2011 State Teacher Policy Yearbook

Alaska





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.

Alaska at a Glance

Overall 2011 Yearbook Grade:

Overall 2009 Yearbook Grade: D

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

Overall Progress



How is Alaska Faring?

Area 1 Delivering Well Prepared Teachers

Policy Strengths

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 a broad range of elementary content.
- 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.
- Middle school teachers are not sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content.

- Secondary teachers are not required to pass a content test as a condition of initial licensure, and some secondary science and social studies teachers are not required to pass content tests for each discipline they intend to teach.
- The state offers a K-12 special education certification.
- A pedagogy test is not required as a condition of licensure.
- There are no specific requirements for student teaching.
- The 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

Although more could be done to provide streamlined preparation for alternate route teachers, there is a practice-teaching opportunity, and induction supports the immediate needs of new teachers.

Policy Weaknesses

- Admission criteria for the alternate route to certification are not sufficiently selective and do not provide flexibility for nontraditional candidates.
- Usage and providers of alternate routes are restricted.
- The state does not offer a license with minimal requirements that would allow content experts to teach part time.
- Although out-of-state teachers are appropriately required to meet the state's testing requirements, there are additional obstacles that do not support licensure reciprocity.

F

How is Alaska Faring?

Area 3 Identifying Effective Teachers

Policy Strengths

Policy Weaknesses

- The state data system does not have the capacity to provide evidence of teacher effectiveness.
- Objective evidence of student learning is not the preponderant criterion of teacher evaluations.
- Annual evaluations for all teachers are not required.
- Tenure decisions are not connected to evidence of teacher effectiveness.
- Licensure advancement and renewal are not based on teacher effectiveness.

D-

C+

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.
- A defined contribution pension plan is offered, which is fully portable, flexible and fair to all teachers.
- Excessive resources are not committed to the state's pension system.

Policy Weaknesses

- All new teachers do not receive mentoring or other induction support.
- Professional development is not aligned with findings from teachers' evaluations.
- The state does not support performance pay or additional compensation for relevant prior work experience, working in high-need schools or teaching in shortage subject areas.

Area 5 Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Policy Strengths

Teachers who receive unsatisfactory evaluations are required to go on improvement plans and, if they do not improve, are eligible for dismissal.

Policy Weaknesses

- Teachers can teach for up to three years before having to pass required subject-matter tests.
- Ineffective classroom performance is not grounds for dismissal, and tenured teachers who are dismissed have multiple opportunities to appeal.
- Performance is not considered in determining which teachers to lay off during reductions in force.

Alaska Goal Summary

Goal Breakdown	
The set Practice	2
Fully Meets	2
Nearly Meets	0
Partially Meets	5
Only Meets a Small Part	6
O Does Not Meet	21
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	0
1-F: Secondary Teacher Preparation	0
1-G: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science	0
1-H: Secondary Teacher Preparation in Social Studies	0
1-I: Special Education Teacher Preparation	0
1-J: Assessing Professional Knowledge	0
1-K: Student Teaching	0
1-L: Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	0
Area 2: Expanding the Pool of Teachers	
2-A: Alternate Route Eligibility	٢
2-B: Alternate Route Preparation	0
2-C: Alternate Route Usage and Providers	0
2-D: Part Time Teaching Licenses	
2-E: Licensure Reciprocity	0

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

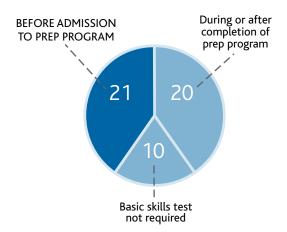


Some goals are marked with this symbol , which indicates that the bar has been raised for this goal since the 2009 *Yearbook*. With many states making considerable progress in advancing teacher effectiveness policy, NCTQ raised the standards for some goals where the bar had been quite low. As this may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



6 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 ALASKA

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.

PAGE 9

PAGE 57

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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

PAGE 101

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.

8 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 ALASKA

PAGE 141



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.)

- 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.
- 3. 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, Iowa1, 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:

👄 : 45

↓:0

1:6



Area 1: Goal A **Alaska** Analysis



State Does Not Meet Goal 🛛 🧒 Bar Raised for this Goal 🤅

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Rather than requiring aspiring teachers to pass a test of academic proficiency as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs, Alaska delays its basic skills assessment until teacher candidates are ready to apply for licensure.

Supporting Research Alaska Statutes 14.20.020

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—Alaska 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.

Alaska 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

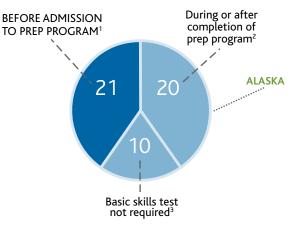
Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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

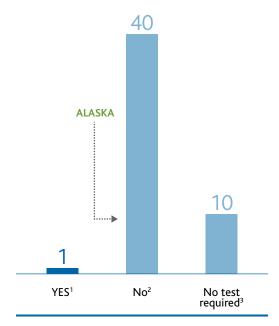
When do states test teacher candidates' basic skills?



- 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, Mississispi, Missouri, Nebraska, Newada, 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

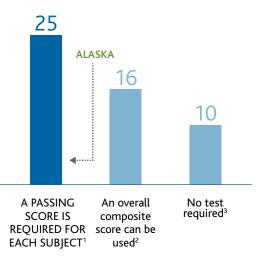
3. Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Montana, Ohio, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

Figure 4

Figure 4		AND AND	a l	÷ /	
Do states appropriately	č		teact	and the star	
test teacher candidates'	Q Q	110V		o pro	
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Tennessee					
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Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
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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.)

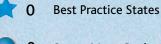
- The state should require that its approved teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 36 credit hours to ensure appropriate depth in the core subject areas of English, science, social 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.
- 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.
- 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



0 States Meet Goal

4 States Nearly Meet Goal Indiana 1, Massachusetts, Minnesota 1, 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:

1:3 ↔:44 ↓:4



Area 1: Goal B **Alaska** Analysis

) State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach a broad range of elementary content.

Alaska requires candidates to pass the Praxis II general elementary content test but not until after they have taught for three years. This policy puts the state in a dubious position with regard to NCLB's provision that all elementary teachers pass a subject-matter test. More importantly, Alaska's test 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 state's low passing score.

Further, the state does not specify any coursework requirements for elementary teacher candidates, except for coursework in Alaska studies and either multicultural education or cross-cultural communications.

However, Alaska does require NCATE accreditation, suggesting that the state uses the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) standards for approving its elementary programs. Unfortunately, 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 Alaska Administrative Code 4 AAC 12.305 Praxis II www.ets.org

RECOMMENDATION

Require a content test—as a condition of licensure—that ensures sufficient knowledge in all subjects.

Alaska should 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 meaningful, Alaska should ensure that these passing scores reflect high levels of performance.

Provide broad liberal arts coursework relevant to the elementary classroom.

