 14

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



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Minnesota⁴, New Mexico⁵, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania⁵, Tennessee, Virginia
- 2. Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Missouri, New York, Oregon, Texas
- 3. Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Based on the limited information available about the test on the state's website.
- 5. Test is under development and not yet available for review.

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Arizona					
Arkansas					
California	—				
Colorado	—				
Connecticut					
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Wyoming					
wyonning		25	•		22
	26	25	9	10	32

^{1.} Based on the limited information available about the test on the state's website.

^{2.} Test is under development and not yet available for review.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal D – Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics

The state should ensure that new elementary teachers have sufficient knowledge of the mathematics content taught in elementary grades.

Goal Components

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

- The state should require teacher preparation programs to deliver mathematics content of appropriate breadth and depth to elementary teacher candidates. This content should be specific to the needs of the elementary teacher (i.e., foundations, algebra and geometry with some statistics).
- 2. The state should require elementary teacher candidates to pass a rigorous test of mathematics content in order to attain licensure.
- Such test can also be used to test out of course requirements and should be designed to ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without sufficient knowledge of mathematics.

Background

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

×	1	Best Practice State Massachusetts
0	0	States Meet Goal
•	1	State Nearly Meets Goal
0	5	States Partly Meet Goal California, Florida, Minnesota 1, New Mexico, Utah 1
	30	States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa T, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming
0	14	States Do Not Meet Goal Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, West Virginia, Wisconsin

Area 1: Goal D **District of Columbia** Analysis



🚽 State Meets a Small Part of Goal 🛛 🤇 🕞 Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia relies on national accreditation standards for teacher preparation programs as the basis for articulating its requirements for the mathematics content knowledge of elementary teacher candidates.

The District does not specify any coursework requirements regarding mathematics content. However, the District requires NCATE accreditation, suggesting that it uses Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) standards for approving its elementary programs. ACEI standards address content in mathematics foundations, but these standards lack the specificity needed to ensure that teacher preparation programs deliver other mathematics content of appropriate breadth and depth to elementary teacher candidates. For example, ACEI algebra standards state that teacher candidates should "know, understand and apply algebraic principles," but these standards make little mention of the actual knowledge that might contribute to such understanding.

The District requires that all new elementary teachers pass a general subject-matter test, the Praxis II. This commercial test lacks a specific mathematics subscore, so one can likely fail the mathematics portion and still pass the test. Further, while this test does cover important elementary school-level content, it barely evaluates candidates' knowledge beyond an elementary school level, does not challenge their understanding of underlying concepts and does not require candidates to apply knowledge in nonroutine, multistep procedures.

Supporting Research

www.ets.org/praxis

http://www.acei.org/standhp.htm

"No Common Denominator: The Preparation of Elementary Teachers in Mathematics by America's Education Schools," NCTQ, June 2008 http://www.nctq.org/p/publications/docs/nctq_ttmath_fullreport.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

Although ACEI standards require some knowledge in key areas of mathematics, the District of Columbia should require teacher preparation programs to provide mathematics content specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers. This includes specific coursework in foundations, algebra and geometry, with some statistics.

Require teacher candidates to pass a rigorous mathematics assessment.

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



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia asserted that in 2000, it adopted the NCATE unit accreditation standards for educator preparation units recognized or seeking recognition under its traditional accreditation pathway. In doing so, the District also adopted the specialty area standards of organizations recognized by NCATE, which include ACEI, for approval of programs in elementary education. For units accredited under the Post-Baccalaureate Non-Degree accreditation and program approval pathway, elementary education programs are designed based on the subject-area standards for elementary education, which are adapted from the ACEI national standards for elementary education.

The District contended that although not recognized as acceptable or adequate by NCTQ, and perhaps not addressing the specific items outlined in the above analysis, both sets of standards heavily emphasize key areas in mathematics content for the appropriate grade levels. "What is not recognized or addressed in the analysis above is that despite the pathway by which an elementary education program in D.C. is approved, candidates are extensively assessed while in the program, on their mastery of the content knowledge at multiple points throughout the program and in a variety of ways."

Further, the District pointed out that it has established requirements for teacher license applicants that outline specific coursework for those seeking licensure to teach elementary education. These requirements apply directly to teacher candidates seeking a license who have not participated in a state-approved teacher preparation program and outline up to 12 semester hours of mathematics coursework specific to the education of children from grades 1-6.

Supporting Research

http://os.dc.gov/os/frames.asp?doc=/os/lib/os/info/odai/title_5/16.pdf

LAST WORD

The District of Columbia's faith that teacher preparation programs are adequately addressing elementary mathematics preparation is not supported by the evidence. NCTQ's 2008 study "No Common Denominator: The Preparation of Elementary Teachers in Mathematics by America's Education Schools" found that few programs provide preparation of the appropriate breadth, depth and relevance.

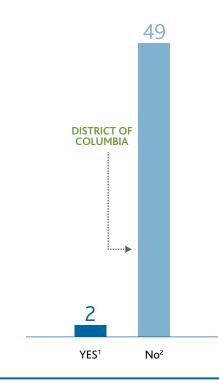


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Massachusetts is the only state that ensures that its elementary teachers have sufficient knowledge of mathematics content. As part of its general curriculum test, the state utilizes a separately scored mathematics subtest that covers topics specifically geared to the needs of elementary teachers.

Figure 17

Do states articulate appropriate mathematics preparation for elementary teachers?

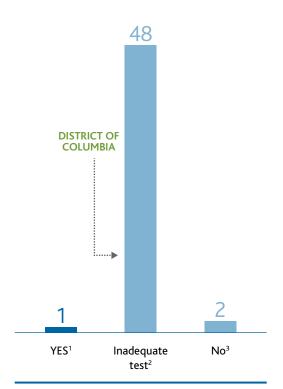


1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Massachusetts

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

Figure 18

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



1. Strong Practice: Massachusetts

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

3. Montana, Nebraska

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal E – Middle School Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 19

How States are Faring in Middle School **Teacher Preparation** 3 **Best Practice States** Arkansas 🕇, Georgia, Pennsylvania 🕇 7 States Meet Goal Connecticut, Florida 1, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, South Carolina 1 States Nearly Meet Goal 8 Alabama, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Indiana, Kansas, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia 11 States Partly Meet Goal Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia 11 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota¹, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Wyoming 11 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Maine, North Carolina, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 关 : 45 ↓:1 1:5



Area 1: Goal E **District of Columbia** Analysis



State Nearly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia requires middle-level certification for all middle school teachers. The District also requires that all middle school teachers complete a minimum of 30 semester hours in a content-related major.

All new middle school teachers in the District are also required to pass a single-subject Praxis II content test to attain licensure; a general content knowledge test is not an option.

Supporting Research DCMR Title 5, Chapter 16, Section 1610 www.ets.org/praxis

RECOMMENDATION

Strengthen middle school teachers' subject-matter preparation.

The District of Columbia is commended for not allowing middle school teachers to teach on a K-8 generalist license. However, it should encourage middle school teachers who plan to teach multiple subjects to earn two minors in two core academic areas, rather than a single major. The District should retain its requirement for a subject-area major for middle school candidates who intend to teach a single subject.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Arkansas, Georgia and Pennsylvania ensure that all middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach middle school-level content. Teachers are required to earn at least two content-area minors. Georgia and Pennsylvania also require passing scores on single-subject content tests, and Arkansas requires a subject-matter assessment with separate passing scores for each academic area.

- 1. California offers a K-12 generalist license for self-contained classrooms.
- 2. Illinois offers K-9 license.
- 3. With the exception of mathematics.
- 4. Oregon offers 3-8 license.
- 5. Wisconsin offers 1-8 license.

Figure 20

Figure 20	K ⁻⁸ LICENSE NOT OFFERED	Contained for contained classrooms	
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Figure 21		/	/	Less than a major on m	□ ^{No requirement} of ^{loose} " ^{najor} or minor of ^{content}
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North Carolina					
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Ohio			1		
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Pennsylvania		2			
Rhode Island					
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	13	3	9	12	14
	15	5	9	14	14

^{1.} State does not explicitly require two minors, but it has equivalent requirements.

^{2.} Pennsylvania has two options. One option requires a 30 credit concentration in one subject and nearly a minor (12 credits) in three additional subjects; the second option is 21 credits in two subject-area concentrations with 12 credits in two additional subjects.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal F – Secondary Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a licensing test in every subject they intend to teach.
- 2. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a content test when adding subject-area endorsements to an existing license.

Background

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

Figure 22 How States are Faring in Secondary **Teacher Preparation Best Practice States** 2 Indiana, Tennessee 29 States Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin States Nearly Meet Goal 0 8 States Partly Meet Goal DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico States Meet a Small Part of Goal 0 12 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: New Goal



Area 1: Goal F **District of Columbia** Analysis



State Partly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not ensure that all secondary teachers are adequately prepared to teach grade-level content.

The District of Columbia requires that its secondary teacher candidates pass a Praxis II content test to teach any core secondary subjects. Unfortunately, the District permits a significant loophole to this important policy by allowing both general science and general social studies licenses, without requiring subject-matter testing for each subject area within these disciplines (see Goals 1-G and 1-H).

To add an endorsement area, secondary teachers may choose from the following options: earn a passing score on a Praxis II content exam, complete a major or major equivalent in the subject area, or meet the coursework requirements outlined in the District's regulations.

Supporting Research

Teacher Licensure Exams http://www.osse.dc.gov/seo/frames.asp?doc=/seo/lib/seo/educatorlicensingaccred/PRAXIS_TESTING_FLYER.pdf Teaching Endorsement Licenses http://www.osse.dc.gov/seo/cwp/view,a,1224,Q,564399,PM,1.asp

RECOMMENDATION

Require subject-matter testing for all secondary teacher candidates.

The District of Columbia wisely requires subject-matter tests for most secondary teachers but should address any loopholes that undermine this policy (see Goals 1-G and 1-H).

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

The District of Columbia should require passing scores on subject-specific content tests, regardless of other coursework or degree requirements, for teachers who are licensed in core secondary subjects and wish to add another subject area, or endorsement, to their licenses. While coursework may be generally indicative of background in a particular subject area, only a subject-matter test ensures that teachers know the specific content they will need to teach.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia asserted that it requires testing and licensure in the following sciences: biology, chemistry and physics. Teachers in these subject areas are required to obtain subject-specific licensure.

Supporting Research

DCMR Title 5, Chapter 16, sections 1601.1, 1615-1617

LAST WORD

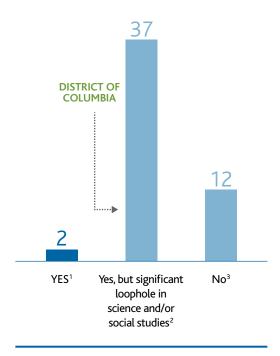
The issue of general science licensure is discussed in Goal 1-G.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Not only do **Indiana** and **Tennessee** require that secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subjects, but these states also do not permit any significant loopholes to this important policy by allowing secondary general science or social studies licenses (see Goals 1-G and 1-H).

Figure 23

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



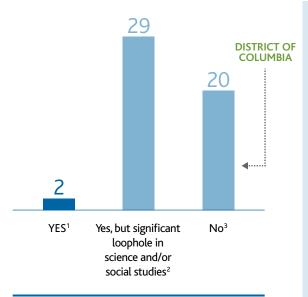
1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Tennessee

- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin. (For more on loopholes, see Goals 1-G and 1-H.)
- 3. Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Wyoming

Figure 24

Do all secondary teachers have to pass a content test in every subject area to add an endorsement?





1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Tennessee

- Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin. (For more on loopholes, see Goals 1-G and 1-H.)
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Wyoming

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal G – Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science

The state should ensure that science teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should require secondary science teachers to pass a subject-matter test of each science discipline they intend to teach.
- 2. The state should require middle school science teachers to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without sufficient knowledge of science.

Background

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

Figure 25 How States are Faring in Preparation to Teach Science **Best Practice State** 1 New Jersey States Meet Goal Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Virginia 11 States Nearly Meet Goal Arkansas, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia 16 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Idaho, Illinois, Wisconsin 12 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, California, Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: New Goal

Area 1: Goal G District of Columbia Analysis



State Partly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009



The District of Columbia offers a general science certification for secondary teachers. A minimum of six semester hours in each of the following is required: biology, chemistry, physics, earth and space science, and environmental science. Candidates must also pass the Praxis II "General Science" test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general science but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Middle school teachers in the District must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours in a contentrelated major. Commendably, candidates must also pass a Praxis II content knowledge test in the content area of the teaching assignment.

Supporting Research

DC Municipal Regulations 5.1614; 5.1610 Teacher Licensure Requirements osse.dc.gov/seo/cwp/view,a,1224,Q,563671,PM,1.asp Praxis Testing Requirements www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

Require secondary science teachers to pass tests of content knowledge for each science discipline they intend to teach.

States that allow general science certifications—and only require a general knowledge science exam—are not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. The District of Columbia's required assessment combines subject areas (e.g., biology, chemistry, physics) and does not report separate scores for each subject area. Therefore, candidates could answer many—perhaps all—chemistry questions, for example, incorrectly, yet still be licensed to teach chemistry to high school students.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia asserted that it requires testing and licensure in the following sciences: biology, chemistry and physics. Teachers in these subject areas are required to obtain subject-specific licensure. The District added that the assertion that candidates may take the general science exam "yet still be licensed to teach chemistry to high school students" is incorrect. Teachers of the discrete sciences must obtain subject-specific licensure and take the relevant subject-specific licensure exams or be deemed "teaching out of field." A general science license is not the appropriate license for teachers of the discrete sciences specific to the areas of biology, chemistry and physics.

Supporting Research

DCMR Title 5, Chapter 16, sections 1601.1, 1615-1617

LAST WORD

The area of concern is the District of Columbia's general science certification, not subject-specific science certifications. NCTQ is unable to find a policy that limits teachers with a general science certificate to teach only general science courses. Rather than rely on assumed common understandings regarding which courses a teacher with a general science certificate may or may not teach, the District of Columbia should articulate specific policy ensuring that all science teachers are required to pass a subject-specific content test for each area they plan to teach.

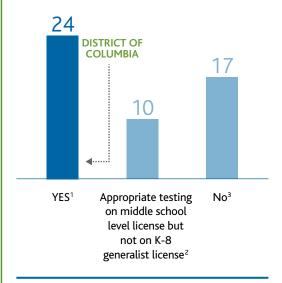
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New Mexico					
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North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio					
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Oregon					
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Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

New Jersey does not offer certification in general science for secondary teachers. Although the state allows a combination physical science certificate, it ensure adequate content knowledge in both chemistry and physics by requiring teacher candidates to pass individual content tests in chemistry, physics and general science. Further, middle school science teachers must pass a science-specific content test.

Figure 27

Do states ensure that middle school teachers have adequate preparation to teach science?



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

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal H – Secondary Teacher Preparation in Social Studies

The state should ensure that social studies teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach.

Goal Components

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

- The state should require secondary social studies teachers to pass a subject-matter test of each social studies discipline they intend to teach.
- The state should require middle school social studies teachers to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure that prospective teachers cannot pass without sufficient knowledge of social studies.

Background

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

Figure 28 How States are Faring in Preparation to Teach Social Studies 1 **Best Practice State** Indiana 2 States Meet Goal Georgia, South Dakota States Nearly Meet Goal 2 Minnesota, Oklahoma 32 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Florida, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming State Meets a Small Part of Goal Illinois 13 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas Progress on this Goal Since 2009: New Goal



Area 1: Goal H District of Columbia Analysis



State Partly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia only offers secondary certification in general social studies. Candidates must complete 33 semester hours that include history, world history, U.S. history and the history and government of the District of Columbia; geography; economics; political science; and at least one of the following: international relations, law, philosophy, psychology, sociology, social science or anthropology. They must also pass the Praxis II "Social Studies: Content Knowledge" test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general social studies but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Middle school teachers in the District of Columbia must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours in a content-related major. Commendably, candidates must also pass a Praxis II content knowledge test in the content area of the teaching assignment.

Supporting Research

DC Municipal Regulations, 5.1619, 5.1610 Teacher Licensure Requirements osse.dc.gov/seo/cwp/view,a,1224,Q,563671,PM,1.asp Praxis Testing Requirements www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

Require secondary social studies teachers to pass tests of content knowledge for each social studies discipline they intend to teach.

States that allow general social studies certifications—and only require a general knowledge social studies exam—are not ensuring that their secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. The District of Columbia's required assessment combines all subject areas (e.g., history, geography, economics) and does not report separate scores for each subject area. Therefore, candidates could answer many—perhaps all—history questions, for example, incorrectly, yet still be licensed to teach history to high school students.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 29

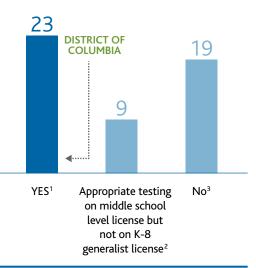
Figure 29	ž	OFFERS ONLY SINGLE SUBJECT SOCIAL STUDIES	Offos general social studies testing withour adequate
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South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Not only does Indiana ensure that its secondary social studies teachers possess adequate content knowledge of all subjects they intend to teachthrough both coursework and content testingbut the state's policy also does not make it overly burdensome for social studies teachers to teach multiple subjects. Other notable states include Georgia and South Dakota, which also do not offer secondary general social studies certifications.

Figure 30

Do states ensure that middle school teachers have adequate preparation to teach social studies?



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

Figure 29

1. Massachusetts does not offer a general social studies license, but offers combination licenses.



Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal I – Special Education Teacher Preparation

The state should ensure that special education teachers know the subject matter they will be required to teach.

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should not permit special education teachers to teach on a K-12 license that does not differentiate between the preparation of elementary teachers and that of secondary teachers.
- All elementary special education candidates should have a broad liberal arts program of study that includes study in mathematics, science, English, social studies and fine arts and should be required to pass a subjectmatter test for licensure that is no less rigorous than what is required of general education candidates.
- 3. The state should require that teacher preparation programs graduate secondary special education teacher candidates who are highly qualified in at least two subjects. The state should also customize a "HOUSSE" route for new secondary special education teachers to help them achieve highly qualified status in all the subjects they teach.

The components for this goal have changed since 2009. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

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

Figure 31 How States are Faring in Special Education **Teacher Preparation** 0 **Best Practice States** States Meet Goal State Nearly Meets Goal Massachusetts 15 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey 1, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania¹, Rhode Island, Texas¹, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin State Meets a Small Part of Goal Kansas 34 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado,

Connecticut, Delaware, **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

1:3 ↔:48 ↓:0

Area 1: Goal I **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Bar Raised for this Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Regrettably, the District of Columbia only offers a K-12 special education certification.

Supporting Research

District of Columbia Municipal Regulations Title 5, Sections 1647

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

Provide a broad liberal arts program of study to elementary special education candidates, and require that they pass the same content test as general education teachers.

The District of Columbia should ensure that special education teacher candidates who will teach elementary grades possess knowledge of the subject matter at hand. Not only should the District require core-subject coursework relevant to the elementary classroom, but it should also require that these candidates pass the same subject-matter test required of all elementary teachers. Failure to ensure that teachers possess requisite content knowledge deprives special education students of the opportunity to reach their academic potential.

Ensure that secondary special education teacher candidates graduate with highly qualified status in at least two subjects, and customize a HOUSSE route so that they can achieve highly qualified status in all subjects they plan to teach.

To make secondary special education teacher candidates more flexible and better able to serve schools and students, the District of Columbia should use a combination of coursework and testing to ensure that they graduate with highly qualified status in two core academic areas. A customized HOUSSE route can also help new secondary special education teacher candidates to become highly qualified in multiple subjects by offering efficient means by which they could gain broad overviews of specific areas of content knowledge, such as content-driven university courses. Such a route is specifically permitted in the 2004 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

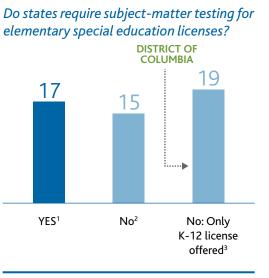
Figure 32

Figure 32		Chesk 12 and gradespecific	/
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	16	16	19

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Unfortunately, NCTQ cannot highlight any state's policy in this area. Preparation of special education teachers remains a topic in critical need of states' attention. However, it is worth noting that three states-Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Texas—will no longer issue K-12 special education certifications. Only grade-level specific options will be available to new teachers.

Figure 33



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Oregon⁴, Pennsylvania⁵, Rhode Island, Texas, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Alaska, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming
- 3. Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia
- 4. Although Oregon requires testing, the state allows an "alternative assessment" option for candidates who fail the tests twice to still be considered for a license.
- 5. In Pennsylvania, a candidate who opts for dual certification in elementary special education and as a reading specialist does not have to take a content test.

Figure 32 1. Beginning January 1, 2013

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal J – Assessing Professional Knowledge

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

Goal Components

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

1. The state should assess new teachers' knowledge of teaching and learning by means of a pedagogy test aligned to the state's professional standards.

Background

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

Figure 34

How States are Faring in Assessing Professional Knowledge



Best Practice States



0

23 States Meet Goal Arizona, Arkansas, California, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 1, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee,

States Nearly Meet Goal 2

Maryland, Rhode Island

States Partly Meet Goal 3 Idaho, North Carolina, Utah

Texas, West Virginia

States Meet a Small Part of Goal 5 Connecticut, Indiana, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Wyoming

18 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii I, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin

Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

1:1 😝 : 49 ↓:1



Area 1: Goal J **District of Columbia** Analysis



State Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

As of September 2011, the District of Columbia requires all new teachers to pass a pedagogy test from the Praxis series in order to attain licensure..

Supporting Research www.ets.org/praxis

RECOMMENDATION

Verify that commercially available tests of pedagogy actually align with the District's standards.

The District of Columbia should ensure that its selected tests of professional knowledge measure the knowledge and skills the District expects new teachers to have.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

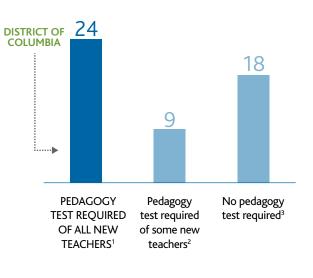
The District of Columbia was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis.

★ EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Twenty-three states meet this goal, and although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, it additionally commends the nine states (Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Texas) that utilize their own assessments to measure pedagogical knowledge and skills.

Figure 35

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



- Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia
- 2. Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Utah⁴, Wyoming
- Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin
- 4. Not required until teacher advances from a Level One to a Level Two license.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal K – Student Teaching

The state should ensure that teacher preparation programs provide teacher candidates with a high-quality clinical experience.

Goal Components Figure 36 (The factors considered in determining the states' How States are Faring in Student Teaching rating for the goal.) 1. The state should require that student **Best Practice States** teachers only be placed with cooperating teachers for whom there is evidence of their 2 States Meet Goal effectiveness as measured by consistent gains Florida, Tennessee in student learning. 2. The state should require that teacher State Nearly Meets Goal candidates spend at least 10 weeks Kentucky student teaching. 21 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Hawaii, Background Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, A detailed rationale and supporting research for North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, this goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy. Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin States Meet a Small Part of Goal 5 Indiana, Michigan, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota 22 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: New Goal

Area 1: Goal K **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

For teacher candidates who do not complete a state-approved program, the District of Columbia requires a minimum of six semester hours in student teaching. Candidates must be in classrooms for at least 200 clock hours, which must include a minimum of 120 clock hours in direct teaching activities in their senior year. Observation and participation prior to the student teaching experience comprise the remaining hours.

However, the District does not articulate specific student teaching requirements for candidates in its approved preparation programs.

The District also does not specify any requirements for cooperating teachers.

Supporting Research

District of Columbia Municipal Regulations Title 5, Sections 1601 (b)(1)

RECOMMENDATION

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

Student teaching should be a full-time commitment, as requiring coursework and student teaching simultaneously does a disservice to both. Alignment with a school calendar for at least 10 weeks ensures both adequate classroom experience and exposure to a variety of ancillary professional activities.

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 should also be carefully screened for their capacity to further student achievement. Research indicates that the only aspect of a student teaching arrangement that has been shown to have an impact on student achievement is the positive effect of selection of the cooperating teacher by the preparation program, rather than the student teacher or school district staff.

Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting candidates from completing this requirement abroad.

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



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis. The District asserted that although its regulations do not impose specific requirements on the length and composition of student teaching for approved program completers, field experience expectations for accredited educator preparation units and state approved programs are established in the individual subject-area standards for each program.

The District added that individual subject-area standards by which approved programs are designed outline specific internship requirements that vary depending on the discipline but in all cases require a clinical student teaching experience of at least 10 weeks, with most programs requiring a 12-15 week internship. Further, the Non-Degree Post-Baccalaureate accreditation and program approval pathway is designed to encourage more rigorous and intense field experiences. As a result, most units accredited via this pathway have as a central component of their programs field experiences that extend the length of the program, the minimum for which is one full academic year.

Figure 37

Figure 37		~ 55
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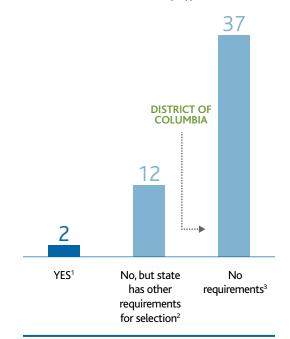
T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Although no state has been singled out for "best practice" honors, Florida and Tennessee require teacher candidates to complete at least 10 weeks of full-time student teaching, and they have taken steps toward ensuring that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.

1. Candidates can student teach for less than 12 weeks if determined to be proficient.

Figure 38

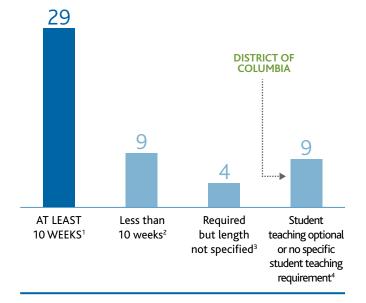
Is the selection of the cooperating teacher based on some measure of effectiveness?



1. Strong Practice: Florida, Tennessee

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

Figure 39 Is the summative student teaching experience of sufficient length?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia⁵, Wisconsin
- 2. Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nevada, New York, Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Illinois, Maine, New Mexico, Utah
- 4. Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Maryland, Montana
- 5. Candidates can student teach for less than 12 weeks if determined to be proficient.

Area 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Goal L – Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

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

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should collect value-added data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.
- 2. The state should collect other meaningful data that reflects program performance, including some or all of the following:

a. Average raw scores of teacher candidates on licensing tests, including basic skills, subject matter and professional knowledge tests;

b. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests;

c. Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison;

d. Evaluation results from the first and/or second year of teaching;

e. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.

- 3. The state should establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data. Programs should be held accountable for meeting these standards, with articulated consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.
- 4. The state should produce and publish on its website an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs.

The components for this goal have changed since 2009. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

Background

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

Figure 40

How States are Faring in Teacher Preparation **Program Accountability**



Best Practice State Florida

State Meets Goal Louisiana



States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Colorado 1, Georgia 1, Tennessee, Texas



States Partly Meet Goal Kentucky, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina

- 16 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Illinois¹, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia 1
- 22 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

1:4 + : 44 ↓:3



Area 1: Goal L District of Columbia Analysis



State Does Not Meet Goal

Bar Raised for this Goal 🤅 🧲

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

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

Most importantly, the District does not collect value-added data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.

The District also fails to collect other objective, meaningful data to measure the performance of teacher preparation programs, and it does not apply any transparent, measurable criteria for conferring program approval. The District collects programs' annual summary licensure test pass rates (80 percent of program completers must pass their licensure exams). However, the 80 percent pass-rate standard, while common among many states, sets the bar quite low and is not a meaningful measure of program performance.

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

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

According to the District's winning Race to the Top application, it plans to create Prep Program Scorecards, which will link teacher effectiveness data with student growth, and then match teachers to their certification programs, beginning in the summer of 2012. The District also plans to establish a threshold for performance so that any program with more than 25 percent of second-year teacher graduates deemed ineffective will be subject to approval revocation. It also articulates that by fall 2014, the Scorecards will be posted on the OSSE website. However, how or if the District plans to include alternate route programs is not specified, and there is no evidence to date of specific policy to support these plans.

Supporting Research

http://osse.dc.gov/service/educator-preparation-program-approval-and-accreditation Title II State Reports https://title2.ed.gov Race to the Top Application http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/phase2-applications/district-of-columbia.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

To ensure that programs are producing effective classroom teachers, the District of Columbia should consider academic achievement gains of students taught by the programs' graduates, averaged over the first three years of teaching. Although the District has commendably outlined its intentions in its RttT application, to ensure that preparation programs are held accountable, it is urged to codify these requirements and specify that they apply to alternate route programs as well as to traditional teacher preparation programs.



Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

In addition to knowing whether programs are producing effective teachers, other objective, meaningful data can also indicate whether programs are appropriately screening applicants and whether they are delivering essential academic and professional knowledge. The District of Columbia should gather data such as the following: average raw scores of graduates on licensing tests, including basic skills, subject matter and professional knowledge tests; satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' student teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison; evaluation results from the first and/or second year of teaching; and five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.

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

Programs should be held accountable for meeting these standards, with articulated consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval after appropriate due process.

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

To inform the public with meaningful, readily understandable indicators of how well programs are doing, the District of Columbia should present all the data it collects on individual teacher preparation programs. NCTQ acknowledges that the District has articulated a plan to post an annual report card for the public as part of its RttT application.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia asserted that while the analysis is partially accurate in that the District does not have a system in place for collecting and using value-added data to measure program effectiveness, the District believes that NCTQ falsely asserts that the District's process for program approval "does not hold programs accountable for the quality of the teachers they produce."

LAST WORD

In order for the District of Columbia to hold its programs accountable for the quality of their graduates, it must adopt measures that can provide the District and the public with meaningful, readily understandable indicators of how well programs are doing in what is most important: preparing teachers to be successful in the classroom. Without classroom performance data, the District is not able to ensure that its programs are producing effective classroom teachers.

Figure 41				/		
Do states hold teache	er		PARATION Data NULESCI ADJANC			ARATION
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Wisconsin						
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	25	5	14	17	2	10

 Reported institutional data do not distinguish between candidates in the traditional and alternate route programs.

 The posted data do not allow the public to review and compare program performance because data are not disaggregated by program provider.

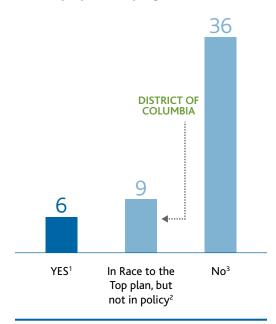


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Florida connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs. The state also relies on other objective, meaningful data to measure the performance of teacher preparation programs, and it applies transparent, measurable criteria for conferring program approval. Florida also posts an annual report on its website.

Figure 42

Do states use student achievement data to hold teacher preparation programs accountable?



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

Figure 43

Which states collect meaningful data?

AVERAGE RAW SCORES ON LICENSING TESTS Alabama, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Tennessee, West Virginia

SATISFACTION RATINGS FROM SCHOOLS

Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland¹, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington¹, West Virginia

EVALUATION RESULTS FOR PROGRAM GRADUATES Alabama, Arizona, Delaware¹, Florida, Illiniois, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont

STUDENT LEARNING GAINS

Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Tennessee, Texas

TEACHER RETENTION RATES Arizona, Colorado, Delaware¹, Missouri, New Jersey

1. For alternate route only

Figure 44

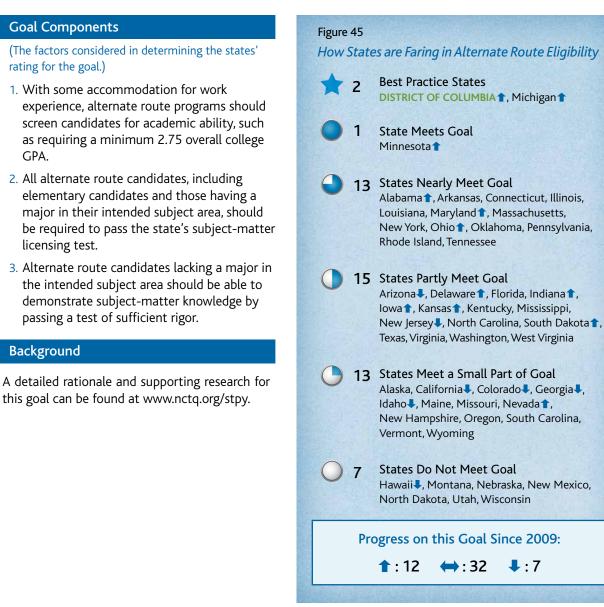
Figure 44		/	National accreditation	While not technically required	While not technically in	uired
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approval and national	ASIT	for st	decre	nt ted	nable, "t tect	5
accreditation?	H L Q	ation	tiona, titute,	hile n appro inenii	is so	
	APPA A	, k Maj	sub _{si}	While not technically required individual to the approximation of the second processing and proc	While not technically re-	
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Alaska						
Arizona ¹						
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
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New Hampshire						
New Jersey New Mexico						
New York						
North Carolina						
North Dakota						
Ohio ¹						
Oklahoma						
Oregon						
Pennsylvania						
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Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington						
West Virginia						
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						
	23	10	4	8	6	

1. According to information posted on NCATE's website.

Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers

Goal A – Alternate Route Eligibility

The state should require alternate route programs to exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs while also being flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.





Area 2: Goal A District of Columbia Analysis



Best Practice State

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The admission requirements for the District of Columbia's alternate route programs exceeds those of traditional preparation programs and are flexible regarding the needs of nontraditional candidates.

The District's alternate route programs require candidates with fewer than five years of successful work experience to demonstrate academic ability with a minimum 3.0 overall GPA or 3.25 GPA in the last 60 hours of coursework. A lower minimum GPA of 2.75 is accepted for candidates with 5-10 years of experience and 2.5 for more than 10 years of work experience. Minor exceptions are considered to accommodate nontraditional candidates with exceptional qualifications. The District is commended for setting high admission standards while allowing flexibility for nontraditional candidates.

Alternate route candidates are required to pass the PRAXIS I test of basic skills and achieve a passing score on the PRAXIS II content assessment in the area they wish to teach prior to admission. Equivalency scores on the SAT, ACT, or GRE are accepted in lieu of the basic skills test.

Neither a major nor specific coursework is required; as a result there is no need for a test-out option.

Supporting Research

http://osse.dc.gov/service/eligibility-requirements-state-only-post-baccalaureate-accreditation-and-program-approval Office of State Superintendent Administrative Rule 1601.3

RECOMMENDATION

Eliminate basic skills test requirement.

While the District of Columbia is commended for requiring all applicants to demonstrate content knowledge on a subject-matter test, the District's requirement that alternate route candidates pass a basic skills test is impractical and ineffectual. However, the District is recognized for allowing candidates to use equivalent scores to fulfill this admission criterion. Basic skills tests measure minimum competency—essentially those skills that a person should have acquired in middle school—and are inappropriate for candidates who have already earned a bachelor's degree. Passage of a basic skills test provides no assurance that the candidate has the appropriate subject-matter knowledge needed for the classroom.

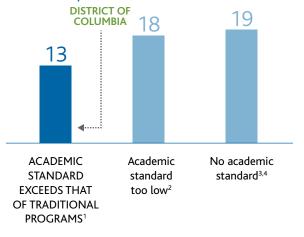
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 46	~	/	1
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New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota ¹			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
, ,	13	24	27
	15	24	21

Figure 47

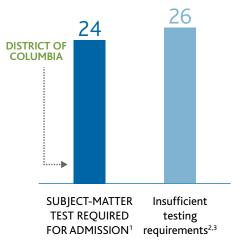
Do states require alternate routes to be selective?



- Strong Practice: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee
- Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin
- 4. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.