Alaska 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. 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 Alaska 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

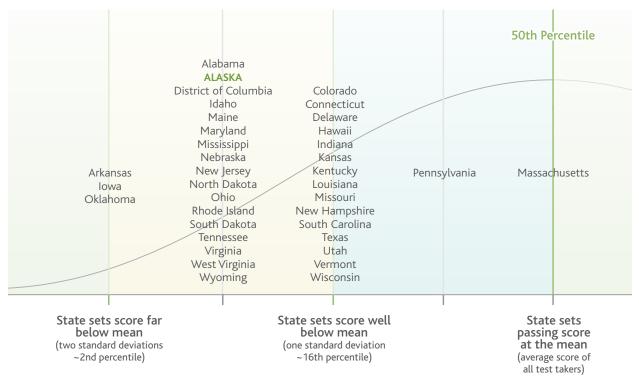


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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.

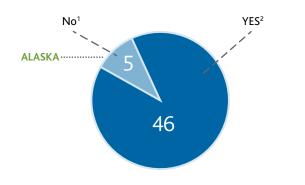
Figure 7

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?



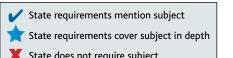
1. Alaska, Minnesota, Nebraska, Texas, Virginia

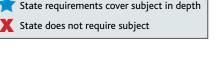
2. Strong Practice: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New 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 Alaska expect elementary teachers to know?

ENGLISH American World/British Writing/Grammar Children's Literature Literature Composition Literature **SCIENCE** General Physical Earth Biology/Life Chemistry Physics Science Science Science SOCIAL STUDIES World History American American American World History World History History I History II (Ancient) (Modern) (Non Western) Government **FINE ARTS** Art History Music





Geography

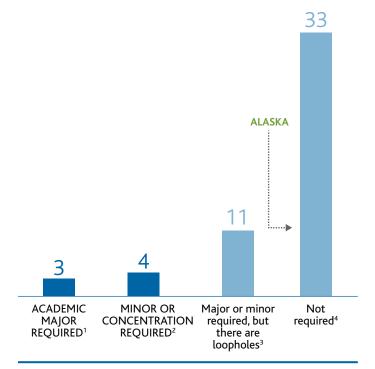
Figure 10		ENGLISH		SOCIAL STUDIES	FINE / ARTS
Do states expect		/ e	Chemiaty Chemiaty Physics General Physical Science Biology/Life Science	American History / American History / American Government World History (Ancient) World History (Modern) (Non-Western) Geography	/ / / / /
elementary teachers	the second s	eratu.	Titue Scie	Anci VI	
to have in-depth	itera,	h Lit	tiera, Scied	11111111111111111111111111111111111111	
knowledge of	n L	Britis Britis BelG Beltio	Lie Cient	an H An Hist Hist Mesti	toil
core content?	American Literature	World/British Life-ature Writing/Grammar/ Composition Mildren 5 1.2	Chemistry Chemistry Physics Ceneral Physical Science BiologryLife Science	American History / American History / American History // World History (Mode, World History (Mode, (Nen-Western) Geography	Art History Music
core content.	¥ / ¥	World British Lifeature Writing Lifeature Composition Children's Li	\ <u>'</u> ک' \ ک' \ ک' \ ک' \ ک'	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	₹ / Ž /
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Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware					
District of Columbia					
Florida					
Georgia					
Hawaii					
Idaho					
Illinois					
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lowa					
Kansas		□ ★ ★			
Kentucky					
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
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South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					★ ★
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia			$\bigstar \Box \bigstar \bigstar \bigstar$	\star \star \star \star \star \star	
Washington		🛾 🔶 🔳		- 🔳 ★ 🔳 🔳 🗖 🔶	
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					

18 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 ALASKA

Subject mentioned 🛛 🛧 Subject covered in depth

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, Wyorning



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.)

- 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 3 **Best Practice States** 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 Mexico 1, 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 👄 : 46 **-**:0

Area 1: Goal C **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

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

Alaska 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.

Supporting Research http://www.eed.state.ak.us/standards/pdf/teacher.pdf http://www.eed.state.ak.us/TeacherCertification/

RECOMMENDATION

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

Alaska should require that teacher preparation programs in the state 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.

Alaska 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska 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

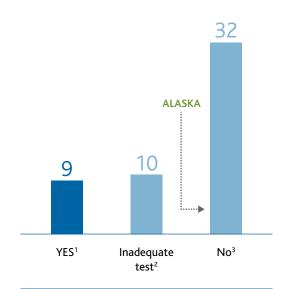
Do states require preparation for elementary teachers in the science of reading?



- 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
- 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
- 4. 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.

Figure 15		PARATIO	/	TEST		
Do states ensure that	READING SCIENCE	UIREMEN		REQUIRE	MENTS	
elementary teachers	55	y 1 m		EST	1.	
know the science of	DRES CLEV	dres.		test	test	
reading?	VC S	Do not address reading science	APPROPRIATE	Inadequate test	No reading test	
reading.		o no	PPRC	adeg	o /ea	
	- 4 -	ر بو	<u>र</u>	1 4	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	
ALASKA						
Arizona						
Arkansas						
California	_					
Colorado	<u> </u>					
Connecticut						
Delaware						
District of Columbia						
Florida	-					
Georgia						
Hawaii						
Idaho						
Illinois Indiana						
lowa						
Kansas						
Kentucky						
Louisiana					-	
Maine						
Maryland						
Massachusetts						
Michigan						
Minnesota			1			
Mississippi						
Missouri						
Montana						
Nebraska						
Nevada						
New Hampshire						
New Jersey						
New Mexico			2			
New York						
North Carolina						
North Dakota						
Ohio						
Oklahoma						
Oregon						
Pennsylvania			2			
Rhode Island						
South Carolina						
South Dakota						
Tennessee						
Texas						
Utah						
Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington						
West Virginia						
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						
	26	25	9	10	32	

 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	States Meet Goal
•	1	State Nearly Meets Goal Indiana
•	5	States Partly Meet Goal California, Florida, Minnesota 🕇 , New Mexico, Utah 🕇
	30	States Meet a Small Part of Goal Alabama, ALASKA, Arizona, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa , 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Meets a Small Part of Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska 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 state does not specify any coursework requirements regarding mathematics content. However, Alaska requires NCATE accreditation, suggesting that the state 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.

Finally, Alaska requires that all new elementary teachers pass a general subject-matter test, the Praxis II, but not until they have taught for three years. 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 4 AAC 12.305

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

www.ets.org/praxis

"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, Alaska 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.

Alaska 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

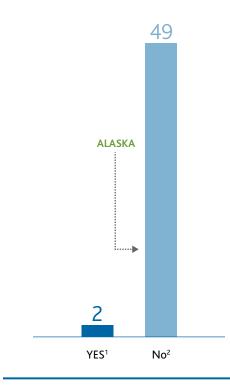


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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?

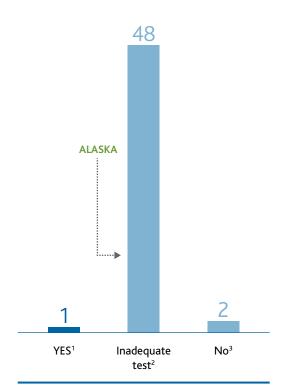


1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Massachusetts

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 1, Georgia, Pennsylvania 1 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska offers, but does not require, a middle school endorsement (grades 5-8) for certain subjects. In addition, the state does not explicitly require a major or minor in the subject areas that candidates plan to teach.