Figure 48

Do states ensure that alternate route teachers have subject-matter knowledge?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut⁴, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois⁴, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia
- 2. State does not require test at all, exempts some candidates or does not require passage until program completion. Alaska, California, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.
- 4. Required prior to entering the classroom.

Figure 46

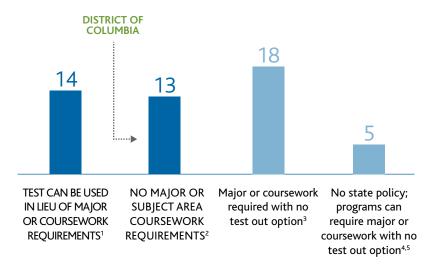
1. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

The **District of Columbia** and **Michigan** require candidates to demonstrate above-average academic performance as conditions of admission to an alternate route program, with both requiring applicants to have a minimum 3.0 GPA. In addition, neither state requires a content-specific major; subject-area knowledge is demonstrated by passing a test, making their alternate routes flexible to the needs of nontraditional candidates.

Figure 49

Do states accommodate the nontraditional background of alternate route candidates?



 Strong Practice: Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut⁶, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas

- 2. Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Virginia, Washington
- Alaska, Delaware, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Wisconsin
- 5. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.
- 6. Test out option available to candidates in shortage areas only.

Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers

Goal B – Alternate Route Preparation

The state should ensure that its alternate routes provide streamlined preparation that is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers.

Goal Components

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

- 1. The state should ensure that the amount of coursework it either requires or allows is manageable for a novice teacher. Anything exceeding 12 credit hours of coursework in the first year may be counterproductive, placing too great a burden on the teacher. This calculation is premised on no more than six credit hours in the summer, three in the fall and three in the spring.
- 2. The state should ensure that alternate route programs offer accelerated study not to exceed six (three credit) courses for secondary teachers and eight (three credit) courses for elementary teachers (exclusive of any credit for practice teaching or mentoring) over the duration of the program. Programs should be limited to two years, at which time the new teacher should be eligible for a standard certificate.
- 3. All coursework requirements should target the immediate needs of the new teacher (e.g., seminars with other grade-level teachers, training in a particular curriculum, reading instruction and classroom management techniques).
- 4. The state should ensure that candidates have an opportunity to practice teach in a summer training program. Alternatively, the state can require an intensive mentoring experience, beginning with a trained mentor assigned full time to the new teacher for the first critical weeks of school and then gradually reduced. The state should support only induction strategies that can be effective even in a poorly managed school: intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area, a reduced teaching load and frequent release time to observe effective teachers.

Background

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

Figure 50

How States are Faring in Alternate Route Preparation

- 1 Best Practice State
- 4 States Meet Goal Arkansas, Delaware 1, Georgia, New Jersey
 - 7 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Florida, Maryland¹, Mississippi, Rhode Island¹, South Carolina, Virginia

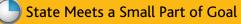
11 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska, California, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada , New Mexico, New York, Ohio , South Dakota, West Virginia

- 18 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Colorado, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa , Kansas , Michigan , Minnesota , Missouri, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming
 - 10 States Do Not Meet Goal Hawaii, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Vermont, Wisconsin

Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

1:8 ↔:42 ↓:1

Area 2: Goal B District of Columbia Analysis



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Progress Since 2009
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ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not ensure that its alternate route provides streamlined preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers.

The District establishes specific requirements for alternate route programs through the Pathway II: State-Only Non-Degree Post-Baccalaureate Accreditation and Program Approval process.

The District requires that alternate route programs provide teachers with a minimum of 12 credit hours, or 180 contact hours, of preparation. The District also requires that the program last for a minimum of one year. However, no maximums are articulated nor are specific coursework requirements outlined.

The District does require that individuals participate in a preservice placement prior to taking on full responsibilities in the classroom. In addition, the District requires that alternate route programs provide extensive and frequent monitoring throughout the candidates' first year.

Supporting Research

http://osse.dc.gov/publication/standards-state-only-post-bac-approval

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that new teachers are not burdened by excessive requirements.

Alternate route programs should not be permitted to overburden the new teacher by requiring multiple courses to be taken simultaneously during the school year. The District should also ensure that the program can be completed within two years. Setting minimum requirements, without established maximums, does not ensure that the new teacher will be able to complete the program in an appropriate amount of time without being overburdened by coursework.

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. However constructive, any course that is not fundamentally practical and immediately necessary should be eliminated as a requirement.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 51		RELEVANT COURSENORK	1	/	/
Do states' alternate rout	tes	RELEVANT COURCEMORK	ð /	PRACTICE TEACHING	
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New York					
North Carolina					
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South Carolina					
South Dakota					
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Utah					
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Virginia Washington					
West Virginia					
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	13	12	29	18	13
		12	20	10	

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

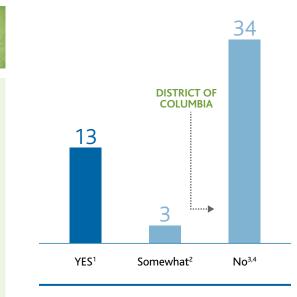
Connecticut ensures that its alternate route provides streamlined preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. The state requires a manageable number of credit hours, relevant coursework, a field placement and intensive mentoring. Other notable states include **Arkansas**, **Delaware**, **Georgia** and **New Jersey**. These states provide streamlined, relevant coursework with intensive mentoring.



2. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.

Figure 52

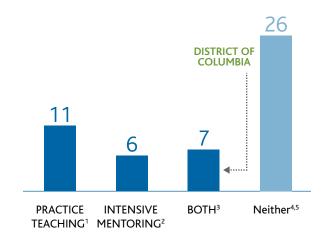
Do states curb excessive coursework requirements?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia
- 2. Indiana, Nevada, Wyoming
- 3. Alaska, Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 4. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.

Figure 53

Do states require practice teaching or intensive mentoring?



1. Strong Practice: Arizona, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia

- 2. Strong Practice: Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, West Virginia
- 3. Strong Practice: Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida⁶, Maryland, Massachusetts
- 4. Alabama, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 5. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.
- 6. Candidates are required to have one or the other, not both.

Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers

Goal C – Alternate Route Usage and Providers

The state should provide an alternate route that is free from regulatory obstacles that limit its usage and providers.

Goal Components

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

- The state should not treat the alternate route as a program of last resort or restrict the availability of alternate routes to certain subjects, grades or geographic areas.
- 2. The state should allow districts and nonprofit organizations other than institutions of higher education to operate alternate route programs.
- 3. The state should ensure that its alternate route has no requirements that would be difficult to meet for a provider that is not an institution of higher education (e.g., an approval process based on institutional accreditation).

Background

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

Figure 54

How States are Faring in Alternate Route Usage and Providers

×	0	Best Practice States			
•	26	States Meet Goal Arizona , Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut , Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Florida, Georgia, Illinois , Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan , Nevada , New Hampshire, New York , North Carolina, Ohio , Pennsylvania , Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington			
•	4	States Nearly Meet Goal Minnesota 1, New Jersey, South Dakota, Utah			
•	7	States Partly Meet Goal Alabama 1, Indiana, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, West Virginia, Wisconsin			
0	4	States Meet a Small Part of Goal Idaho ✿, Mississippi, South Carolina, Vermont			
0	10	States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, Wyoming			
	Pro	ogress on this Goal Since 2009:			
		1:12 ↔:39 ↓:0			

Area 2: Goal C **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not limit the usage or providers of its alternate route.

The District is commended for having no restrictions on the usage of its alternate route with regard to subject, grade or geographic areas.

The District is also commended for structuring its programs to allow a diversity of providers, including such respected national programs as The New Teacher Project and Teach For America. A good diversity of providers helps all programs, both university- and non-university-based, to improve.

Supporting Research

http://osse.dc.gov/service/eligibility-requirements-state-only-post-baccalaureate-accreditation-and-program-approval

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

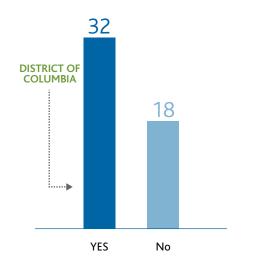
Figure 55		DIVERSITY OF PROVIDERS
Are states' alternate	000	DER
routes free from	No.	
limitations?	580	SF P.
unnations:	255	
	02 19 19 19 19 19 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	LERS 2
	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	าเล
Alabama ¹		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
Montana Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota ²		
Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	32	29

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Twenty-six states meet this goal, and although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, it commends all states that permit both broad usage and a diversity of providers for their alternate routes.

#### Figure 56

Can alternate route teachers teach any subject or grade anywhere in the state?

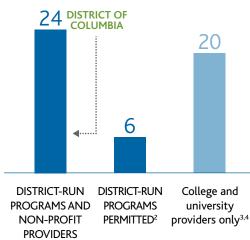


#### Figure 55 and 56

1. Alabama offers routes without restrictions for candidates with master's degrees. The route for candidates with bachelor's degrees is limited to certain subjects.

2. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.

Figure 57 Do states permit providers other than colleges or universities?



- 1. Strong Practice: Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin
- 2. Strong Practice: California, Colorado, Georgia, North Carolina, Vermont⁵, West Virginia
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho⁶, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Mississippi⁶, Missouri⁶, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey⁷, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina⁶, South Dakota, Utah⁶, Wyoming
- 4. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.
- 5. Districts can run Peer Review programs only.
- 6. ABCTE is also an approved provider.

PERMITTED¹

7. Permits school districts to provide programs without university partnerships in some circumstances.

Do state	s provide real	CENUINE OR NEARLY	Alternate route that needs	Othered Toute is disingenuou
	ive pathways	EARL VATE	iat ne 'menu	lising
to certifi	ication?	PR NI	ite t; Vove	e is o
to certiji	CallOII	E AL	te rou nt imp	lout
			terna, lificar,	ered.
		छन्छ /	17 -18 - 28: F	8
Alabam	าล			
Alaska				
Arizona	I			
Arkansa				
Califorr	nia			
Colorad	ol			
Connec	ticut			
Delawa				
DISTRIC	CT OF COLUMBIA			
Florida				
Georgia	9			
Hawaii				
Idaho				
Illinois				
Indiana				
lowa				
Kansas				
Kentuc	ky			
Louisia	na			
Maine				
Maryla				
Massac	husetts			
Michiga	an			
Minnes				
Mississ				
Missou	ri			
Montar				
Nebras	ka			
Nevada				
	ampshire			
New Je	•			
New M				
New Yo				
	Carolina			
	Dakota1			
Ohio				
Oklaho				
Oregor				
Pennsy				
Rhode				
	Carolina			
South [				
Tennes	see			
Texas				
Utah				
Vermor				
Virginia				
Washin				
West V	-			
Wiscon				
Wyomi	ng			
		7	25	18

15 / /

S

#### Figure 58

1. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.

#### Figure 58

Figure 59	()	1 ~	/	STREAMUNED COURSEMODOL	¥ /	1	PRACTICE TEACHING AND/OD	- /	/
What are the	PREFEQUISTE OF STRONG	VERFICATION OF SUBJECT		EWO	REELANT COURSEMORK		AND	2	DIVERSITY OF PROVIDERS
what are the	JEN ST		E TES	San	SEW	E			QMC
characteristics of	EREC	NC	20		370	ENC	EACH	4	FPR
states' alternate	Suls MC F	KY KY		LINE	40	1748 1748	LEV KEV	55	
routes?	RERE ADE	VERFICATION OF SUBJE	OUT OPTIONS OF TEST	REAM	EVA	REASONABLE PROCRAM LENGTH	PEACT TENS	^{BR} OAD USAGE	(ERS)
	~~ /	74	₹0 /	45	RE	2 Z	a ≶	84	Na
Alabama									
Alaska									
Arizona								-	
Arkansas California						-			
Colorado			<b>i</b> .					-	
Connecticut									
Delaware									
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA									
Florida									
Georgia									
Hawaii									
Idaho									
Illinois									
Indiana									
lowa									
Kansas									
Kentucky								-	
Louisiana Maine									
Maryland			<b>.</b>						
Massachusetts									
Michigan									
Minnesota									
Mississippi									
Missouri									
Montana									
Nebraska									
Nevada									-
New Hampshire New Jersey									
New Mexico								-	
New York									
North Carolina									
North Dakota									
Ohio									
Oklahoma									
Oregon									
Pennsylvania									
Rhode Island									
South Carolina									
South Dakota									
Tennessee			÷ .			-		-	
Texas Utah						-		-	
Vermont									
Virginia									
Washington									
West Virginia									
Wisconsin									
Wyoming									
	13	24	27	13	12	29	24	32	29

# Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers

# Goal D – Part-Time Teaching Licenses

The state should offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time.

#### **Goal Components**

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

- Either through a discrete license or by waiving most licensure requirements, the state should authorize individuals with content expertise to teach as part-time instructors.
- 2. All candidates for a part-time teaching license should be required to pass a subject-matter test.
- 3. Other requirements for this license should be limited to those addressing public safety (e.g., background screening) and those of immediate use to the novice instructor (e.g., classroom management training).

#### Background

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

### Figure 60 How States are Faring in Part Time Teaching Licenses **Best Practice State** 1 Arkansas 2 States Meet Goal Florida, Georgia 5 States Nearly Meet Goal Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah States Partly Meet Goal California, Louisiana, Ohio, Oklahoma States Meet a Small Part of Goal 6 Colorado, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, New York, Washington 33 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: New Goal

## Area 2: Goal D **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

#### **ANALYSIS**

The District of Columbia does not offer a license with minimal requirements that would allow content experts to teach part time.

#### RECOMMENDATION

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

The District of Columbia should permit individuals with deep subject-area knowledge to teach a limited number of courses without fulfilling a complete set of certification requirements. The District should verify content knowledge through a rigorous test and conduct background checks as appropriate, while waiving all other licensure requirements. Such a license would increase flexibility to staff certain subjects, including many STEM areas, that are frequently hard to staff or may not have high enough enrollment to necessitate a full-time position.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Do states offer a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part-time?

	YES	No
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California	1	
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa	2	
Kansas	2	
Kentucky		
Louisiana	1	
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi	2	
Missouri		
Montana		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York	2	
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio	1	
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington	2	
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	16	35

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**Arkansas** offers a license with minimal requirements that allows content experts to teach part time. Individuals seeking this license must pass a subject-matter test and are also required to complete specially-designed pedagogy training that is not overly burdensome.

1. License has restrictions.

2. It appears that the state has a license that may be used for this purpose; guidelines are vague.

# Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers

### Goal E – Licensure Reciprocity

# The state should help to make licenses fully portable among states, with appropriate safeguards.

### **Goal Components**

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

- The state should offer a standard license to fully certified teachers moving from other states, without relying on transcript analysis or recency requirements as a means of judging eligibility. The state can and should require evidence of good standing in previous employment.
- 2. The state should uphold its standards for all teachers by insisting that certified teachers coming from other states meet the incoming state's testing requirements.
- 3. The state should accord the same license to teachers from other states who completed an approved alternate route program that it accords teachers prepared in a traditional preparation program.

#### Background

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

### Figure 62 How States are Faring in Licensure Reciprocity **Best Practice States** 2 Alabama, Texas States Meet Goal 3 States Nearly Meet Goal Idaho, Ohio, Washington 13 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska, Delaware, Illinois 1, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin 15 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Oregon 1, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia, Wyoming 18 States Do Not Meet Goal Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina, Vermont Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:2 + : 49 4:0

# Area 2: Goal E **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

#### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not support licensure reciprocity for certified teachers from other states.

Regrettably, the District grants a waiver for its licensing tests to any out-of-state teacher who has at least three years of experience.

Teachers with out-of-state certificates are eligible for a District of Columbia full license by meeting all of the following conditions: completion of a state-approved preparation program, possession of a valid level II license and completion of three years of full-time teaching experience—all in the relevant licensure subject area.

Although there is no state-mandated recency requirement for the professional certificate, candidates who do not meet the three conditions outlined above are given a transcript analysis of their credentials, which may result in the requirement of additional coursework and/or state tests.

#### Supporting Research

Interstate Licensure Agreement http://osse.dc.gov/service/interstate-licensure-agreement-reciprocity

#### RECOMMENDATION

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

The District of Columbia takes considerable risk by granting a waiver for its licensing tests to any out-of-state teacher who has three years of teaching experience. It should not provide any waivers of its teacher tests unless an applicant can provide evidence of a passing score under its own standards. The negative impact on student learning stemming from a teacher's inadequate subject-matter knowledge is not mitigated by the teacher's having recent experience.

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

The District of Columbia should reconsider its requirement regarding experience, as it may deter talented teachers from applying for certification. In addition, transcript analysis is likely to result in additional coursework requirements, even for traditionally prepared teachers; alternate route teachers, on the other hand, may have to virtually begin anew, repeating some, most or all of a teacher preparation program.

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

Regardless of whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route, all certified out-of-state teachers should receive equal treatment. State policies that discriminate against teachers who were prepared in an alternate route are not supported by evidence. In fact, a substantial body of research has failed to discern differences in effectiveness between alternate and traditional route teachers.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

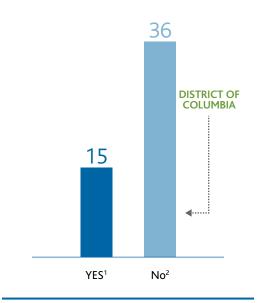
The District of Columbia was helpful in providing NCTQ with the facts necessary for this analysis. The District added that it only conducts transcript analyses for candidates who did not complete a state-approved licensure program.

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Alabama and Texas appropriately support licensure reciprocity by only requiring certified teachers from other states to meet each state's own testing requirements and by not specifying any additional coursework or recency requirements to determine eligibility for either traditional or alternate route teachers.

#### Figure 63

Do states require all out-of-state teachers to pass their licensure tests?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York³, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania³, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington³, Wisconsin
- Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana⁴, Nebraska⁴, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 3. Exception for teachers with National Board Certification.
- 4. No subject-matter testing for any teacher certification.

#### Figure 64

1. For traditionally prepared teachers only.

2. Transcript review required for those with less than 3 years experience.

#### LICENSE RECIPROCITY WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED Figure 64 J Recency requirements What do states require Transcript analysis of teachers transferring from other states? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado $\square$ Connecticut Delaware DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Florida Georgia $\square$ $\square$ Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana lowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi $\square$ Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico $\square$ $\square$ New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio $\square$ Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island $\square$ South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee $\square$ Texas Utah Vermont Virginia 2 Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming 9 41 12

		1	1
Figure 65	6		e les
Do states treat out-of-stat	STATE REALS	Vate Specifies different requirements for different route feachers for alternate	Date has policies with the for alternate route create obstacles for alternate route teachers
teachers the same whethe	r E	S diffe	cies y sate c the te
they were prepared in a	EA 13	ecifie ents / hers	S Poll
traditional or an alternate	17 17	te sp teac	te ha 'ntial 'erna,
route program?	ing st	sta requ ioute	Sta Pote for all
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin Wyoming			
wyonning			
	6	6	39

# **Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers**

### Goal A – State Data Systems

The state should have a data system that contributes some of the evidence needed to assess teacher effectiveness.

#### **Goal Components** Figure 66 (The factors considered in determining the states' How States are Faring in the Development of rating for the goal.) Data Systems 1. The state should establish a longitudinal **Best Practice States** data system with at least the following key components: 35 States Meet Goal a. A unique statewide student identifier Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idahot, Illinoist, Indianat, Iowat, number that connects student data across Kansas¹, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland¹, key databases across years; Massachusetts 1, Minnesota 1, Mississippi, b. A unique teacher identifier system that Missouri, Nebraska 1, New Hampshire 1, New can match individual teacher records with Mexico, New York 1, North Carolina, North individual student records: and Dakota1, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, c. An assessment system that can match Washington 1, West Virginia, Wisconsin 1, individual student test records from year to Wyoming year in order to measure academic growth. 2. Value-added data provided through the States Nearly Meet Goal state's longitudinal data system should be considered among the criteria used to **15** States Partly Meet Goal determine teachers' effectiveness. Alaska, Arizona 1, Colorado, Connecticut, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 1, Maine, Michigan, 3. To ensure that data provided through the Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon, state data system is actionable and reliable, South Dakota¹, Texas, Vermont, Virginia the state should have a clear definition of "teacher of record" and require its consistent States Meet a Small Part of Goal 0 use statewide. State Does Not Meet Goal Background California A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy. Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:17 👄 : 33 ↓:1

## Area 3: Goal A District of Columbia Analysis



### Progress Since 2009

#### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not have a data system that can be used to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.

However, the District of Columbia does have two of three necessary elements that would allow for the development of a student- and teacher-level longitudinal data system. The District has assigned unique student identifiers that connect student data across key databases across years, and it has the capacity to match student test records from year to year in order to measure student academic growth.

Although the District assigns teacher identification numbers, it cannot match individual teacher records with individual student records.

Supporting Research Data Quality Campaign www.dataqualitycampaign.org

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### Develop capacity of longitudinal data system.

The District of Columbia should ensure that its data system is able to match individual teacher records with individual student records.

#### Develop a clear definition of "teacher of record."

The District of Columbia has not yet established a definition of teacher of record, which is essential in order to use the student-data link for teacher evaluation and related purposes. To ensure that data provided through the data system are actionable and reliable, the District should articulate a definition of teacher of record and require its consistent use by local education agencies.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

#### UNQUE TEACHER DE WITTER SISTENTHAT CAN DE WITTER STUDENT RECORDS TO TCH UNQUESTUDENT DENTIFIER Figure 67 DVER TIME ORDS MATCH Do state data systems have the capacity to assess teacher effectiveness? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA** Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana lowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington

50

35

50

West Virginia

Wisconsin

Wyoming

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, it commends the 35 states that have a data system with the capacity to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.



Key

indicates that the state assigns teacher identification numbers, but it cannot match individual teacher records with individual student records.

NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 : 83 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

# **Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers**

## Goal B – Evaluation of Effectiveness

The state should require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.

### **Goal Components**

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

- The state should either require a common evaluation instrument in which evidence of student learning is the most significant criterion or specifically require that student learning be the preponderant criterion in local evaluation processes. Evaluation instruments, whether state or locally developed, should be structured to preclude a teacher from receiving a satisfactory rating if found ineffective in the classroom.
- 2. Evaluation instruments should require classroom observations that focus on and document the effectiveness of instruction.
- 3. Teacher evaluations should consider objective evidence of student learning, including not only standardized test scores but also classroom-based artifacts such as tests, quizzes and student work.
- 4. The state should require that evaluation instruments differentiate among various levels of teacher performance. A binary system that merely categorizes teachers as satisfactory or unsatisfactory is inadequate.

The components for this goal have changed since 2009. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

#### Background

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

### Figure 68

How States are Faring in Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness • 0 Best Practice States



- Alabama, Alaska, California, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina 1, Oregon 1, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming 1
- 10 States Do Not Meet Goal DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Iowa, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia

### Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

### Area 3: Goal B **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Bar Raised for this Goal

### Progress Since 2009

#### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not require instructional effectiveness to be the preponderant criterion of any teacher evaluation.

Currently, the District does not have a policy regarding teacher evaluations.

However, the IMPACT system, district-level policy implemented by the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), represents significant policy advancements in the area of teacher evaluation. IMPACT requires that a teacher's impact on students' achievement accounts for 50 percent of the evaluation score. Classroom observations are required, and the evaluator must utilize the following multiple evaluation rating categories: highly effective, effective, minimally effective and ineffective.

Supporting Research DCPS: IMPACT http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/impact

#### RECOMMENDATION

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

The District of Columbia should codify the evaluation requirements articulated in DCPS's IMPACT system, both to support these important policies and to ensure their continuity.

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

In addition to codifying the classroom observation requirement in DCPS's IMPACT system, the District should further articulate guidelines that focus classroom observations on the quality of instruction, as measured by student time on task, student grasp or mastery of the lesson objective and efficient use of class time.

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

To ensure that the evaluation instrument accurately differentiates among levels of teacher performance, the District of Columbia should codify IMPACTS's requirement of multiple rating categories.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The District added that Race to the Top LEAs must include a common value-added measure that comprises at least 50 percent of the evaluation rating for reading and mathematics teachers in grades 4-8. There are 31 participating charter LEAs and DCPS, and 91 percent of public school students are enrolled in Race to the Top LEAs.

The District also noted that DCPS is only one LEA in the District, which has about 75,000 enrolled students, with roughly 30,000 in charters and 45,000 in DCPS.

#### LAST WORD

Establishing state-level policy would ensure that these current policies continue even after the Race to the Top grant comes to an end or if circumstances at the district level were to change.

Figure 69	CHURES THAT STUDENT ACHIEVENENT AT STUDENT THE PREPONNT CROUDENT	Teecher evaluations are be to be	Teacher evaluations Teacher evaluations induce objective evident student learning evident	. /	
Do states consider	<b>JENT</b>	RITER RITER	owth rust	^{ng} ^{ange} or Student achievement data	
classroom effectiveness	STU ROL	NT C ons al	nt/Bri ons n.	nent _c	
as part of teacher	NTIN C	JERA aluati infor	etive.	liever, 18	
evaluations?	VENIE VENIE PON	ler ev antty achie	Per ev Pobje learn	it act uired	
evaluations.	REQU CHIE F PRI	Teach Bnifig Ident	Teach Teach Tolude Ident	ituder It requ	
	₹ <u>₹</u>	/ ^{%*} # /	<i>sti</i>	, , <u>2</u>	
Alabama Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ¹					
Florida					
Georgia					
Hawaii					
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming	12		-		
	12	5	7	27	

### **T** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

NCTQ has not singled out any one state for "best practice" honors. Many states have made significant strides in the area of teacher evaluation by requiring that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion. Because there are many different approaches that result in student learning being the preponderant criterion, all 10 states that meet this goal are commended for their efforts.

#### Figure 70

Using state data in teacher evaluations

States with Requirements for Student Achievement Data but Lacking Data System Capacity

Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Michigan, Nevada

#### States with Data System Capacity but No Student Achievement Requirements

Alabama, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

#### Figure 69

^{1.} District of Columbia Public Schools requires that student learning be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations.

# *Sources of objective evidence of student learning*

Many educators struggle to identify possible sources of objective student data. Here are some examples:

- Standardized test scores
- Periodic diagnostic assessments
- Benchmark assessments that show student growth

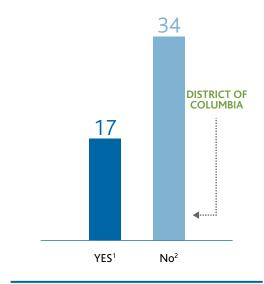
■ Artifacts of student work connected to specific student learning standards that are randomly selected for review by the principal or senior faculty, scored using rubrics and descriptors

Examples of typical assignments, assessed for their quality and rigor

■ Periodic checks on progress with the curriculum coupled with evidence of student mastery of the curriculum from quizzes, tests and exams

#### Figure 72

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



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

Figure 73		State-designed teacher evaluation with discriber	ų,	District designed System	vith /	
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Texas		2				
Utah						
Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington						
West Virginia						
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						
	9	10	24	5	3	
	9	10	24	5	5	

1. State approval required.

2. The state model is presumptive; districts need state approval to opt out.

# **Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers**

# Goal C – Frequency of Evaluations

The state should require annual evaluations of all teachers.

#### **Goal Components**

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

- 1. The state should require that all teachers receive a formal evaluation rating each year.
- 2. While all teachers should have multiple observations that contribute to their formal evaluation rating, the state should ensure that new teachers are observed and receive feedback early in the school year.

#### Background

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

### Figure 74 How States are Faring in Frequency of Evaluations **Best Practice States** 0 9 States Meet Goal Alabama 1, Idaho, Nevada, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island 1, Tennessee 1, Washington 13 States Nearly Meet Goal Arizona, Colorado 1, Delaware 1, Florida 1, Georgia, Indiana¹, Minnesota¹, New York, North Carolina¹, Ohio¹, Pennsylvania, Utah¹, Wyoming 9 States Partly Meet Goal Connecticut, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana 1, Maryland, Michigan 1, Nebraska, South Carolina, West Virginia States Meet a Small Part of Goal 2 Arkansas, Missouri 18 States Do Not Meet Goal Alaska, California, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:13 ↓:1 👄 : 37

# Area 3: Goal C District of Columbia Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not have district-level policy that addresses the number of times teachers must be evaluated.

However, the IMPACT system, district-level policy implemented by the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), represents significant policy advancements in the area of teacher evaluation. DCPS teachers are observed five times annually, with the first observation occurring during the first part of the school year. Each formal observation is followed by a conference to discuss ratings, feedback and steps for personal growth. Teachers who are rated "highly effective" for two consecutive years receive two observations by December 1, and if their average score is 3.5 or higher (on a 1.0 to 4.0 scale), they may waive observations for the rest of the year.

Supporting Research DCPS: IMPACT http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/impact

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### Require annual formal evaluations for all teachers.

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

#### Base evaluations on multiple observations.

To guarantee that annual evaluations are based on an adequate collection of information, the District of Columbia should require multiple observations for all teachers, even those who have nonprobationary status.

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

It is critical that schools and districts closely monitor the performance of new teachers. The District of Columbia should ensure that its new teachers get the support they need and that supervisors know early on which new teachers may be struggling or at risk for unacceptable levels of performance.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The District added that Race to the Top LEAs must evaluate teachers annually. Thirty-one charter LEAs and DCPS participate in Race to the Top, and 91 percent of public school students are enrolled in Race to the Top LEAs.

#### LAST WORD

It is indeed good news that annual evaluations are widespread in the District of Columbia. To make sure that this extends beyond the life of its Race to the Top grant, the District should adopt formal policy requiring annual evaluations for all teachers.

Do states require districts to evaluate all teachers each year?



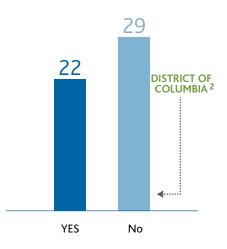
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Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	22		43

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Although not awarding "best practice" honors for frequency of evaluations, NCTQ commends all nine states that meet this goal not only by requiring annual evaluations for all teachers, but also for ensuring that new teachers are observed and receive feedback during the first half of the school year.

#### Figure 76

# Do states require districts to evaluate all teachers each year?



#### Figures 75 and 76

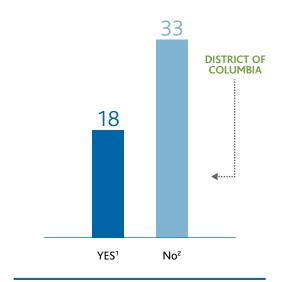
- Although highly effective teachers are only required to receive a summative evaluation once every two years, the student improvement component is evaluated annually.
- 2. All District of Columbia Public Schools teachers are evaluated at least annually.

Figure 77 *Do states require classroom observations?* 



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Alaska⁴, Arkansas, Colorado⁴, Delaware, Florida⁴, Georgia, Kentucky⁴, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri⁴, Nevada⁴, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon⁴, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia⁴
- Arizona, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin
- District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. For new teachers.

# Do states require that new teachers are observed early in the year?



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

# **Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers**

# Goal D – Tenure

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

### **Goal Components**

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

- A teacher should be eligible for tenure after a certain number of years of service, but tenure should not be granted automatically at that juncture.
- 2. Evidence of effectiveness should be the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.
- 3. The state should articulate a process, such as a hearing, that local districts must administer in considering the evidence and deciding whether a teacher should receive tenure.
- 4. The minimum years of service needed to achieve tenure should allow sufficient data to be accumulated on which to base tenure decisions; five years is the ideal minimum.

The components for this goal have changed since 2009. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

### Background

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

### Figure 79 How States are Faring on Tenure **Best Practice State** 1 Michigan 1 States Meet Goal 2 Colorado 1. Florida 1 States Nearly Meet Goal 5 Delaware 1, Nevada 1, Oklahoma 1, Rhode Island 1, Tennessee 1 3 States Partly Meet Goal Illinois¹, Indiana¹, New York¹ States Meet a Small Part of Goal 9 Connecticut, Idaho¹, Kentucky, Massachusetts 1, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire 1, North Carolina, Ohio 31 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine 1, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:15 + : 36 1:0

# Area 3: Goal D **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Bar Raised for this Goal

Progress Since 2009

### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not connect tenure decisions to evidence of teacher effectiveness.

The District does not have a state-level policy concerning the length of the probationary period before teachers can attain permanent status nor does it indicate any other additional process evaluating cumulative evidence of teacher effectiveness that is required to receive tenure.

However, although not state policy, the current contract between the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and the Washington Teachers Union represents significant advancement in the area of teacher tenure. One of the key components of the contract, which went into effect July 2010, is mutual consent regarding teacher hiring, meaning that the teacher and the school must agree for a teacher to get the job. It applies regardless of tenure, so principals may now staff their schools based on the most qualified candidates.

Supporting Research Chancellor's Notes, July 9, 2010

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### End the automatic awarding of tenure.

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

**Ensure evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.** 

The District of Columbia should make evidence of effectiveness, rather than the number of years in the classroom, the most significant factor when determining this leap in professional standing.

Articulate a process that local educational agencies must administer when deciding which teachers get tenure.

The District of Columbia should require a clear process, such as a hearing, to ensure that the local district reviews a teacher's performance before making a determination regarding tenure

#### Require an adequate probationary period.

The District of Columbia should articulate parameters for a probationary period, ideally five years. This would allow for an adequate collection of sufficient data that reflect teacher performance.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia acknowledged that it does not articulate tenure requirements. However, the District asserted that charter schools do not award tenure, and DCPS has the new contract and an evaluation system that requires individuals who receive a rating of "minimally effective" for two consecutive years to be subject to separation from the school system. The IMPACT system also requires that those who receive an "ineffective" rating be subject to separation. So in effect, the District contended, these policies exist throughout the District.

#### LAST WORD

Establishing state-level policy would ensure that these current policies continue even if circumstances at the district level were to change.

ow long before a teach	er earns t	tenure?					
							STATE ONLY AWARDS
	No policy	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 YEARS	5 YEARS	AWARDS ANNUAL CONTRACTS
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Alaska							
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1. 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.

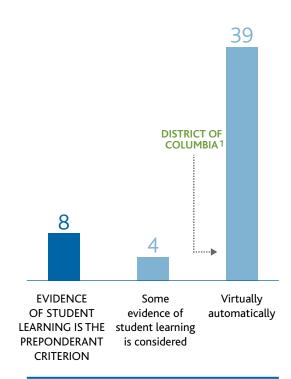
 Teachers who receive two years of ineffective evaluations are dismissed.

Figure 81	EVIDENCE OF STUDENT		
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lowa			
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Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
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South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
			-
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	8	4	39
	-		

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**Michigan** has increased its probationary period to five years and requires that evidence of effectiveness be the primary criterion in awarding tenure.





#### Figure 81

- 1. No state-level policy; however, the contract between DCPS and the teachers' union represents significant advancement in the area of teacher tenure.
- The state has created a loophole by essentially waiving student learning requirements and allowing the principal of a school to petition for career-teacher status.

# **Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers**

### Goal E – Licensure Advancement

The state should base licensure advancement on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

#### **Goal Components**

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

- 1. The state should base advancement from a probationary to a nonprobationary license on evidence of teacher effectiveness.
- 2. The state should not require teachers to fulfill generic, unspecified coursework requirements to advance from a probationary to a nonprobationary license.
- 3. The state should not require teachers to have an advanced degree as a condition of professional licensure.
- 4. Evidence of effectiveness should be a factor in the renewal of a professional license.

The components for this goal have changed since 2009. In light of state progress on this topic, the bar for this goal has been raised.

### Background

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



### Area 3: Goal E **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

💦 Bar Raised for this Goal 🛛 🬔

Progress Since 2009

#### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia's requirements for licensure advancement and renewal are not based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.