Regrettably, Alaska also allows middle school teachers to teach on a generalist K-8 license. New middle school teachers are not required to pass a subject-matter test to attain licensure. Subject-matter tests are only required for professional certification, which occurs after three years of teaching.

Supporting Research 4 AAC 12.305

Endorsements http://www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/app02.html

RECOMMENDATION

Eliminate K-8 generalist license.

Alaska should not allow middle school teachers to teach on a generalist license that does not differentiate between the preparation of middle school teachers and that of elementary teachers. These teachers are less likely to be adequately prepared to teach core academic areas at the middle school level because their preparation requirements are not specific to the middle or secondary levels and they need not pass a subject-matter test in each subject they teach. Adopting middle school teacher preparation policies for all such teachers will help ensure that students in grades 7 and 8 have teachers who are appropriately prepared to teach grade level content, which is different and more advanced than what elementary teachers teach.

Strengthen middle school teachers' subject-matter preparation.

Alaska should encourage middle school teachers who plan to teach multiple subjects to earn two minors in two core academic areas. Middle school candidates who intend to teach a single subject should earn a major in that area.

Require subject-matter testing for middle school teacher candidates.

Alaska should require subject-matter testing for all middle school teacher candidates in every core academic area they intend to teach as a condition of initial licensure.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

Arkansas, Georgia and Pennsylvania ensure that all middle school teachers are sufficiently pr pared to teach middle school-level content. Teac ers are required to earn at least two content-areaminors. 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 offered for Contained classrooms	
Do states distinguish mide	dle ^{He}	or oms	/
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elementary preparation?	NO E NO	offe ed ci	offer
eternentary preparation.	ENS	ense Itain	'nse
	8110	-8 lic	⁸ lice
	× / ·	× 39 /	***
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Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
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Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			2
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan Minnesota			
Mississippi			
Missouri			
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Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			3
Oregon			4
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island South Carolina			
South Carolina South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			5
Wyoming			
	29	6	16



Figure 21		/	/	Less than a major on	No requirement of content
What academic prepara	tion	Major OR TWO	lo _{RS}		lo ₀ onte
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or license?	රී	ð	"My	s th	r or
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ALASKA					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
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Kansas					
Kentucky		1			
Louisiana					
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts			1		
Michigan					
Minnesota					
Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska			1		
Nevada					
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio			1		
Oklahoma					
Oregon		2			
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee					
Texas					
Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					
	13	3	9	12	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 **Alaska** Analysis



State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not ensure that its secondary teachers are adequately prepared to teach grade-level content.

Regrettably, the state does not require content tests for initial licensure; such tests are only mandated once candidates apply for the professional license, usually after three years. Further, Alaska also allows both general science and general social studies licenses and does not require subject-matter testing for each subject area within these disciplines (see Goals 1-G and 1-H).

Secondary teachers in Alaska may add content areas to the five-year professional certificate in one of three ways: an institutional recommendation, including transcripts showing pertinent coursework; a posted degree, major or minor; or a passing score on a Praxis II content test.

Supporting Research

4 AAC 12.305 Addition or Removal of Endorsements http://www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/Endorsements.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

Require subject-matter testing for secondary teacher candidates.

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

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

Alaska 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

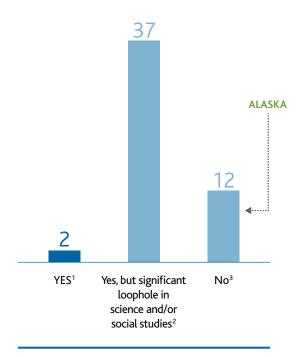
Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

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?



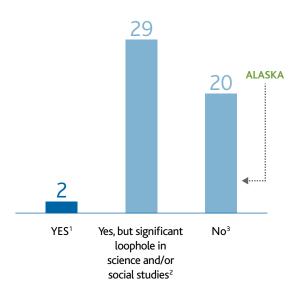
1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Tennessee

- Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississispi, 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Secondary science teachers in Alaska have the option of an endorsement in general science. The state does not require content tests for initial licensure; such tests are only mandated once candidates apply for the professional license, usually after three years. At that point, the state requires Praxis II "General Science" content tests. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general science but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Middle school science teachers in Alaska are not required to obtain a specific middle school endorsement, and the state does not require content tests for initial licensure. Alaska also allows middle school science teachers to teach on a generalist K-8 license (see Goal 1-E).

Supporting Research 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, as a condition of initial licensure.

States that allow general science certifications—and require only a general content test after up to three years in the classroom—are not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. Alaska's required assessment combines all 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.

Require middle school science teachers to pass a test of content knowledge that ensures sufficient knowledge of science, as a condition of initial licensure.

A general subject-matter test that combines literature/language arts, mathematics, history/social studies and science—without reporting separate scores for each subject area—does not ensure that middle school science teachers possess adequate knowledge of science, as it may be possible to answer many—perhaps all—science questions incorrectly and still pass the test.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

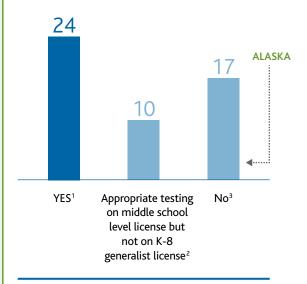
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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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 **Alaska** Analysis



State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Secondary teachers in Alaska have the option of an endorsement in general social studies. The state does not require content tests for initial licensure; such tests are only mandated once candidates apply for the professional license, usually after three years. At that point, Alaska requires secondary social studies teachers to pass the Praxis II "Social Studies" content test. Teachers with this license are not limited to teaching general social studies but rather can teach any of the topical areas.

Middle school social studies teachers in Alaska are not required to obtain a specific middle school endorsement, and the state does not require content tests for initial licensure. Alaska also allows middle school social studies teachers to teach on a generalist K-8 license (see Goal 1-E).

Supporting Research 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, as a condition of initial licensure.

Allowing general social studies certification—and requiring only a general content test after up to three years in the classroom—does not ensure that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. Alaska'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.

Require middle school social studies teachers to pass a test of content knowledge that ensures sufficient knowledge of social studies, as a condition of initial licensure.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

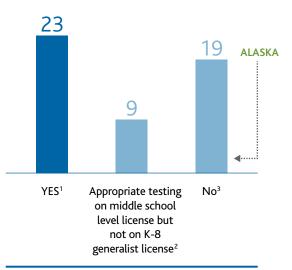
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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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.)

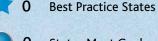
- The state should not permit special education teachers to teach on a K-12 license that does not differentiate between the preparation of elementary teachers and that of secondary teachers.
- All elementary special education candidates should have a broad liberal arts program of study that includes 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 States Meet Goal

1 Sta Ma

State Nearly Meets Goal Massachusetts

15 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey ↑. New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania ↑, Rhode Island, Texas ↑, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin

- 1 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Raised for this Goal (Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Regrettably, Alaska offers a K-12 special education certification, in addition to grade-specific options.

Further, Alaska does not ensure that its elementary special education teacher candidates are provided with a broad liberal arts program of study relevant to the elementary classroom. It also does not require that they pass the same subject-matter test as general education candidates.