To advance from a Regular I Teaching Credential to a Regular II Teaching Credential, teachers in the District are required to complete six semester hours of coursework or 90 clock hours of professional development "that contribute to performance and effectiveness as a teacher" and to have obtained permanent tenure (after serving a two-year probationary period).

The District does not include evidence of effectiveness as a factor in the renewal of a professional license. Teachers in the District must renew their licenses every four years by completing six semester hours of coursework at an accredited college or university or 90 clock hours of professional development.

#### Supporting Research

http://osse.dc.gov/seo/cwp/view,a,1224,Q,563664,PM,1.asp

#### RECOMMENDATION

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

The District of Columbia should require evidence of teacher effectiveness to be a factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license.

#### Discontinue license requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

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

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia asserted that to advance from a Regular I to a Regular II license, an applicant must successfully complete a state-approved program and the Praxis II pedagogy exam.

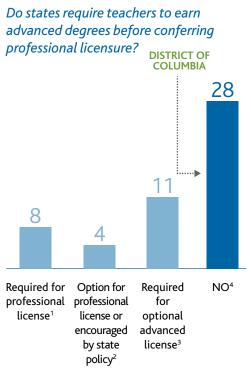
Supporting Research DCMR Title V, Chapter 16, Section 1601.4

Figure 84	OBICITIVE EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENEES IS RECUMED	/	Consideration Biten to teacher Performance but ken to teacher not tried to dassoon effectivens	52
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### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**Rhode Island** is integrating certification, certification renewal and educator evaluation. Teachers who receive poor evaluations for five consecutive years are not eligible to renew their certification. In addition, teachers who consistently receive 'highly effective' ratings will be eligible for a special license designation.

#### Figure 85



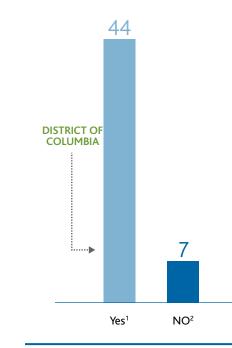
- Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New York and Oregon all require a master's degree or coursework equivalent to a master's degree
- 2. Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, Tennessee
- Alabama, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia,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

#### Figure 84

- 1. Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.
- Maryland uses some objective evidence through their evaluation system for renewal, but advancement to professional license is still based on earning an advanced degree.

#### NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 : 99 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

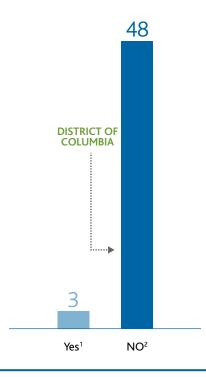
Do states require teachers to take additional, nonspecific coursework before conferring or renewing professional licenses?



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

### Figure 87

Do states award lifetime professional licenses?



1. New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

2. Strong Practice: 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 Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming

# **Area 3: Identifying Effective Teachers**

## Goal F – Equitable Distribution

The state should publicly report districts' distribution of teacher talent among schools to identify inequities in schools serving disadvantaged children.

Goal Components	Figure 88
(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)	How States are Faring on Equitable Distribution
The state should make the following data publicly available:	<b>e</b> Best Practice States
<ol> <li>An "Academic Quality" index for each school that includes factors research has found to be associated with teacher effectiveness, such as:</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>O States Meet Goal</li> <li>O States Nearly Meet Goal</li> </ul>
a. percentage of new teachers;	6 States Partly Meet Goal
<ul> <li>b. percentage of teachers failing basic skills licensure tests at least once;</li> </ul>	Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina
<ul> <li>c. percentage of teachers on emergency credentials;</li> </ul>	<b>36</b> States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado,
d. average selectivity of teachers' undergraduate institutions; and	Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho 🕇 , Indiana, Kansas,
e. teachers' average ACT or SAT scores;	Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi,
<ol> <li>The percentage of highly qualified teachers disaggregated by both individual school and by teaching area;</li> </ol>	Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania 1, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah 1, Vermont 1, Virginia, Washington,
<ol> <li>The annual teacher absenteeism rate reported for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school;</li> </ol>	G States Do Not Meet Goal
4. The average teacher turnover rate for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school, by district and by reasons that teachers leave.	Alabama, Arizona, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Wyoming
Background	Progress on this Goal Since 2009:
, and the second s	<b>1</b> :4 ↔:47 <b>1</b> :0
A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy.	

### Area 3: Goal F **District of Columbia** Analysis

### State Meets Small Part of Goal 🛛 ( 🔁 Progress Since 2009

#### **ANALYSIS**

Providing comprehensive reporting may be states' most important role for ensuring the equitable distribution of teachers among schools. The District of Columbia reports little school-level data that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent.

The District does not collect and report most of the data recommended by NCTQ. The District does not provide a school-level teacher quality index that demonstrates the academic backgrounds of a school's teachers and the ratio of new to veteran teachers. It also does not report on teacher absenteeism or turnover rates.

The District of Columbia does report on the percentage of highly qualified teachers for each school. The District is commended for comparing the percentage of highly qualified teachers at high- and lowpoverty schools.

#### **Supporting Research**

DC Highly Qualified Teacher Report Card http://osse.dc.gov/publication/2009-10-school-data DC 2009-2010 State Report Card http://osse.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/osse/publication/attachments/2009-2010_district_of_columbia_state_report_card.pdf

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### Use a teacher quality index to report publicly about each school.

A teacher quality index, such as the one developed by the Illinois Education Research Council, with data including teachers' average SAT or ACT scores, the percentage of teachers failing basic skills licensure tests at least once, the selectivity of teachers' undergraduate colleges and the percentage of new teachers, can shine a light on how equitably teachers are distributed both across and within districts. The District of Columbia should ensure that individual school report cards include such data in a manner that translates these factors into something easily understood by the public, such as a color-coded matrix indicating a school's high or low score.

#### Publish other data that facilitate comparisons across schools.

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

#### Provide comparative data based on school demographics.

As the District of Columbia does with highly qualified teachers, it should provide comparative data for schools with similar poverty and minority populations. This would yield a more comprehensive picture of gaps in the equitable distribution of teachers.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia noted that it also provides school and LEA experience data.

Figure 89	TAN INDEX FOR EACH STAT IN A SOCIAL TO EACH SOCIAL TO EACH STAT IN COLOR EACH SOCIAL TO EACH SOCIAL OCL	ERCENTAGE OF TEAC	PERCENTAGE OF NEW	ŝ/	/	1
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#### EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

No state has an outstanding record when it comes to public reporting of teacher data that can help to ameliorate inequities in teacher quality. However, **Connecticut**, **New Jersey**, **New York**, **North Carolina**, **Rhode Island** and **South Carolina** report more school-level data than other states.

 Ideally, percentage of new teachers and percentage of teachers on emergency credentials would be incorporated into a teacher quality index.

# **Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers**

# Goal A – Induction

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

#### **Goal Components**

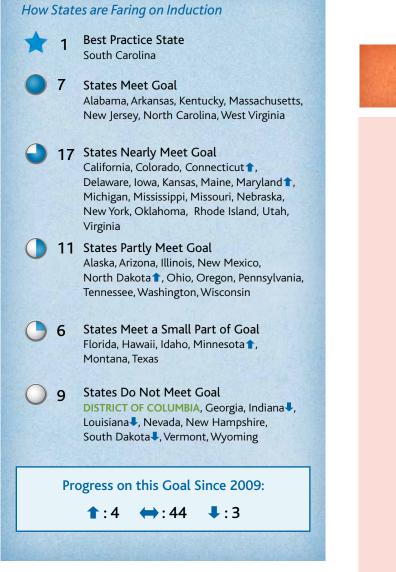
(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 1. The state should ensure that new teachers receive mentoring of sufficient frequency and duration, especially in the first critical weeks of school.
- Mentors should be carefully selected based on evidence of their own classroom effectiveness and subject-matter expertise. Mentors should be trained, and their performance as mentors should be evaluated.
- Induction programs should include only strategies that can be successfully implemented, even in a poorly managed school. Such strategies include intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area, a reduced teaching load and frequent release time to observe effective teachers.

#### Background

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

### Figure 90



### Area 4: Goal A **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

#### ANALYSIS

Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) requires that all new teachers participate in a three-year mentoring and induction program. Mentor support includes "offering classroom management and instructional strategies to improve teaching success...(as well as) observing classrooms and providing feedback regularly."

However, this applies only to DCPS and is not state-level policy.

#### **Supporting Research**

Induction and Mentoring Programs

http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/In+the+Classroom/Ensuring+Teacher+Success

The District of Columbia Public Schools Effectiveness Assessment System for School Based Personnel 2010-2011 http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/In+the+Classroom/Ensuring+Teacher+Success/IMPACT

#### RECOMMENDATION

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

The District of Columbia should ensure that all new teachers—and especially any teacher in a lowperforming school—receive mentoring support, especially in the first critical weeks of school.

#### Set specific parameters.

To ensure that all teachers receive high-quality mentoring, the District should specify how long the program lasts for a new teacher, who selects the mentors and a method of performance evaluation.

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

To ensure that the experience is meaningful, the District of Columbia should guarantee 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.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia pointed out that state-level policy requires mentoring support for participants in state-approved alternate route programs.

#### LAST WORD

Although it is critically important to support new alternate route teachers, the District should consider expanding its requirement to include all new teachers.

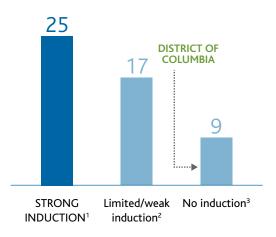
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# T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**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.

### Figure 92

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



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

# Goal B – Professional Development

# The state should require professional development to be based on needs identified through teacher evaluations.

#### **Goal Components** Figure 93 (The factors considered in determining the states' How States are Faring on Professional rating for the goal.) Development 1. The state should require that evaluation **Best Practice State** 0 systems provide teachers with feedback about their performance. 10 States Meet Goal 2. The state should direct districts to align Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, professional development activities with Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Wyoming findings from teachers' evaluations. States Nearly Meet Goal 7 Background Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, New Mexico, New York, Texas A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy. 10 States Partly Meet Goal Colorado, Hawaii, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia 12 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Kansas, Maryland, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah 12 States Do Not Meet Goal DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Iowa, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin Progress on this Goal Since 2009:

New Goal

# Area 4: Goal B **District of Columbia** Analysis

# State Does Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

# ANALYSIS

Although the District of Columbia Public Schools' IMPACT evaluation system requires that professional development activities be informed by results from teacher evaluations, the District of Columbia does not have similar state-level policy.

# Supporting Research

### DCPS Impact

http://www.dc.gov/DCPS/In+the+Classroom/Ensuring+Teacher+Success/IMPACT+(Performance+Assessment)

# RECOMMENDATION

Require that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their performance.

In order to increase their effectiveness in the classroom, teachers need to receive feedback on strengths and areas that need improvement identified in their evaluations. As such, the District of Columbia should adopt state-level policy requiring that evaluation systems provide teachers with feedback about their classroom performance.

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

Professional development that is not informed by evaluation results may be of little value to teachers' professional growth and aim of increasing their effectiveness in the classroom. The District of Columbia should adopt state-level policy to ensure that teacher evaluation results are used in determining professional development needs and activities.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The District added that "Race to the Top LEAs are required to ensure that evaluation results inform professional development."

## LAST WORD

To make sure that the connection between evaluation results and professional development extends beyond the life of its Race to the Top grant, the District of Columbia should adopt formal policy requiring such.

Do states ensure that evaluations are used to help teachers improve?

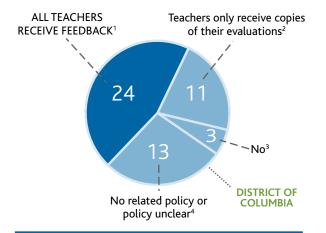


# T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Ten states meet this goal, and although NCTQ has not singled out one state's policies for "best practice" honors, Louisiana is commended for clearly articulating that the feedback provided to a teacher in a post-observation conference must include a discussion of a teacher's strengths and weaknesses.

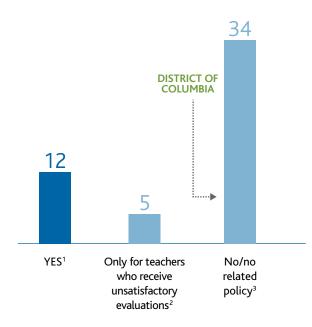
#### Figure 94

#### Do teachers receive feedback on their evaluations?



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

# Do states require that teacher evaluations inform professional development?



- 1. Strong Practice: Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Wyoming
- 2. Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Texas
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi⁴, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 4. Mississippi requires professional development based on evaluation results only for teachers in need of improvement in school identified as at-risk.

# Goal C – Pay Scales

The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.

# **Goal Components**

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

- While the state may find it appropriate to articulate teachers' starting salaries, it should not require districts to adhere to a state-dictated salary schedule that defines steps and lanes and sets minimum pay at each level.
- 2. The state should discourage districts from tying additional compensation to advanced degrees. The state should eliminate salary schedules that establish higher minimum salaries or other requirements to pay more to teachers with advanced degrees.
- 3. The state should discourage salary schedules that imply that teachers with the most experience are the most effective. The state should eliminate salary schedules that require that the highest steps on the pay scale be determined solely be seniority.

## Background

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

# Figure 97 How States are Faring in Pay Scales **Best Practice States** 2 Florida 1. Indiana 1 State Meets Goal Idaho 1 State Nearly Meets Goal Minnesota 29 States Partly Meet Goal Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming States Meet a Small Part of Goal 3 Illinois. Rhode Island, Texas States Do Not Meet Goal 15 Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:3 👄 : 48 4:0

# Area 4: Goal C District of Columbia Analysis



State Partly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

# ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not address salary requirements, seemingly giving local school districts the authority to set pay scales.

### RECOMMENDATION

### Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees.

While still leaving districts the flexibility to establish their own pay scale, the District of Columbia should articulate policies that definitively discourage local school districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees, in light of the extensive research showing that such degrees do not have an impact on teacher effectiveness.

# Discourage salary schedules that imply that teachers with the most experience are the most effective.

Similarly, the District of Columbia should articulate policies that discourage local school districts from determining the highest steps on the pay scale solely by seniority.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

# T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Florida and Indiana allow local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from focusing on elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. In Florida, local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest annual salary adjustment available. Indiana requires local salary scales to be based on a combination of factors and limits the years of teacher experience and content-area degrees to account for no more than one-third of this calculation.

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

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1. Rhode Island requires local district salary schedules to include teacher "training".

2. Texas has a minimum salary schedule based on years of experience. Compensation for advanced degrees is left to district discretion.

#### 116 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

# Goal D – Compensation for Prior Work Experience

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

## **Goal Components**

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

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

## Background

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

# Figure 100

How States are Faring in Compensation for Prior Work Experience **Best Practice State** North Carolina State Meets Goal 1 California States Nearly Meet Goal 4 States Partly Meet Goal Delaware, Georgia, Texas, Washington States Meet a Small Part of Goal 45 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:0 ↔:51 4:0

# Area 4: Goal D District of Columbia Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

# ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not encourage local school districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience. The District's regulations do include some reference to subjectarea work experience, but these appear to be local district-level policies and not a matter of state-level oversight.

### Supporting Research

District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR) 5-1106

# RECOMMENDATION

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

While still leaving local school districts with the flexibility to determine their own pay scales, the District of Columbia should encourage them 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.

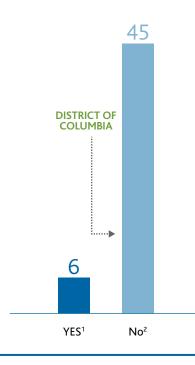
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS** The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

# T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**North Carolina** compensates new teachers with relevant prior-work experience by awarding them one year of experience credit for every year of full-time work after earning a bachelor's degree that is related to their area of licensure and work assignment. One year of credit is awarded for every two years of work experience completed prior to earning a bachelor's degree.

#### Figure 101

Do states direct districts to compensate teachers for related prior work experience?



1. Strong Practice: California, Delaware, Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Washington

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

# Goal E – Differential Pay

# The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage and high-need areas.

# **Goal Components**

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

- 1. The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in shortage subject areas.
- 2. The state should support differential pay for effective teaching in high-need schools.
- 3. The state should not have regulatory language that would block differential pay.

# Background

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

# Figure 102 How States are Faring on Differential Pay **Best Practice State** 1 Georgia 12 States Meet Goal Arkansas, California, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas States Nearly Meet Goal 3 Maryland, Virginia, Washington 8 States Partly Meet Goal Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho 1, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming 10 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Connecticut, Illinois, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, Rhode Island 1, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont 17 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Indiana, Iowa Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, West Virginia Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:2 + : 45 4:4

# Area 4: Goal E **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal (=) Progress Since 2009

## ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) supports differential pay by which a teacher can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subject areas or by teaching in high-needs school.

Through IMPACTplus, DCPS offers annual bonuses for teaching "high-needs" subject areas. For the 2010-11 school year, the following subjects qualify: special education, English as a second language, bilingual education, secondary math and secondary science. DSPC also offers annual bonuses for teaching in "highpoverty schools," defined as schools that have 60 percent or higher of free and reduced-price lunches.

However, these are not state-level policies and only apply to DCPS.

#### Supporting Research

http://www.dc.gov/DCPS/In+the+Classroom/Ensuring+Teacher+Success/IMPACT+%28Performance+Assessment%29/ IMPACT+Guidebooks NBPTS DC 2010

http://www.nbpts.org/resources/state_local_information/state_profiles DCPS Collective Bargaining Agreement http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/Files/downloads/ABOUT%20DCPS/Press/Final-WTU-DCPS-Tentative-Agreement.pdf

### RECOMMENDATION

Support differential pay initiatives for effective teachers in both subject shortage areas and high-needs schools.

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

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 103		HIGH NEED	/	SHORTAGE	. /	
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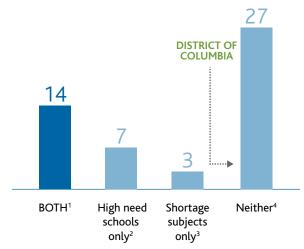
- Connecticut offers mortgage assistance and incentives to retired teachers working in shortage subject areas.
- Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in shortage subject areas.
- 3. South Dakota offers signing bonuses and scholarships to fill shortages in high-need schools.
- Shortage subject area differential pay is limited to the Middle School Teacher Corps program.