Alaska also fails to require that secondary special education teacher candidates are highly qualified in at least two subject areas, and it does not customize a "HOUSSE" route for new secondary special education teachers to help them achieve highly qualified status in all subjects they teach.

Supporting Research

Alaska Administrative Code 4 AAC 04.212(g), 12.305, -.330

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

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.

Alaska should ensure that special education teacher candidates who will teach elementary grades possess knowledge of the subject matter at hand. Not only should the state 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, Alaska 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).

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 32		Ches K-12 and Bradespecific	/
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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

Do states require subject-matter testing for elementary special education licenses?



- 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

23 States Meet Goal

0

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, Texas, West Virginia

States Nearly Meet Goal 2

Maryland, Rhode Island

- States Partly Meet Goal 3 Idaho, North Carolina, Utah
- 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 **Alaska** Analysis

) State Does Not Meet Goal 🛛 (극)

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not currently require new teachers to pass a test of pedagogy in order to attain licensure.

The state requires elementary teachers to pass either a Praxis content knowledge test or the pedagogy test. Secondary teachers are not required to pass a test of pedagogy.

Supporting Research www.ets.org/praxis

RECOMMENDATION

Require that all new teachers pass a pedagogy test.

Alaska should require that all new teachers meet professional standards through a test of professional knowledge.

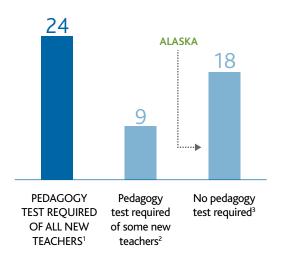
ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

★ 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.

ALASKA

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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009



ANALYSIS

Alaska does not articulate any specific requirements for student teaching. The state does not articulate any requirements for cooperating teachers.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Alaska should require a summative clinical experience for all prospective teachers. 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

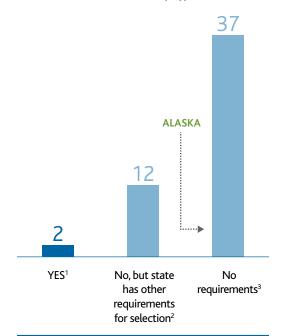
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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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.

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

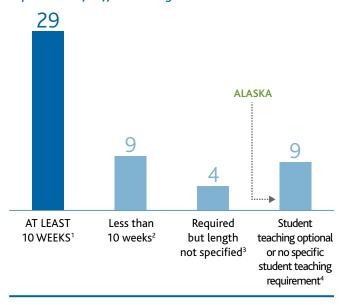


1. Strong Practice: Florida, Tennessee

- 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.

	State	es are Faring in Teacher Preparation Accountability
*	1	Best Practice State Florida
•	1	State Meets Goal Louisiana
•	5	States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Colorado ↑, Georgia ↑, Tennessee, Texas
0	6	States Partly Meet Goal Kentucky, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina
•	16	States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Illinois 1, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia
0	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
	Pro	ogress on this Goal Since 2009:
		1 :4 ↔:44 1 :3

State Does Not Meet Goal 🛛 🧑 Bar Raised for this Goal 🏾 💮 Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska'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, Alaska does not collect value-added data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.

The state also fails to collect other objective, meaningful data to measure the performance of teacher preparation programs, and it does not it apply any transparent, measurable criteria for conferring program approval.

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

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

Supporting Research Title II State Reports https://title2.ed.gov

RECOMMENDATION

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

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. Alaska 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.

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. Alaska 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 state's website.

To inform the public with meaningful, readily understandable indicators of how well programs are doing, Alaska should present all the data it collects on individual teacher preparation programs.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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 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.

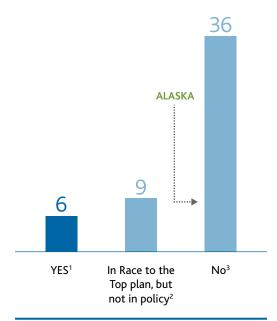


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

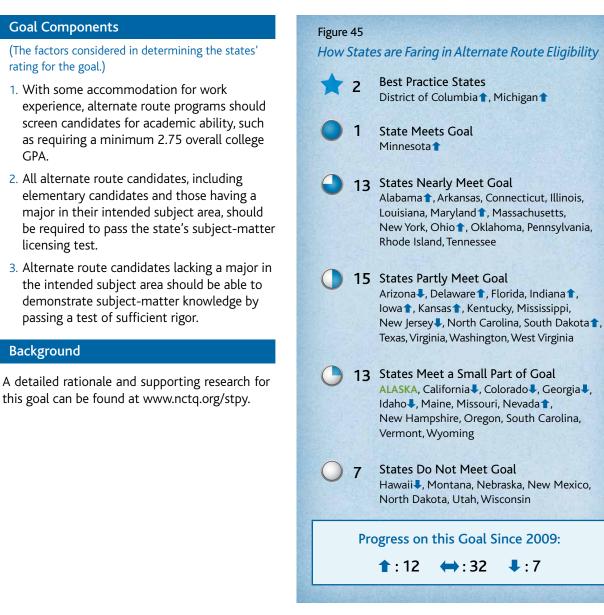
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1. According to information posted on NCATE's website.

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.





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

ANALYSIS

Alaska's alternate route program does not exceed the admission requirements of traditional preparation programs and does not provide flexibility for nontraditional candidates.

Alaska Transition to Teaching (AKT2) requires that candidates have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and are able to pass PRAXIS I, a test of basic skills. Candidates must have a degree in an endorsable content area. The state does not allow AKT2 candidates to test out of degree requirements.

Applicants are not required to pass a subject-matter test for admission.

Supporting Research http://www.eed.state.ak.us/akt2/eligible.shtml

RECOMMENDATION

Raise academic requirements for admission.

While a minimum GPA requirement is a first step toward ensuring that candidates are of good academic standing, the current standard of 2.5 does not serve as a sufficient indicator of past academic performance. The standard should be higher than what is required of traditional teacher candidates, such as a GPA of 2.75 or higher. Some accommodation in this standard may be appropriate for career changers. Alternatively, the state could require one of the standardized tests of academic proficiency commonly used in higher education for graduate admissions, such as the GRE.

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

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

Offer flexibility in fulfilling coursework requirements.

Alaska should allow any candidate who already has the requisite knowledge and skills to demonstrate such by passing a rigorous test. Rigid coursework requirements could dissuade talented individuals who lack precisely the right courses from pursuing a career in teaching

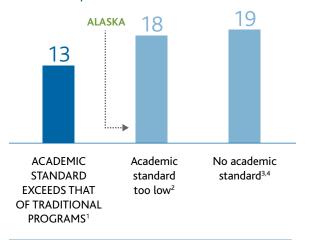
Eliminate basic skills test requirement.

The state's requirement that alternate route candidates pass a basic skills test is impractical and ineffectual. Basic skills tests measure minimum competency—essentially those skills that a person should have acquired in middle school. Passage of a basic skills test provides no assurance that the candidate has the appropriate subject-matter knowledge needed for the classroom. The state should eliminate the basic skills test requirement or, at a minimum, accept the equivalent in SAT, ACT or GRE scores.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 46	c	_ /	
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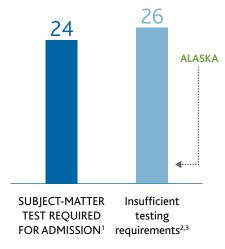
Do states require alternate routes to be selective?



- 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

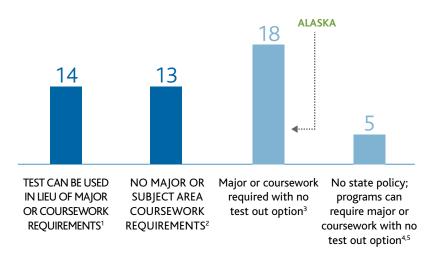
1. North Dakota does not have an alternate route to certification.

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 ↑, Georgia, New Jersey
 - 7 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Florida, Maryland 1, Mississippi, Rhode Island 1, 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Partly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not provide streamlined preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers.

Alaska Transition to Teaching (AKT2) candidates must complete a set of courses based on Charlotte Danielson's Essentials of Effective Teaching prior to teaching. While completing this coursework, candidates must also make ten 45-60-minute classroom observations. This preservice training occurs during the spring while candidates are not yet employed in a school.

AKT2 candidates also complete a field experience and cultural workshop during the summer. Throughout their first two years as teachers, candidates are paired with a mentor from the Alaska Statewide Mentor Project, which uses the New Teacher Center model.

Candidates can complete course requirements in two years and earn standard certification at that time.

Supporting Research http://www.eed.state.ak.us/akt2/overview.shtml

RECOMMENDATION

Ensure that new teachers are not burdened by excessive requirements.

While requiring some preparation prior to entering the classroom is important, Alaska requires alternate route candidates to complete a considerable amount of coursework and fieldwork before they begin teaching, much of which is more typically associated with a traditional preparation program. All coursework requirements should be manageable for career changers and other nontraditional candidates and should contribute to the immediate needs of new teachers. Appropriate coursework should include grade-level or subject-level seminars, methodology in the content area, classroom management, assessment and scientifically based early reading instruction. Requiring candidates to complete considerable coursework and field placement prior to employment in a school, when they are likely to be employed in a non-education field, is unreasonable.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 51	STREAMLINED C	ž /	/	/	/
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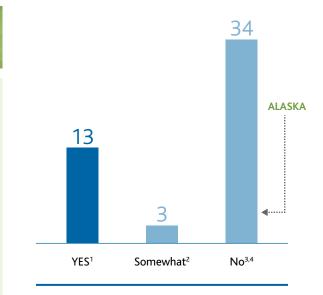
T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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.

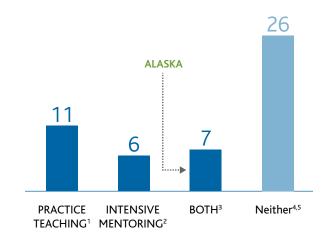
Do states curb excessive coursework requirements?



- 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

Best Practice States 0 26 States Meet Goal Arizona¹, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut 1, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois¹, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan 1, Nevada 1, New Hampshire, New York¹, North Carolina, Ohio¹, Pennsylvania¹, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington 1 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 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Idaho¹, Mississippi, South Carolina, Vermont 10 States Do Not Meet Goal ALASKA, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:12 + : 39 4:0

Area 2: Goal C **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska limits the usage and providers of its alternate route.

Alaska's Transition to Teaching (AKT2) program is only available for candidates seeking certification at the secondary level. AKT2 candidates must be employed in one of the 15 high-need partnering school districts.

This state-run program is the only authorized alternate route; consequently, the state does not support a diversity of providers.

Supporting Research http://www.eed.state.ak.us/akt2/

RECOMMENDATION

Broaden alternate route usage.

Alaska should reconsider grade-level and geographic restrictions on its alternate route. Alternate routes should not be programs of last resort for hard-to-staff subjects, grade levels or geographic areas but rather a way to expand the teacher pipeline throughout the state.

Encourage diversity of alternate route providers.

Alaska should specifically authorize alternate route programs run by local school districts and nonprofits, as well as institutions of higher education. A good diversity of providers helps all programs, both university- and non-university-based, to improve.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 55 Are states' alternate routes free from limitations? Image: Consection of the states' alternate states' alternate Alabama' Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate Arizona Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate California Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate California Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate California Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate California Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate California Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate Indiana Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate Indiana Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate Indiana Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate Indiana Image: Consection of the states' alternate Image: Consection of the states' alternate Maryland Image: Constates' <t< th=""><th>Figure 55</th><th></th><th></th></t<>	Figure 55		
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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

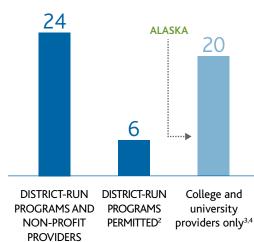
Can alternate route teachers teach any subject or grade anywhere in the state?



Figure 55 and 56

- 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.

Figure 58		L'IN	sno
Do states provide real		R R C	Senu
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Minnesota			
Mississippi			
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Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota ¹			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
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Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
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Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	7	25	18

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Figure 58

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

Figure 58

Figure 59			. /	,	* /	1	Practice Teaching	õ.	,	
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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.
- 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal Regress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska 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.

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

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

1.56

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			
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lowa			
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			
J. 8	10	25	
	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.
- 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



State Partly Meets Goal (Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not support licensure reciprocity for certified teachers from other states.

Commendably, Alaska requires that all teachers meet its own passing scores on licensing tests, and outof-state teachers are allowed one year to meet these testing requirements.

However, other aspects of the state's policy create obstacles for teachers from other states seeking licensure in Alaska. Teachers with valid out-of-state certificates are eligible for Alaska's preliminary teaching license, but Alaska requires three credit hours each in Alaska studies and multicultural communications, and teachers must submit a transcript showing that six additional semester hours of credit have been earned within the past five years. The state does not offer a test-out option for any of its coursework requirements.

Although transcripts are required for all applicants, it is not clear whether the state analyzes these transcripts to determine whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route or whether additional coursework will be required.

Supporting Research Alaska Administrative Code 4 AAC 12.305(b), 14.20.015 Certification Application http://www.eed.state.ak.us/TeacherCertification/forms/profess.pdf

RECOMMENDATION

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

The state should offer standard licenses to certified out-of-state teachers rather than restricting them to provisional ones until they meet Alaska's requirements. Although the state's Alaska studies and multicultural communications coursework requirements are reasonable, it should offer out-of-state teachers a test-out option. The state should also reconsider its recency requirement as a means to judge licensure eligibility. Recent coursework is unlikely to positively affect a teacher's effectiveness, and such a requirement may deter experienced, effective teachers from applying for licensure in the state.

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

Alaska should consider discontinuing its requirement for the submission of transcripts. 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 in Alaska. Regardless of whether a teacher was prepared through a traditional or alternate route, all certified out-of-state teachers should receive equal treatment.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska asserted that it accepts out-of-state certificates as the basis for initial certification, and that it does not have preliminary licensure. Teachers with current, valid out-of-state certificates are issued initial certificates in Alaska, and depending on whether the teacher has passed an accepted basic competency test, that initial certificate is valid for either one or two years.