# **T** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**Georgia** supports differential pay by which teachers can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects. The state is especially commended for its new compensation strategy for math and science teachers, which moves teachers along the salary schedule rather than just providing a bonus or stipend. The state also supports differential pay initiatives to link compensation more closely with district needs and to achieve a more equitable distribution of teachers. Georgia's efforts to provide incentives for National Board Certification teachers to work in high-need schools are also noteworthy.

#### Figure 104

# Do states support differential pay for teaching in high need schools and shortage subjects?



 Strong Practice: Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia

2. Colorado, Hawaii, Maryland, North Carolina, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming

3. Idaho, Pennsylvania, Utah

4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia

# Goal F – Performance Pay

The state should support performance pay but in a manner that recognizes its appropriate uses and limitations.

# **Goal Components**

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

- 1. The state should support performance pay efforts, rewarding teachers for their effectiveness in the classroom.
- 2. The state should allow districts flexibility to define the criteria for performance pay provided that such criteria connect to evidence of student achievement.
- 3. Any performance pay plan should allow for the participation of all teachers, not just those in tested subjects and grades.

## Background

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

# Figure 105



# Area 4: Goal F District of Columbia Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

# ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) supports performance pay.

DCPS' IMPACTplus is a performance-based compensation plan with two methods for rewarding highly effective teachers. Teachers are eligible for an annual bonus based on the school's free and reduced-price lunch rate, student growth based on data assessment and teaching in a "high-needs" subject. In addition, teachers with highly effective ratings are eligible for an increase in salary base. The school's free and reduced-price lunch is taken into account when determining service credit.

However, this applies only to DCPS and is not state-level policy.

### **Supporting Research**

IMPACT Guidebook http://www.dc.gov/DCPS/In+the+Classroom/Ensuring+Teacher+Success/IMPACT+%28Performance+Assessment%29/ IMPACT+Guidebooks:

# RECOMMENDATION

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

Whether it implements the plan at the state or local level, the District of Columbia should ensure that performance pay structures thoughtfully measure classroom performance and connect student achievement to teacher effectiveness. The plan must be developed with careful consideration of available data and subsequent issues of fairness.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The District of Columbia noted that Race to the Top local educational agencies are required to have evaluation results inform compensation in some way, although they are not required to have performance pay.

**T** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

An increasing number of states are supporting performance pay initiatives. **Florida** and **Indiana** are particularly noteworthy for their efforts to build performance into the salary schedule. Rather than award bonuses, teachers' salaries will be based in part on their performance in the classroom.

Figure 106	PERCORMANCE FACTORED	/	Performance Pay New York	; /	Does not support performance pay	
Do states support	<u> </u>		Let ACH	وب الم		
performance pay?	OF F		Performance Jay Permittee	id pi	Does not support Performance Pay	
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Kentucky						
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Louisiana Maine						
Maryland						
Massachusetts						
Michigan						
Minnesota						
Mississippi						
Missouri						
Montana						
Nebraska ¹						_
Nevada						
New Hampshire						_
New Jersey						
New Mexico						_
New York						
North Carolina						
North Dakota						
Ohio						
Oklahoma						
Oregon						
Pennsylvania						
Rhode Island						
South Carolina						
South Dakota						
Tennessee						
Texas						
Utah						
Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington						
West Virginia						
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						
	3	4	12	5	27	
	5	т	12	5	-1	

1. Nebraska's initiative does not go into effect until 2016.

# Goal G – Pension Flexibility

# The state should ensure that pension systems are portable, flexible and fair to all teachers.

# **Goal Components**

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

- Participants in the state's pension system should have the option of a fully portable pension system as their primary pension plan by means of a defined contribution plan or a defined benefit plan that is formatted similar to a cash balance plan.
- 2. Participants in the state's pension system should be vested no later than the third year of employment.
- 3. Defined benefit plans should offer teachers the option of a lump-sum rollover to a personal retirement account upon termination of employment that includes, at minimum, the teacher's contributions and accrued interest at a fair interest rate. In addition, withdrawal options from either defined benefit or defined contribution plans should include funds contributed by the employer.
- 4. Defined benefit plans should allow teachers to purchase time for unlimited previous teaching experience at the time of employment. Teachers should also be allowed to purchase time for all official leaves of absence, such as maternity or paternity leave.

# Background

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

# Figure 107



# Area 4: Goal G District of Columbia Analysis

State Meets a Small Part of Goal 🛛 ( 🔁 Progress Since 2009

### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia only offers a defined benefit pension plan to its teachers as their mandatory pension plan. This plan is not fully portable, does not vest until year five and does not provide any employer contribution for teachers who choose to withdraw their account balances when leaving the system. It also limits flexibility by restricting the ability to purchase years of service.

Vesting in a defined benefit plan guarantees a teacher's eligibility to receive lifetime monthly benefit payments at retirement age. Nonvested teachers do not have a right to later retirement benefits; they may only withdraw the portion of their funds allowed by the plan. The District's vesting at five years of service limits the options of teachers who leave the system prior to this point.

Teachers who withdraw their funds when they stop teaching in the District only receive their own contributions. This means that teachers who withdraw their funds accrue fewer benefits than what they might have earned had they simply put their contributions in basic savings accounts that earned interest. Therefore, teachers leaving the pension system would have saved only 8 percent of their salary (see Goal 4-H), which is significantly below the level conventionally recommended by retirement advisers for individuals not also contributing to Social Security.

While the District's relatively low mandatory contribution rate allows for flexibility in teachers' retirement savings, it also means that there is a need to educate teachers on what happens if they leave the system and encourage savings in other portable supplemental plans. Further, teachers who remain in the field of education but enter another pension plan (such as in another state) will find it difficult to purchase the time equivalent to their prior employment in the new system because they are not entitled to any employer contribution.

The District limits teachers' flexibility to purchase years of service. The ability to purchase time is important because defined benefit plans' retirement eligibility and benefit payments are often tied to the number of years a teacher has worked. The District's plan allows teachers to purchase time for previous teaching experience, up to 10 years. While better than not allowing any purchase at all, this provision disadvantages teachers who move to the District with more teaching experience. In addition, this purchase is not allowed until teachers have five years of service in the District, which makes the purchase cost much more expensive than if calculated earlier in a teacher's career. Its plan also allows teachers to be credited for up to six months of approved leave without pay for each fiscal year, as long as teachers make the mandatory contributions to the system. However, maternity/paternity leave is not specifically listed as an approved leave of absence.

The District is commended for offering an optional supplementary savings option. Teachers may contribute an additional 10 percent of their base salary each pay day on an after-tax basis in increments of 25 dollars.

#### Supporting Research

District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Plan Summary Plan Description http://www.dcrb.dc.gov/dcrb/frames.asp?doc=/dcrb/lib/dcrb/teachers_plan.pdf

### RECOMMENDATION

### Offer teachers a pension plan that is fully portable, flexible and fair.

The District of Columbia should offer teachers for their mandatory pension plan the option of either a defined contribution plan or a fully portable defined benefit plan, such as a cash balance plan. A well-structured defined benefit plan could be a suitable option among multiple plans. However, as the sole option, defined benefit plans severely disadvantage mobile teachers and those who enter the profession later in life. Because teachers in the District do not participate in Social Security, they have no fully portable retirement benefits that would move with them in the event they leave the system.

### Increase the portability of its defined benefit plan.

If the District of Columbia maintains its defined benefit plan, it should allow teachers that leave the system to withdraw their contributions plus accrued interest, as well as an employer match. The District should also allow teachers to purchase their full amount of previous teaching experience upon the first day of employment, explicitly allow the purchase of paternal leave and decrease the vesting requirement to year three. A lack of portability is a disincentive to an increasingly mobile teaching force.

### Offer an employer contribution to the supplemental retirement savings plan.

While the District of Columbia at least offers teachers the option of a supplemental defined contribution savings plan, this option would be more meaningful employers were required also to contribute and if there were multiple investment options.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia Retirement Board did not respond to repeated requests to review NCTQ's analyses related to teacher pensions. Accrued Liability: The value of a pension plan's promised benefits calculated by an actuary (actuarial valuation), taking into account a set of investment and benefit assumptions to a certain date.

Actuarial Valuation: In a pension plan, this is the total amount needed to meet promised benefits. A set of mathematical procedures is used to calculate the value of benefits to be paid, the funds available and the annual contribution required.

Amortization Period: The gradual elimination of a liability, such as a mortgage, in regular payments over a specified period of time.

**Benefit Formula:** Formula used to calculate the amount teachers will receive each month after retirement. The most common formula used is (years of service x final average salary x benefit multiplier). This amount is divided by 12 to calculate monthly benefits.

**Benefit Multiplier:** Multiplier used in the benefit formula. It, along with years of service, determines the total percentage of final average salary that a teacher will receive in retirement benefits. In some plans, the multiplier is not constant, but changes depending upon retirement age and/or years of service.

**Defined Benefit Plan:** Pension plan that promises to pay a specified amount to each person who retires after a set number of years of service. Employees contribute to them in some cases; in others, all contributions are made by the employer.

**Defined Contribution Plan:** Pension plan in which the level of contributions is fixed at a certain level, while benefits vary depending on the return from investments. Employees make contributions into a tax-deferred account, and employers may or may not make contributions. Defined contribution pension plans, unlike defined benefit pension plans, give the employee options of where to invest the account, usually among stock, bond and money market accounts.

**Lump-sum Withdrawal:** Large payment of money received at one time instead of in periodic payments. Teachers leaving a pension plan may receive a lump-sum distribution of the value of their pension.

**Normal Cost:** The amount necessary to fund retirement benefits for one plan year for an individual or a whole pension plan.

Pension Wealth: The net present value of a teacher's expected lifetime retirement benefits.

**Purchasing Time:** A teacher may make additional contributions to a pension system to increase service credit. Time may be purchased for a number of reasons, such as professional development leave, previous out-of-state teaching experience, medical leaves of absence or military service.

**Service Credit/Years of Service:** Accumulated period of time in years or partial years for which a teacher earned compensation subject to contributions.

**Supplemental Retirement Plan:** An optional plan to which teachers may voluntarily make tax-deferred contributions in addition to their mandatory pension plans. Employees are usually able to choose their rate of contribution up to a maximum set by the IRS; some employers also make contributions. These plans are generally in the form of 457 or 403(b) programs.

**Vesting:** Right an employee gradually acquires by length of service to receive employer-contributed benefits, such as payments from a pension fund.

*Sources*: Barron's Dictionary of Finance and Investment Terms, Seventh Edition; California State Teachers' Retirement System http://www.calstrs.com/Members/Defined%20Benefit%20Program/glossary.aspx; Economic Research Institute, http://www.eridlc.com/resources/index.cfm?fuseaction=resource.glossary

Figure 109		fined	/	DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN	
What type of pension	^{Defined} benefit plan only Defi.	Contribution supplemental plan		ENEETI N PLAI	PLAN ONLY CONTRBUTION
systems do states offer	olan c	lan _W emer	/	VED B.	^{TRIBL}
teachers?	efit,	supp.	- /	VIRB	NO.
	¹ ben	d ber Ition	plan	Č.Č.	IED DNLY
	Pefi-	Itribu	"Ybrid plan" CHOL		AN C
	3 / 7	8 / 3	£ / 0	ă / .	77
Alabama					
Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California ²					
Connecticut			J L 7 F		
Delaware		] [			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA					
Florida					
Georgia					_
Hawaii					
Idaho					
Illinois		] [	] [		
Indiana ³					
lowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky			] [		
Louisiana					
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Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire New Jersey			J L 7 r		
New Mexico		_			
New York					
North Carolina	_	_			
North Dakota					
Ohio ⁴					
Oklahoma					
Oregon ⁵	]				
Pennsylvania		] [			
Rhode Island					
South Carolina ⁶					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah ⁷					
Vermont					
Virginia		_			
Washington ⁸		_			
West Virginia					
Wisconsin Wyoming					
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		_			
2	5 1	7 4	+ 4	4	1

# T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

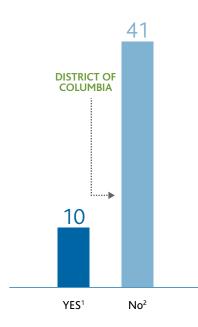
Alaska provides a fair and flexible defined contribution pension plan for all teachers. This plan is also highly portable, as teachers are entitled to 100 percent of employer contributions after five years of service. South Dakota's defined benefit plan has some creative provisions, which makes it more like a defined contribution plan. Most notably, teachers are able to withdraw 85 percent of their employer contributions after three years of service. In addition, Florida, Ohio, South Carolina and Utah are noteworthy for offering teachers a choice between a defined benefit or hybrid plan and a defined contribution plan.

- 1. A hybrid plan has components of both a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan.
- 2. California offers a small cash balance component but ended most of the funding to this portion as of January 1, 2011.
- 3. Indiana also offers a supplemental defined contribution plan.
- 4. Ohio also offers the option of a hybrid plan and offers a supplemental defined contribution plan.
- 5. Oregon also offers a supplemental defined contribution plan.
- 6. South Carolina also offers a supplemental defined contribution plan.
- 7. Utah offers a choice between a defined contribution or a hybrid plan.
- 8. Washington offers a choice between a defined benefit or a hybrid plan.

# How many years before teachers vest?

#### Figure 110

Do states offer teachers an option other than a nonportable defined benefit plan?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska, Florida, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington
- 2. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado³, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii³, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Newada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Although not fully portable, the state's defined benefit plan has some notable portability provisions.

#### Figure 111

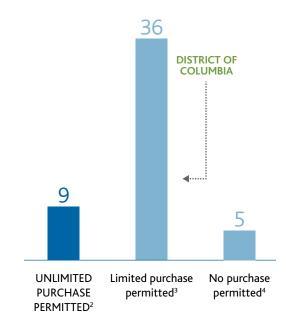
- 1. For teachers who join the system on or after January 1, 2012.
- Florida's defined benefit plan does not vest until year eight; teachers vest in the state's defined contribution plan after one year.
- 3. For teachers who join the system on or after July 1, 2012.
- 4. Ohio's defined benefit plan does not vest until year five; teachers vest in the state's defined contribution plan after one year.
- Oregon offers a hybrid plan in which teachers vest immediately in the defined contribution component and vest in the defined benefit component after five years.
- South Carolina's defined benefit plan does not vest until year five; teachers vest immediately in the state's defined contribution plan.
- Based on Washington's Plan 2. The state also offers a hybrid plan in which teachers vest immediately in the defined contribution component and vest in the defined benefit component after 10 years.

	3 YEARS OR LESS	4 to 5 years	6 to 9 years	10 years	
Alabama					
Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware ¹					
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA					
Florida ²					
Georgia					
Hawaii ³					
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa ³					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio ⁴					
Oklahoma					
Oregon⁵					
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					
South Carolina ⁶					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington ⁷					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	3	29	3	16	

Figure 112		Only their oun co	s /	Their own contribution	THER OWN CONTREPERT THER OWN CONTREPERT CONTREULE MARCONTREUTION PLUS INTEREST
What funds do states pe	rmit		Their own contribution plus interest contribution	, io	est est
teachers to withdraw fro			^{omtr} i	Libui	
their defined benefit pla	lei, o		ontr	cont ship	
		i, or	lest of	the the	
if they leave after	s th ribui	the ,	ir ol inte	t of	
five years? ¹	cont Les	(Juo	of rs	Cont Par	~ <del>~</del> 0 1
Alabama		'			
Alaska ²					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California ³					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA					
Florida					
Georgia					
Hawaii					
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
lowa ⁴					
Kansas					
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan⁵					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska					
Nevada ⁶					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina North Dakota					
Ohio ⁷ Oklahoma					
Oregon ⁸					
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					
South Carolina ⁹					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah ¹⁰					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington ¹¹					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	4	5	34	6	1

- States' withdrawal policies may vary depending on a teacher's years of service. Year five is used as a common point of comparision.
- As of July 1, 2006, Alaska only offers a defined contribution plan to new members, which allows teachers leaving the system after five years to withdraw 100 percent of the employer contribution.
- 3. California has a defined benefit plan with a small cash balance component, which allows exiting teachers to withdraw their contributions and any employer contributions plus earnings from their cash balance component, regardless of their actions regarding their defined benefit account.
- 4. Once vested, Iowa teachers may withdraw an employer match equal to one-thirtieth of their years of service. Effective July 1, 2012 teachers vest at seven years of service, so a teacher leaving at year five would not be entitled to any employer contribution.
- 5. Michigan only offers a hybrid plan. Exiting teachers may withdraw their own contributions and accrued earnings immediately and the employer contributions to the defined contribution component once vested at year four. Michigan teachers may withdraw their own contributions and accrued interest from the defined benefit component but may not withdraw the employer contribution.
- 6. Most teachers in Nevada fund the system by salary reductions or forgoing pay raises and thus do not have direct contributions to withdraw. The small mintority that are in a contributory system may withdraw their contributions plus interest.
- 7. Ohio has two other pension plans. Ohio's defined contribution plan allows teachers with at least one year of service who are leaving the system to withdraw 100 percent of the employer contribution. Exiting teachers with at least five years of experience in Ohio's combination plan may withdraw their employee-funded defined contribution component and the present value of the benefits offered in the defined benefit component.
- Oregon only has a hybrid retirement plan, which allows exiting teachers to withdraw their contributions plus earnings from their defined contribution component; they still receive the employer-funded defined benefit payments at retirement age.
- South Carolina also has a defined contribution plan, which allows exiting teachers to withdraw 100 percent of their contributions and employer contributions, plus earnings.
- 10. Utah offers a hybrid pension plan, which only has employee contributions when the costs exceed the guaranteed employer contribution. When costs are less than the employer contribution, the excess is contributed to the employee account and refundable after vesting.
- 11. Washington also has a hybrid plan, which allows exiting teachers to withdraw their contributions plus earnings from their defined contribution component; they still receive the employer-funded defined benefit payments at retirement age.