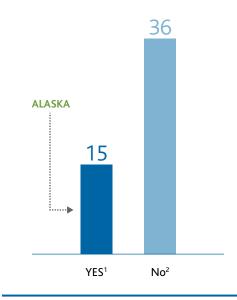
Supporting Research AS 14.20.015, 14.20.020(i)

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.

Figure 64	UCENSE RECIPROCITY WITH	/	/
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from other states?	SER	ipt al	, req
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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	1		
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island	1		
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington	2		
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming	1		
	9	41	12



Figure 65			Jate has policies with the for alternate route teachers for alternate route teachers alles
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New Jersey			- 1
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North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	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 Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, a. A unique statewide student identifier 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, Arizona¹, 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Partly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

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

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

Although Alaska 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 state data system.

Alaska should ensure that its state data system is able to match individual teacher records with individual student records.

Develop a clear definition of "teacher of record."

Alaska 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 state data system are actionable and reliable, Alaska should articulate a definition of teacher of record and require its consistent use throughout the state.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Do state data systems have the capacity to assess teacher effectiveness?



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Alabama			
ALASKA			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
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District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
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Oklahoma			_
Oregon			
Pennsylvania		_	
Rhode Island		_	
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Tennessee			
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Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
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.

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



★:26 ⇔:25 ↓:0

Area 3: Goal B **Alaska** Analysis

State Meets a Small Part of Goal

ਨ Bar Raised for this Goal 🛛 🧲

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not require that objective evidence of student learning be the preponderant criterion of its teacher evaluations.

Alaska policy indicates that local schools boards, not the state, are responsible for developing their own teacher evaluation instruments. However, the state does require that district instruments should consider "information from students, parents, community members, classroom teachers, affected collective bargaining units, and administrators."

Other than requiring classroom observations of teachers, the state provides little direction to districts about the content and the processes to be used in an evaluation. The state is silent about including objective measures, such as state standardized tests.

Supporting Research Alaska Statute 14.20.149

RECOMMENDATION

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

Alaska 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. Whether state or locally developed, a teacher should not be able to receive a satisfactory rating if found ineffective in the classroom.

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

Although Alaska commendably requires classroom observations as part of teacher evaluations, the state should articulate guidelines that focus classroom observations on the quality of instruction, as measured by student time on task, student grasp or mastery of the lesson objective and efficient use of class time.

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, Alaska should require districts to utilize multiple rating categories, such as highly effective, effective, needs improvement and ineffective. A binary system that merely categorizes teachers as satisfactory or unsatisfactory is inadequate.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Figure 69	CHURES THAT STUDENT ACHIEVENENT STUDENT THE PREDOWN CORDINIENT	Techer evaluation of the second of the secon	Teacher evaluations much	. /	
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as part of teacher	ENTRO	JER, alluat, infor	aluat.	hieve, 8	
evaluations?	LIRES VEN	her ev antly achie	her en e obje learn	nt ac wireo	
	ACHIE F PRO	Teac Senth Senth	Teac includ udent	Stude ot reg	
Alabama		/ °& /	່"ະຮັ □		
ALASKA					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
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lowa					
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Montana					
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New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico					
New York North Carolina					
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Rhode Island					
South Carolina					
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Utah					
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
Wisconsin					
Wyoming			-		
	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

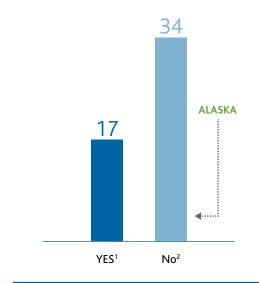
■ Artifacts of student work connected to specific student learning standards that are randomly selected for review by the principal or senior faculty, scored using rubrics and descriptors

• 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
- 2. 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 reacher evaluation with disacher	<i>"</i>	District designed District designed minimal input: Red Syster.	vith	
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		2				
Tennessee		2				
Texas						
Utah						
Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington						
West Virginia						
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						
	9	10	24	5	3	

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

State Does Not Meet Goal

ANALYSIS

Regrettably, Alaska does not ensure that all teachers are evaluated annually.

Although Alaska requires at least annual evaluations for all teachers who "met the district performance standards during the previous year," the state allows districts to limit the evaluation of nonprobationary teachers who consistently exceed the district performance standards to one evaluation every two years.

Annual evaluations for probationary teachers in Alaska must include two classroom observations. However, there appears to be no indication from the state when these observations should occur or if teachers are offered any immediate feedback regarding their performance.

Supporting Research

Alaska Statute 14.20.149

RECOMMENDATION

Require annual formal evaluations for all teachers.

All teachers in Alaska should be evaluated annually, even those who consistently exceed district performance standards. 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, Alaska 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. Alaska 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Do states require districts to evaluate all teachers each year?



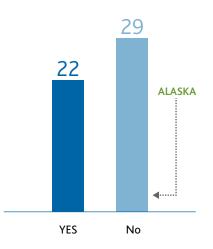
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Wyoming		

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 Illinois 1, Indiana 1, New York 1 States Meet a Small Part of Goal 9 Connecticut, Idaho 1, 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 **!**:0

State Does Not Meet Goal 🛛 🕢 Bar Raised for this Goal 🤅

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

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

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

Supporting Research Alaska Statute 14.20.150

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.

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

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

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

Require a longer probationary period.

Alaska should extend its probationary period, ideally to five years. This would allow for an adequate collection of sufficient data that reflect teacher performance.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

How long before a teacher earns tenure?

	No policy	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 YEARS	5 YEARS	STATE ONLY AWARDS ANNUAL CONTRACTS
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Connecticut							
Delaware							
District of Columbia							
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 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.

2. Teachers who receive two years of ineffective evaluations are dismissed.

Figure 81	EVIDENCE OF STUDENT LEARNING EN STUDENT PREPONDED STHEDENT	,	,
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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.



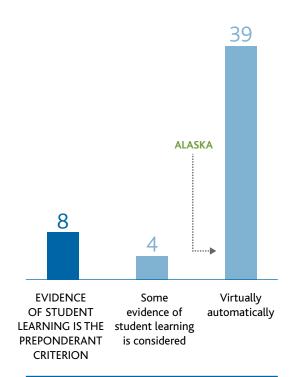


Figure 81

- 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.

92 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 ALASKA

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.



🔵 State Meets a Small Part of Goal 🛛 🕋 Bar Raised for this Goal 🛛 💮 Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

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

Teacher certification in Alaska is a three-tiered system consisting of Initial, Professional and Master certification. To advance from the Initial Teacher Certificate (valid for three years and nonrenewable) to the Professional Teacher Certificate (valid for five years and renewable), the state requires that teachers pass a competency examination if they have not yet met this requirement as of the date of the Initial Teacher Certificate as well as a Praxis II content area examination. They must also complete three semester hours in Alaska studies and three semester hours in multicultural education or cross-cultural communications. During the period of the Initial Certificate, teachers must complete an accepted teacher education program. Finally, as determined by each department, teachers must complete any additional academic training deemed "necessary for personal development." To earn the state's optional Master Certificate, teachers must receive National Board certification.