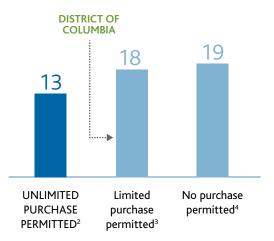
Do states permit teachers to purchase time for previous teaching experience?¹



- Purchasing time does not apply to defined contribution plans. In states that offer multiple plans or a hybrid plan, the graph refers to the state's defined benefit plan or the defined benefit component of its hybrid plan. Alaska only offers a defined contribution plan and is not included.
- Strong Practice: California, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah
- 3. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 4. Hawaii, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Oregon

#### Figure 114

# Do states permit teachers to purchase time for leaves of absence?¹



- Purchasing time does not apply to defined contribution plans. In states that offer multiple plans or a hybrid plan, the graph refers to the state's defined benefit plan or the defined benefit component of its hybrid plan. Alaska only offers a defined contribution plan and is not included.
- Strong Practice: Alabama, California, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota
- Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Montana, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming
- Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin

# Goal H – Pension Sustainability

# The state should ensure that excessive resources are not committed to funding teachers' pension systems.

# **Goal Components**

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

- 1. The state should ensure that its pension system is financially sustainable, without excessive unfunded liabilities or an inappropriately long amortization period.
- 2. Mandatory employer and employee contribution rates should not be unreasonably high, as they reduce teachers' paychecks and commit district resources that could otherwise be spent on salaries or incentives.

# Background

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

# Figure 115



# Area 4: Goal H District of Columbia Analysis

Progress Since 2009

## **ANALYSIS**

State Meets Goal

As of October 1, 2010, the most recent date for which an actuarial valuation is available, the District of Columbia's teacher pension system is 118.27 percent funded and has an amortization period of zero. This means that the District does not currently have any unfunded liabilities to pay off. Both levels are better than regulatory recommendations, and the District's system is financially sustainable according to actuarial benchmarks.

The District does not commit excessive resources toward its teachers' retirement system. The mandatory employee contribution rate to the defined benefit plan is 8 percent, and the current employer contribution rate is zero. While both of these rates are reasonable, the employer rate is extremely low relative to what other states are contributing to their pension plans and Social Security. The District did make an annual lump sum payment of \$2,982,835 to correct for member contribution shortfalls, and it has contributed as a percentage of payroll in previous years when determined necessary by actuarial valuations.

#### Supporting Research

This District of Columbia Retirement Board, Actuarial Valuations as of October 1, 2010 http://dcrb.dc.gov/dcrb/lib/dcrb/valuation_report_as_of_october_1_2010.pdf

## RECOMMENDATION

## Contribute meaningfully to teachers' pension plans.

The District is commended for providing a financially sustainable system without committing excessive resources. However, the District should share part of the burden of funding the system by contributing along with teachers.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

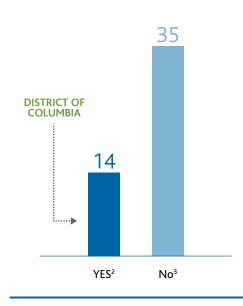
The District of Columbia Retirement Board did not respond to repeated requests to review NCTQ's analyses related to teacher pensions.

Figure 116		2
Do state pension	ENT	EAR FRIC
systems meet standard	^{PERC}	1000
benchmarks for	EAST 80 PER	ATT C
financial health?	ED E	ALLA ALLA
	FUNE	MAXUUMUM 30 YEAR AMORTIZATION PERIOD
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
Florida		
Georgia Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan ²		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
Montana		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina North Dakota		
Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah ³		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	16	26

# T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

South Dakota, Tennessee and Wisconsin provide financially sustainable pension systems without committing excessive resources. The systems in these states are fully funded without requiring excessive contributions from teachers or school districts.

# Figure 117 Are state pension systems financially sustainable?¹



- 1. Cannot be determined for Michigan or Utah, which recently opened new systems.
- 2. Strong Practice: Alaska, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indiana⁴, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. Based on Indiana's current plan only.

#### Figure 116

- 1. The amortization period is set to be under 30 years; however, the amortization period is not determined because the state is not meeting its annual required contribution.
- 2. Michigan opened a new system in July 2010.
- 3. Utah opened a new system in July 2011.

# Figure 118 *Real Rate of Return*

The pension system funding levels reported here are based on each state's individual actuarial valuation, which use a series of varying assumptions. One of these assumptions concerns rate of return, which greatly affects a system's funding level. If investment returns fall short of assumptions, the fund will have a deficit; if returns are greater than expected, the fund will have a surplus. Higher assumed rates involve more risk, while rates closer to inflation (typically in the 3-5 percent range) are safer.

Most state pension funds assume a rate between 7.5 percent and 8.25 percent. A state using a 7.5 percent rate will report a lower funding level than if it had used 8.25 percent, even though its liabilities remain the same. Many states report that they do meet or exceed an eight percent rate of return over the life of the plan.

However, some economists argue that states' assumed rates of return are too high, and should instead be closer to four percent. They caution that the risk associated with states' higher rates is borne by taxpayers, with the result that tax rates rise to fund pension deficits. A rate closer to four percent would make the vast majority of the nation's pension systems less than 50 percent funded. In light of the current market situation, the debate over the rate of return is particularly timely. With no current consensus by experts or policymakers, NCTQ used states' self-reported numbers rather than recalculate all funding levels based on a standard rate of return. Considering how many states' systems NCTQ found in questionable financial health without using the lower rates some economists prefer, it is clear this is an issue that demands policymakers' attention.

#### Figure 119

1. Alaska has only a defined contribution pension system.

Figure 119

How well funded are state pension systems?

	Funding Level
Alaska ¹	N/A
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	118.3%
Washington	116%
New York	103.2%
Wisconsin	99.8%
South Dakota	96.3%
Delaware	96%
North Carolina	95.9%
Indiana ²	94.7%
Tennessee	90.6%
Wyoming	87.5%
Georgia	87.2%
Florida	86.6%
Utah	85.7%
Oregon	83.2%
Texas	82.9%
Nebraska	82.4%
lowa	80.8%
Virginia	80.2%
Arizona	79%
Idaho	78.9%
Michigan	78.9%
Minnesota	78.5%
California	78%
Missouri	77.7%
Pennsylvania	75.1%
Alabama	74.7%
Arkansas	73.8%
Nevada	71.2%
North Dakota	69.8%
South Carolina	67.8%
Vermont	66.5%
Maine	65.9%
New Mexico	65.7%
Maryland	65.4%
Montana	65.4%
Colorado	64.8%
Mississippi	64.2%
Massachusetts	63%
Connecticut	61.4%
Hawaii	61.4%
Kentucky	61%
Ohio	59.1%
New Hampshire	58.5%
New Jersey	57.6%
Oklahoma	56.7%
Kansas	56%
Louisiana	54.4%
Illinois	48.4%
Rhode Island	48.4%

Indiana's current plan is 94.7 percent funded. However, when the current plan is combined with its closed plan, the funding level drops to 44.3 percent.

# What are the current employer¹ contribution rates to state pension systems?

#### Employer contribution rate

Social Security (+6.2%)	0% 	5% 	10% 	15% 	20% 	25% 	30% 	35% 
Alabama	10							
Alaska	12.6							
Arizona	10.1							
Arkansas	14							
California	10.3							
Colorado	14.8							
Connecticut	19.2							
Delaware	9.3							
DISTRICT OF COLUM	IBIA O							
Florida	3.8							
Georgia ²	10.3							
Hawaii ³	15							
Idaho	10.4							
Illinois ³	12.7							
Indiana	7.5							
lowa	8.1							
Kansas	9.4							
Kentucky	17.8							
Louisiana	23.7				-			
Maine	17.3							
Maryland	17.5							
Massachusetts ³	22.6					1		
Michigan ⁴	N/A							
Minnesota ³		_						
	6.2		_					
Mississippi Missouri	12		_	_				
	14.5		_					
Montana	10							
Nebraska	8.9		_					
Nevada	11.9							
New Hampshire	10.7							
New Jersey ⁵	N/A			_				
New Mexico	9.9							
New York	11.1							
North Carolina	13.1							
North Dakota	8.8							
Ohio	14							
Oklahoma	14.5							
Oregon	13.9							
Pennsylvania ³	5.6							
Rhode Island ⁶	22.3							
South Carolina	9.2							
South Dakota	6							
Tennessee	6.4							
Texas ⁷	6.6							
Utah	10							
Vermont	7.4							
Virginia	8.8							
Washington	9.2							
West Virginia	29.2							
Wisconsin	4.8							
	7.1							

## Figure 120

What is a reasonable rate for pension contributions?

- 4-7 percent each for teachers and districts in states participating in Social Security
- 10-13 percent each for teachers and districts in states not participating in Social Security

Analysts generally agree that workers in their 20's with no previous retirement savings should save, in addition to Social Security contributions, about 10-15 percent of their gross income in order to be able to live during retirement on 80 percent of the salary they were earning when they retired. While the recommended savings rate varies with age and existing retirement savings, NCTQ has used this 10-15 percent benchmark as a reasonable rate for its analyses. To achieve a total savings of 10-15 percent, teacher and employer contributions should each be in the range of 4-7 percent. In states where teachers do not participate in Social Security, the total recommended retirement savings (teacher plus employer contributions) is about 12 percent higher to compensate for the fact that these teachers will not have Social Security income when they retire. In order to achieve the appropriate level of total savings, teacher and employer contributions in these states should each be in the range of 10-13 percent.

#### Sources:

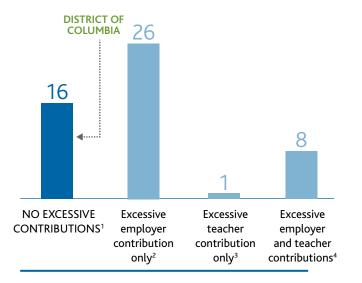
http://www.schwab.com/public/schwab/resource_center/expert_insight/retirement_strategies/planning/ how_much_should_you_save_for_retirement_play_ the_percentages.html https://personal.vanguard.com/us/insights/retirement/ saving/set-retirement-goals

#### Figure 121

- 1. The employer contribution rate includes the contributions of both school districts and state governments, where appropriate.
- 2. The contribution rate is set to increase in future years. Some school districts in Georgia do not contribute to Social Security.
- 3. The contribution rate is set to increase in future years.
- 4. Michigan opened a new system in July 2010 and employer contributions are not yet reported.
- New Jersey reports its contributions as a flat dollar amount, and a percentage could not be calculated.
- 6. The contribution rate is set to increase in future years. Most, but not all, school districts in Rhode Island contribute to Social Security.
- 7. The contribution rate is set to decrease in 2012.

# 验

# Do states require excessive contributions to their pension systems?



 Strong Practice: Alaska, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey⁵, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming

- Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia
- 3. Michigan⁶
- 4. Arizona, Hawaii, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island
- 5. While not excessive, the employer and state contribution are quite low. The most recent total employer contribution was only 5.4 percent of the actuarially-determined annual required contribution.
- Employer contribution rates to Michigan's new system have not yet been reported.

#### Figure 123

- 1. The contribution rate is set to increase in future years.
- 2. Teachers contribute 9.4 percent to the defined benefit component and are automatically enrolled to contribute 2 percent to the defined contribution component; teachers may change the latter rate.
- 3. The contribution rate is set to increase in 2012 and decrease in 2014.
- 4. Teachers share in the employer contribution through salary reductions or foregoing equivalent pay raises.
- 5. For teachers hired after July 1, 2011, the contribution ranges from 7.5-12.3 based on a variety of factors.
- 6. Teachers in the hybrid plan must make a mandatory contribution if the employer contribution does not cover system costs.
- 7. For the defined benefit plan; the rate varies for the defined contribution plan from a minimum of 5 percent.

# Figure 123

# How much do state pension systems require teachers to contribute?

Teacher contribution rate

Social Security (+6.2%)	C	)%	5%	10%	15%	20%
Alsh		1				
Alabama ¹	7.3					
Alaska Arizona	8					
Arizona Arkansas	11.4					
California	6					
Colorado	8					
Connecticut	8		_			
Delaware ¹	7.3					
DISTRICT OF COLUM	3					
Florida						
Georgia ¹	3		_			
Hawaii ¹	5.5					
Idaho	6	_				
Illinois	6.2			-		
Indiana	9.4					
	3					
lowa	5.4			_		
Kansas	6					
Kentucky	10.9					
Louisiana	8					
Maine	7.7	_				
Maryland	7			_		
Massachusetts	11					
Michigan ²	11.4					
Minnesota ¹	6				_	
Mississippi	9					
Missouri	14.5					
Montana	7.2			_		
Nebraska ³	8.8					
Nevada ⁴	11.9		_	_		
New Hampshire	7				1	
New Jersey ¹	6.5					
New Mexico	11.2			_		
New York	3.5					
North Carolina	6				_	
North Dakota ¹	7.8			_		
Ohio	10	_				
Oklahoma	7					
Oregon	6				_	
Pennsylvania⁵	7.5			_		
Rhode Island	9.5					
South Carolina	6.5					
South Dakota	6					
Tennessee	5		_			
Texas	6.4		_			
Utah ⁶	0					
Vermont	5					
Virginia	5					
Washington ⁷	4.8					
West Virginia	6					
Wisconsin	6.2					
Wyoming	7					

# **Area 4: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers**

# Goal I – Pension Neutrality

# The state should ensure that pension systems are neutral, uniformly increasing pension wealth with each additional year of work.

# **Goal Components**

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

- The formula that determines pension benefits should be neutral to the number of years worked. It should not have a multiplier that increases with years of service or longevity bonuses.
- 2. The formula for determining benefits should preserve incentives for teachers to continue working until conventional retirement ages. Eligibility for retirement benefits should be based on age and not years of service.

# Background

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

# Figure 124



# Area 4: Goal I District of Columbia Analysis

# State Partly Meets Goal

# Progress Since 2009

# ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia's pension system is based on a benefit formula that is not neutral, meaning that each year of work does not accrue pension wealth in a uniform way until teachers reach conventional retirement age, such as that associated with Social Security.

Teachers' retirement wealth is determined by their monthly payments and the length of time they expect to receive those payments. Monthly payments are usually calculated as final average salary multiplied by years of service multiplied by a set multiplier (such as 1.5). Higher salary, more years of service or a greater multiplier increases monthly payments and results in greater pension wealth. Earlier retirement eligibility with unreduced benefits also increases pension wealth, because more payments will be received.

To qualify as neutral, a pension formula must utilize a constant benefit multiplier and an eligibility timetable based solely on age, rather than years of service. Basing eligibility for retirement on years of service creates unnecessary and often unfair peaks in pension wealth, while allowing unreduced retirement at a young age creates incentives to retire early. Plans that change their multipliers for various years of service do not value each year of teaching equally. Therefore, plans with a constant multiplier and that base retirement on an age in line with Social Security are likely to create the most uniform accrual of wealth.

The District's pension plan is commended for utilizing a constant benefit multiplier of 2 percent; however, teachers may retire before standard retirement age based on years of service without a reduction in benefits. Teachers may retire at any age with 30 years of service, or at age 60 with 20 years of service, while other vested teachers with less than 20 years of service may not retire until age 62. Therefore, teachers who begin their careers at age 22 can reach 30 years of service by age 52, entitling them to 10 additional years of unreduced retirement benefits beyond what other teachers would receive who may not retire until age 62. Not only are teachers being paid benefits by the District well before Social Security's retirement age, but these provisions may also encourage effective teachers to retire early, and they fail to treat equally those teachers who enter the system at a later age and give the same amount of service.

### Supporting Research

District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Plan Summary Plan Description 2007 http://www.dcrb.dc.gov/dcrb/frames.asp?doc=/dcrb/lib/dcrb/teachers_plan.pdf

## RECOMMENDATION

### End retirement eligibility based on years of service.

The District of Columbia should change its practice of allowing teachers with 30 years of service to retire at any age and teachers with 20 years of service to retire at age 60, both with full benefits. If retirement at an earlier age is offered to some teachers, benefits should be reduced accordingly to compensate for the longer duration they will be awarded.

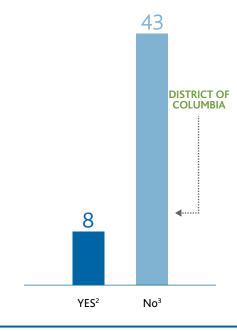
Align eligibility for retirement with unreduced benefits with Social Security retirement age.

The District of Columbia allows all teachers to retire before conventional retirement age, some as young as 52. As life expectancies continue to increase, teachers may draw out of the system for many more years than they contributed. This is not compatible with a financially sustainable system (see Goal 4-H).

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia Retirement Board did not respond to repeated requests to review NCTQ's analyses related to teacher pensions.