All teachers initially certified September 1, 2006 and beyond must also complete the Alaska Teacher Performance Review in order to attain Professional certification. The Alaska Teacher Performance Review consists of a 45-minute videotaped lesson along with supporting documentation. The performance reviews are scored by the state teacher certification office based on set performance standards.

Alaska does not require that teachers demonstrate effectiveness in order to renew a professional license. The state requires that teachers earn 6 credits from a regionally accredited university for renewal or reinstatement of a regular five-year certificate.

Supporting Research

http://www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/Certification.html http://www.eed.state.ak.us/teachercertification/TPR/

RECOMMENDATION

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

Alaska should require evidence of effectiveness to be a factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license. While the requirement to present evidence of classroom performance may be a step in the right direction, the state should consider additional requirements that base professional licensure on evidence of teacher effectiveness as measured by objective evidence of student achievement.

Discontinue licensure requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

Alaska's stipulation regarding academic training deemed necessary for personal development is vague and leaves the door open for requiring unwarranted coursework. While some targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, Alaska's coursework requirements do not correlate with teacher effectiveness. Require teachers to pass content knowledge assessments as a condition of initial licensing, not advanced licensing.

Alaska places students at risk by requiring passage of both basic and subject-area licensure tests to attain professional licensure rather than for an initial license. The state's policy allows teachers who may not be able to pass basic skills or content knowledge tests to teach for three years on an initial license.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS



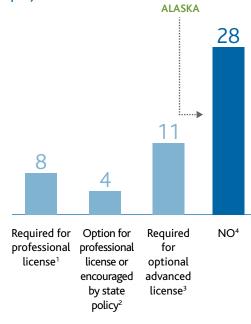
Figure 84 Do states require teachers to show evidence of effectiveness before conferring professional licensure? Alabama ALASKA Arizona Arizona Arizona California California California Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Indiana Ino					
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T 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

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



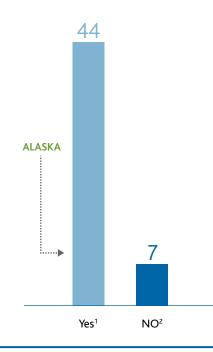
- Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New York and Oregon all require a master's degree or coursework equivalent to a master's degree
- 2. Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, Tennessee
- Alabama, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, 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.

2. Maryland uses some objective evidence through their evaluation system for renewal, but advancement to professional license is still based on earning an advanced degree.

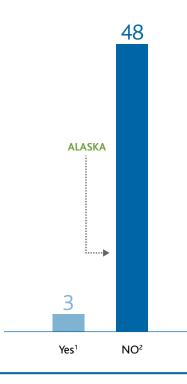
Do states require teachers to take additional, nonspecific coursework before conferring or renewing professional licenses?



- 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



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:	0 Best Practice States
 An "Academic Quality" index for each school that includes factors research has found to be associated with teacher effectiveness, such as: 	 0 States Meet Goal 0 States Nearly Meet Goal
a. percentage of new teachers; b. percentage of teachers failing basic skills licensure tests at least once;	6 States Partly Meet Goal Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina
 c. percentage of teachers on emergency credentials; 	36 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,
 The percentage of highly qualified teachers disaggregated by both individual school and by teaching area; 	Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania 1, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah 1, Vermont 1, Virginia, Washington,
 The annual teacher absenteeism rate reported for the previous three years, disaggregated by individual school; 	West Virginia, Wisconsin
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:
A detailed rationale and supporting research for his goal can be found at www.nctq.org/stpy.	↑ :4 ↔:47 ↓:0

Area 3: Goal F **Alaska** Analysis

State Meets a Small Part of Goal 🛛 🬔 Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Providing comprehensive reporting may be the state's most important role for ensuring the equitable distribution of teachers among schools. Alaska reports little school-level data that can help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent among schools within districts.

Alaska does not collect or publicly report most of the data recommended by NCTQ. The state lacks a school-level teacher quality index that indicates the academic backgrounds of a school's teachers as well as the ratio of new to veteran teachers. Alaska also does not report on teacher absenteeism or turnover rates.

Alaska does report on the percentage of highly qualified teachers. Commendably, these data are reported for each school, rather than just aggregated by district. The state is also commended for comparing the percentage of highly qualified teachers at high- and low- poverty schools statewide.

Supporting Research

Alaska School Report Card 2009-2010 http://www.eed.state.ak.us/reportcardtothepublic/ Alaska State Report Card to the Public 2009-2010 http://www.eed.state.ak.us/reportcard/2009-2010/reportcard2009-10.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. Alaska 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.

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

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 89	AN NDEX FOR EACH SCHOOL TRAT NOEX FOR EACH SCHOOL TRACHER OF WITH CTORE	/	PERCENTAGE OF NELS, ON	is /	/	/	
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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.

1. 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

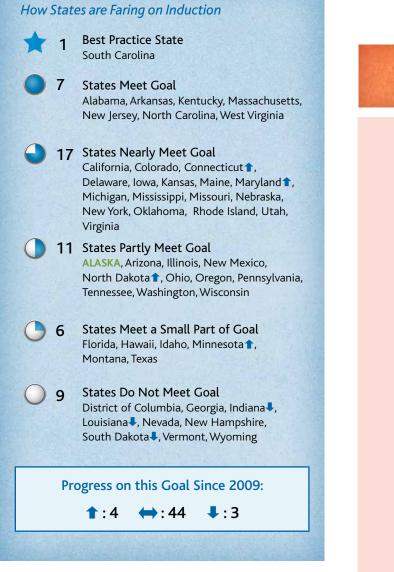
(The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.)

- 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.
- 3. Induction programs should include only strategies that can be successfully implemented, even in a poorly managed school. Such strategies include intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area, a reduced teaching load and frequent release time to observe effective teachers.

Background

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

Figure 90



Area 4: Goal A **Alaska** Analysis

State Partly Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not require a mentoring program or other induction support for all of its new teachers, although it does require mentoring for new teachers in intervention districts. The state also offers a voluntary Alaska Statewide Mentor Project for its new teachers in participating districts. The mentors are teachers with extensive classroom experience who receive formal training in eight three-day Mentor Academy sessions held over two years.

Supporting Research

Alaska Statewide Mentor Project http://www.alaskamentorproject.org Alaska State System of Support for Districts and Schools http://www.eed.state.ak.us/nclb/pdf/SSOS_OperationsManual.pdf 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan Submission Packet http://www.eed.state.ak.us/forms/home.cfm

RECOMMENDATION

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

Although Alaska does provide mentoring to teachers in its intervention districts, the state should ensure that all new teachers—especially any teacher in a low-performing school—receive mentoring support, especially in the first critical weeks of school. Alaska should consider expanding its program throughout the state.

Set more specific parameters.

To ensure that all teachers receive high-quality mentoring, the state 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, Alaska 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.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

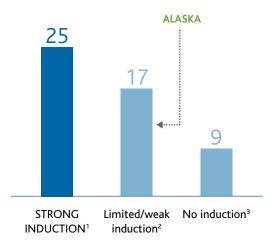
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Wisconsin								
Wyoming								
	30	18	9	17	28	12	21	17

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

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Meets a Small Part of Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska articulates that teachers are entitled to copies of their evaluations. The state also specifies that evaluation systems must "require the school district to prepare and implement a plan of improvement for a teacher or administrator whose performance did not meet the district performance standards." However, the state does not address whether professional development activities must be aligned with findings from teacher evaluations.