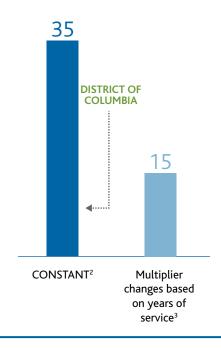
Do states base retirement eligibility on age, which is fair to all teachers?¹



- 1. This only refers to determining retirement eligibility, not retirement benefits.
- Strong Practice: Alaska, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey
- 3. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming

- 1. All calculations are based on a teacher who starts teaching at age 22, earns a starting salary of \$35,000 that increases 3 percent per year, and retires at the age s/he is first eligible for unreduced benefits. The calculations use states' current benefit formulas and do not include cost of living increases. The final average salary was calculated as the average of the highest three years of salary, even though a few states may vary from that standard. Age 65 was used as a point of comparision because it is the miminum eligibility for unreduced Social Security benefits.
- 2. Does not apply to Alaska's defined contribution plan.
- 3. Minnesota provides unreduced retirement benefits at the age of full Social Security benefits or age 66, whichever comes first.
- California's formula has many options for retirement. A teacher with 40 years of experience at age 62 would reach Califorina's maximum allowable multiplier of 2.4 percent.
- 5. Age 60 is the earlier teachers hired on or after July 1, 2012 may retire. Teachers hired prior to this point may retire at age 55.
- Massachusetts's formula has many options for retirement. A teacher with 35 years of experience at age 57 would reach Massachusetts's maximum allowable benefit of 80 percent.
- Total amount in benefits paid Per teacher from the binefits paid retirement until age 65 me of Figure 126 Earliest retirement age th a teacher who started th -22 may unreduced bene How much do states pay for each teacher that retires with unreduced benefits at an early age?1 Alaska² \$0 Illinois 67 \$0 Maine 65 Minnesota³ \$0 66 New Hampshire \$0 65 New Jersey \$0 65 Washington \$0 65 Tennessee \$238,654 52 Michigan \$289,187 60 California⁴ \$310,028 62 Indiana 55 \$317,728 Hawaii⁵ \$337,385 60 Kansas 60 \$337,385 Oregon \$361,536 58 North Dakota \$385,583 60 Oklahoma \$385,583 60 Maryland \$413,808 56 Wisconsin 57 \$416,007 Rhode Island \$430,013 59 New York \$440,819 57 Texas \$443,421 60 South Dakota 55 \$447,707 Virginia 56 \$468,982 Louisiana \$481,979 60 Florida \$485,257 55 Vermont \$486,832 56 Montana 47 \$518,228 Connecticut \$520,009 57 Utah 57 \$520,009 Iowa \$551,428 55 Idaho \$551,743 56 North Carolina \$568,555 52 South Carolina 50 \$577,142 Nebraska \$577,687 55 West Virginia 55 \$577,687 Delaware \$577,927 52 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA \$585,737 52 Massachusetts⁶ 57 \$594.296 Georgia \$624,786 52 Mississippi \$624,786 52 Alabama \$625,747 47 Colorado \$650,011 57 Pennsylvania \$650,011 57 Wyoming \$655,506 54 Arizona \$664,340 55 Arkansas 50 \$681,789 Ohio \$687.265 52 New Mexico \$734,124 52 Nevada 52 \$780,983 Missouri \$789,343 51 Kentucky 49 \$791,679

What kind of multiplier do states use to calculate retirement benefits?¹



- 1. Alaska has a defined contribution plan, which does not have a benefit multiplier.
- 2. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wyoming

### **T** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Alaska offers a defined contribution pension plan that is neutral, with pension wealth accumulating in an equal way for all teachers for each year of work. In addition, Illinois, Minnesota and New Jersey offer a defined benefit plan with a formula multiplier that does not change relative to years of service and does not allow unreduced benefits for retirees below age 65. Illinois and New Jersey are further commended for ending their previous practices of allowing teachers to retire well before Social Security age without a reduction in benefits.

### Double-Dipping: Cure the Disease, Not the Symptom

Benefit recipients in teacher pension plans have recently been under scrutiny for "double-dipping," when individuals receive a pension and salary at the same time. This can occur when teachers reach retirement eligibility, yet wish to keep working without losing pension wealth. Teachers can retire, start receiving their monthly benefits and then return to teaching. The restrictions on a teacher's ability to return to work vary from state to state. Policies can include waiting periods, limitations on earnings or restrictions to working in difficult-to-fill positions.

Some descriptions portray teachers working while collecting their pensions as greedy or somehow taking advantage, when in fact they are just following the system that is in place. When a teacher reaches retirement eligibility in a defined benefit system, her pension wealth peaks and, after that, wealth accrual slows or even decreases because every year a teacher delays retirement, she loses a year of pension benefits. For example, if a teacher could retire with 60 percent of her salary at age 56, then every year she teaches past that point she is, in effect, working for only 40 percent of her pay because she is not receiving her pension. This puts relatively young teachers and the districts who wish to retain them in a difficult position. Districts want to keep effective teachers in schools, but the financial reality for teachers is hard to pass up.

Retirees returning to work are also an issue for defined benefit pension system funding because contributions are not being made to the system that would be made if those positions were held by non-retirees. This adds to the funding imbalances that many states' defined benefit systems face.

Some states have created Deferred Retirement Option Plans (DROP) in which retirees can have their benefits placed in a savings account while they return to work and, once they retire again, they can receive the lump sum in their DROP accounts and resume their monthly benefits.

Returning to work would not be a large policy issue if systems did not allow teachers to retire with unreduced benefits at such relatively young ages and if pension wealth accrual were more neutral. An effective teacher should be able to keep teaching and at the same time know that her pension wealth will not erode. More systemic fixes—like the ones outlined in the *Yearbook*—are needed. Calls to prohibit double-dipping are not addressing the real problem.

### Goal A – Licensure Loopholes

## The state should close loopholes that allow teachers who have not met licensure requirements to continue teaching.

### **Goal Components**

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

- Under no circumstances should a state award a standard license to a teacher who has not passed all required subject-matter licensing tests.
- If a state finds it necessary to confer conditional or provisional licenses under limited and exceptional circumstances to teachers who have not passed the required tests, the state should ensure that requirements are met within one year.

### Background

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



### Area 5: Goal A District of Columbia Analysis



State Nearly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia allows the state superintendent to issue a one-year nonrenewable Transitional Teaching Credential to a candidate who has not met all licensure requirements, including subject-matter testing. To qualify, candidates must have a bachelor's degree and have completed either an academic major that qualifies them to teach in the content area or an approved teacher preparation program. In addition, the Transitional Teaching Credential may be awarded to out-of-state candidates who hold a valid teaching license but have not taken the tests required for a Regular II license.

Supporting Research DCMR 5-1601.6

### RECOMMENDATION

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

While the District of Columbia's policy minimizes the risks brought about by having teachers in classrooms who lack sufficient or appropriate subject-matter knowledge by offering its Transitional Teaching Credential for one year only, the District could take its policy a step further and require all teachers to meet subject-matter licensure requirements prior to entering the classroom.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

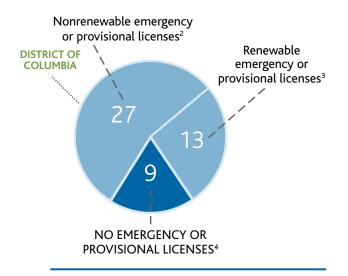
The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

**T** EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

#### Figure 130

Do states still award emergency licenses?¹



- 1. Not applicable to Montana and Nebraska, which do not require subject matter testing.
- Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota⁵, Ohio⁵, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wyorning
- Arizona, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin
- 4. Strong Practice: Colorado, Illinois, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia
- 5. License is renewable, but only if licensure tests are passed.

- 1. Iowa only requires subject-matter testing for elementary teachers.
- 2. Montana does not require subject-matter testing.
- 3. Nebraska does not require subject-matter testing.
- There is a potential loophole in Utah, as alternate route teachers appear able to delay passage of subject-matter tests.
- 5. Wyoming only requires subject-matter testing for elementary and social studies teachers.

Figure 131				
How long can new teacl	hers			
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Virginia				
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Wisconsin				
Wyoming⁵				
	9	14	8	18

### Goal B – Unsatisfactory Evaluations

150 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The state should articulate consequences for teachers with unsatisfactory evaluations, including specifying that teachers with multiple unsatisfactory evaluations should be eligible for dismissal.

Goal Components	Figure 132		
(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)	How States are Faring on Consequences for Unsatisfactory Evaluations		
<ol> <li>The state should require that all teachers who receive a single unsatisfactory evaluation be placed on an improvement plan, whether or not they have tenure.</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>2 Best Practice States Illinois¹, Oklahoma</li> <li>11 States Meet Goal</li> </ul>		
<ol> <li>The state should require that all teachers who receive two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations or two unsatisfactory evaluations</li> </ol>	Alaska, Arkansas ↑, Colorado ↑, Delaware ↑, Florida, Indiana ↑, Louisiana, New Mexico, New York ↑, Rhode Island ↑, Washington		
within five years be formally eligible for dismissal, whether or not they have tenure.	<b>6</b> States Nearly Meet Goal Georgia, Hawaii, Michigan <b>1</b> , North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas		
Background A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy.	13 States Partly Meet Goal California, Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts , Minnesota , Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada , Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee , Utah, West Virginia		
	<b>5</b> States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Idaho 1, Ohio 1, Virginia, Wyoming 1		
	● 14 States Do Not Meet Goal Alabama ♣, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin		
	Progress on this Goal Since 2009:		
	<b>1</b> :15 ↔:35 ↓:1		

### Area 5: Goal B **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia does not have state-level policy regarding teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluations.

### RECOMMENDATION

### Require that all teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluations be placed on improvement plans.

While the District of Columbia Public Schools IMPACT evaluation system suggests that teachers who receive minimally effective ratings seek out professional development opportunities, the District does not have state-level policy that clearly articulates that formal remediation plans will be utilized for teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluations. The District should, therefore, codify policy that requires teachers who receive even one unsatisfactory evaluation be placed on structured improvement plans. These plans should focus on performance areas that directly connect to student learning and should list noted deficiencies, define specific action steps necessary to address these deficiencies and describe how and when progress will be measured.

### Make eligibility for dismissal a consequence of unsatisfactory evaluations.

Although the District of Columbia Public Schools IMPACT evaluation system requires that teachers who receive minimally effective ratings for two consecutive years or one ineffective rating be separated from the district, this is not state-level policy. The District should codify policy that ensures that teachers who receive two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations be formally eligible for dismissal, regardless of whether they have tenure.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis. The District noted that Race to the Top LEAs are required to have evaluation results inform retention and dismissal decisions.

### LAST WORD

The District is encouraged to codify such policy so as to ensure that it applies to all LEAs and will last beyond the life of its Race to the Top grant.

		and the second s	1	1
Figure 133	MAPROVENENT PLANAFTER RATING LUNSATISTACTORY	AFTE		No articulated consequences
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	27	17	8	17

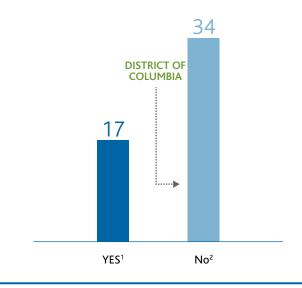
- Teachers could face nonrenewal based on evaluation results, but it is not clear that a teacher is eligible for dismissal after multiple unsatisfactory evaluations.
- While results of evaluations may be used in dismissal decisions, there are no specific criteria for a teacher's eligibility for dismissal.
- Improvement plans are only used for teachers in identified "Schools At Risk." Those same teachers are also eligible for dismissal for multiple unsatisfactory evaluations.
- A teacher reverts to probationary status after two consecutive years of unsatisfactory evaluations, but it is not clear that a teacher is eligible for dismissal.
- 5. Teachers in low performing schools can be dismissed after one negative rating.
- Local school boards must include procedures for using evaluation results for the removal of poorly performing teachers.

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**Illinois** and **Oklahoma** both require that teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluations be placed on improvement plans. Teachers in Illinois are then evaluated three times during a 90-day remediation period and are eligible for dismissal if performance remains unsatisfactory. In addition, new legislation in Illinois allows districts to dismiss a teacher without going through the remediation process if that teacher has already completed a remediation plan but then receives an unsatisfactory rating within the next three years. Oklahoma's improvement plan may not exceed two months, and if performance does not improve during that time, teachers are eligible for dismissal.

#### Figure 134

Do states specify that all teachers with multiple unsatisfactory evaluations are eligible for dismissal?



- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington
- 2. Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho³, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada⁴, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Teachers could face nonrenewal based on evaluation results, but it is not clear that a teacher is eligible for dismissal after multiple unsatisfactory evaluations.
- 4. A teacher reverts to probationary status after two consecutive years of unsatisfactory evaluations, but it is not clear that a teacher is eligible for dismissal.

### Goal C – Dismissal for Poor Performance

The state should articulate that ineffective classroom performance is grounds for dismissal and ensure that the process for terminating ineffective teachers is expedient and fair to all parties.

#### **Goal Components** Figure 135 (The factors considered in determining the states' How States are Faring in Dismissal for Poor rating for the goal.) Performance 1. The state should articulate that teachers **Best Practice State** may be dismissed for ineffective classroom Oklahoma performance. 2. A teacher who is terminated for poor 2 States Meet Goal performance should have an opportunity to Florida¹, Indiana¹ appeal. In the interest of both the teacher and the school district, the state should States Nearly Meet Goal 6 Colorado 1, Illinois 1, Michigan 1, New York 1, ensure that this appeal occurs within a Rhode Island 1. Tennessee 1 reasonable time frame. 3. There should be a clear distinction between States Partly Meet Goal 8 the process and accompanying due process Arizona¹, Delaware¹, Hawaii¹, rights for teachers dismissed for classroom Massachusetts 1, Nevada 1, Ohio 1, Wisconsin, Wyoming ineffectiveness and the process and accompanying due process rights for teachers States Meet a Small Part of Goal dismissed or facing license revocation for felony Louisiana, New Hampshire, Virginia, or morality violations or dereliction of duties. West Virginia 30 States Do Not Meet Goal Background Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, A detailed rationale and supporting research for Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, this goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy. Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:16 ↔:35 4:0

### Area 5: Goal C **District of Columbia** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

### ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) system's new IMPACT evaluation program ensures that teacher ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal. The IMPACT guidebook specifies that individuals who receive "ineffective" ratings are "subject to separation from the school system."

In addition, teachers who are terminated have one opportunity to appeal. After receiving written notice of dismissal, the teacher may file an appeal to the Superintendent of Schools within 10 days. The time frame for the hearing, however, is not addressed.

Unfortunately, this strong policy exists only at the district level. The District of Columbia has no statelevel policy governing teacher dismissal.

Supporting Research

DCPS IMPACT http://www.dc.gov/DCPS/In+the+Classroom/Ensuring+Teacher+Success/IMPACT+(Performance+Assessment)

### RECOMMENDATION

### Codify policies to ensure that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

While the IMPACT system implemented by DCPS and the contract between DCPS and the Washington Teachers Union represent significant policy advancements in the areas of teacher evaluation, tenure, placement and dismissal, these are in fact district-level, and not state-level, policies. The District is encouraged to codify its teacher dismissal requirements in state statute and/or regulation.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Do states articulate that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal?

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Alaska				
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Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia			3	
Washington				
West Virginia			3	
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	9	13	38	

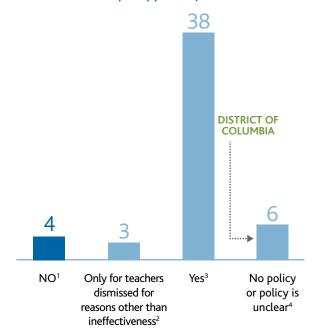
### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

**Oklahoma** clearly articulates that teacher ineffectiveness in the classroom is grounds for dismissal and has taken steps to ensure that the dismissal process for teachers deemed to be ineffective is expedited. Teachers facing dismissal have only one opportunity to appeal.

#### Figure 137

ROUCH TON POLICY

Do states allow multiple appeals of teacher dismissals?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Wisconsin
- 2. Teachers in these states revert to probationary status following ineffective evaluation ratings, meaning that they no longer have the due process right to multiple appeals: Colorado, Indiana, Tennessee
- 3. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois⁵, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 4. District of Columbia, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada⁶, Utah, Vermont
- 5. The teacher is responsible for the cost of the second appeal.
- 6. Though a teacher returns to probationary status after two consecutive unsatisfactory ratings, the state does not articulate clear policy about its appeals process.

#### Figure 136

1. It is left to districts to define "inadequacy of classroom performance."

- 2. A teacher reverts to probationary status after two consecutive years of unsatisfactory evaluations, but it is not articulated that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.
- Dismissal policy includes dismissal for unsatisfactory evaluations, but the state's evaluation system does not measure teacher effectiveness (see Goal 3-B).

156 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### Goal D – Reductions in Force

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

### **Goal Components**

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

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

### Background

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



### Area 5: Goal D District of Columbia Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

### ANALYSIS

District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) ensures that multiple factors are considered when determining which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force, including: 1) previous year's final evaluation, 2) unique skills and qualifications, 3) other contributions to the local education program, and 4) length of service.

However, this code appears to refer to local district-level policy and not state-level oversight.

Supporting Research DCMR 1503.2 http://www.dcregs.dc.gov/Gateway/RuleHome.aspx?RuleNumber=5-E1503

### RECOMMENDATION

Codify policies at the state level to ensure that seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off and that performance is considered.

It appears that the code cited here does not refer to state-level policy. The District is encouraged to codify its reduction in force requirements in state statute and/or regulation, while also adding provisions that ensure that performance is considered.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

The District of Columbia recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



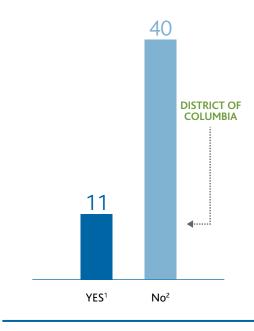
Figure 159		1
Do states prevent	15	Se H
districts from basing	E M	Ma Ma S C S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S
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South Carolina		
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Vermont		
Virginia		
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West Virginia Wisconsin		
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	11	17

### T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

#### Figure 140

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

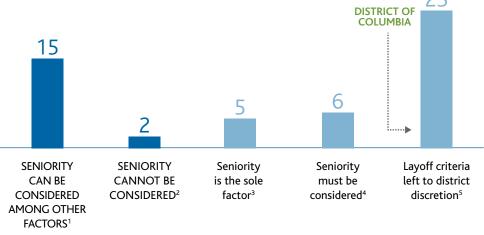


1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah

2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio³, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

3. Tenure is considered first.





1. Strong Practice: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, Missouri⁶, Nevada, New Hampshire, Ohio⁶, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas

- 2. Strong Practice: Idaho, Utah
- 3. Hawaii, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin⁷
- 4. California, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon
- Alabama, Alaska⁶, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia⁶, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts⁶, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska⁶, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wyoming
- 6. Nontenured teachers are laid off first.
- 7. Only for counties with populations of 500,000 or more and for teachers hired before 1995.

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> Sandi Jacobs Vice President sjacobs@nctq.org 202-393-0020