Supporting Research Alaska Statute 14.20.149 (b) (6)

RECOMMENDATION

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

Although Alaska requires teachers to receive copies of their evaluations, this only ensures that teachers will receive their ratings, not necessarily feedback on their performance. Alaska should specify that teachers should receive specific feedback on identified strengths and areas that need improvement.

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

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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

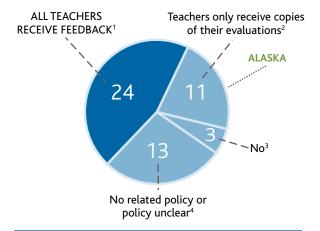


T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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.

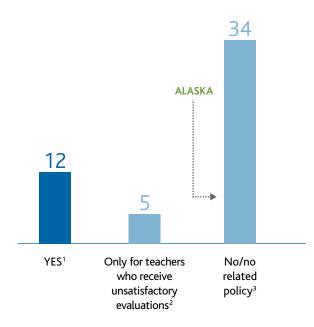
Figure 94

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.

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal C – Pay Scales

The state should give local districts authority over pay scales.

Goal Components

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

- While the state may find it appropriate to articulate teachers' starting salaries, it should not require districts to adhere to a 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 Florida¹, Indiana¹ 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Partly Meets Goal (Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska gives local districts the authority for pay scales, eliminating barriers such as state salary schedules and other regulations that control how districts pay teachers. The state allows administrators to "determine and disburse the total amount to be made available for compensation of all school employees."

Supporting Research Alaska Statutes 14.14.090

RECOMMENDATION

Discourage districts from tying compensation to advanced degrees.

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

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

Similarly, Alaska should articulate policies that discourage districts from determining the highest steps on the pay scale solely by seniority.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO 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.

Figure 98 What role does the state play in deciding teacher	E e	^{salary}	ET SALARY
pay rates?	Sets minimum salary schedule	Sets minimum salary	DISTRICTS SET SALARY
Alabama		· /	
ALASKA			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado ¹			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
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New Hampshire			
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New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island ²			
South Carolina			
South Dakota			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	16	8	27

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

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

	COUNES PERFORMANCE ADVANCED PERFORMANCE		
Figure 99	NCF NCF	1	for advanced degrees
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Texas		2	
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
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Wyoming	3	32	16

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.

112 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 ALASKA

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal D – Compensation for Prior Work Experience

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

Goal 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not encourage local districts to provide compensation for related prior subject-area work experience. However, the state does not seem to have regulatory language blocking such strategies.

RECOMMENDATION

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

While still leaving districts with the flexibility to determine their own pay scales, Alaska should encourage districts to incorporate mechanisms such as starting these teachers at a higher salary than other new teachers. Such policies would be attractive to career changers with related work experience, such as in the STEM subjects.

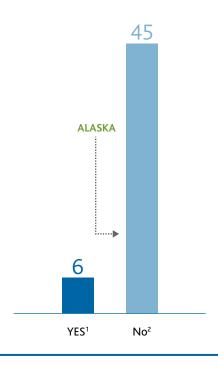
ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal E – Differential Pay

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

A detailed rationale and supporting research for this goal can be found at 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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska neither supports differential pay by which a teacher can earn additional compensation by teaching certain subjects nor offers incentives to teach in high-needs schools. However, the state has no regulatory language that would directly block districts from providing differential pay.

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

AREAS incentives to teach in high-need schools or shortage subject areas? Alabama ALASKA Alabama ALASKA Aitzona Attassas California California Conrecticut ¹ Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Idaho Idaho Idaho Indiana	Figure 103 Do states provide		HIGH NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE		
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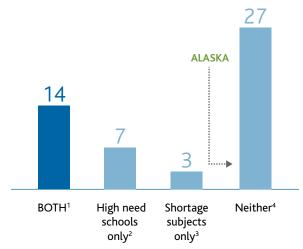
- Connecticut offers mortgage assistance and incentives to retired teachers working in shortage subject areas.
- Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in shortage subject areas.
- 3. 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

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

Goal F – Performance Pay

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

Goal Components

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

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

Background

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

Figure 105



Area 4: Goal F **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not support performance pay. The state does not have any policies in place that offer teachers additional compensation based on evidence of effectiveness. The state had piloted a three-year performance pay program entitled Alaska School Performance Incentive Program (AKSPIP), but that program has come to an end.

Supporting Research

Alaska School Performance Incentive Program http://www.eed.state.ak.us/spip/

RECOMMENDATION

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

Whether it implements the plan at the state or local level, Alaska 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.

Consider piloting performance pay in a select number of school districts.

This would provide an opportunity to discover and correct any limitations in available data or methodology before implementing the plan on a wider scale.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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	PERFORMANCE FACTORES	PERCONNANCE BOW	5 /	× /	Does not support Performance pay	
Do states support	Ő		Performance pay Permai		سان بن عو	
performance pay?	LAC A			tate Per	, ered	
perjormance pay:	N N N	CEB S	Performance Pay Permis	ne, Sore	lo c	
	RMA	MAN MAN		Pon	nt sup	
		Le se	or mos	ate.		
		A A	Per	list, St	Derf.	
Alabama					Does not support performance pay	
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Arkansas						
California						
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	-		10	-	27	

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5

27

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

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

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 **Alaska** Analysis

Best Practice State

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska provides defined contribution pension plans for teachers. As of July 1, 2006, this is the only type of plan available to new teachers in Alaska. This plan is fully portable, flexible and fair to all workers.

Vesting in a defined contribution plan entitles teachers to permanent rights to their own contributions and any available employer contributions. Teachers in Alaska vest immediately in their own contributions and the earnings from their contributions' investments. They are vested in employer contributions based on the following schedule: 25 percent after two years of service, 50 percent after three years, 75 percent after four years and 100 percent after five years. This means that after three years, the vesting point recommended by NCTQ, teachers earn a 3.5 percent employer contribution (see Goal 4-H). While ideally teachers would be entitled to their full employer contribution at this point, Alaska's sliding scale is a reasonable compromise.

Supporting Research

Alaska Department of Administration, Retirement and Benefits, DCR Plan General Information http://doa.alaska.gov/drb/dcrp/dcr_plan/general_info.html

RECOMMENDATION

Maintain its fully portable, flexible and fair pension system.

Alaska should maintain its defined contribution system and work diligently to educate teachers about their investments, especially because teachers in Alaska do not contribute to Social Security and may more heavily depend on their employer pension than other retirees.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

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			hed	DEFINED CONTRINED REAL	õ. /	
-	Defined benefit.	12 #	tybrid plan ;		DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN	•
What type of pension		an _{vi}	,ueu	ED BE	Inon Inon	
systems do states offer teachers?	14			EFIN		
teachers?	bene	bene ion s	lan	50		
	Pəuj	sfinec tribu	brid	DOC INED	NON O	
	Der	28	Hybrid _{Plan}	E E	22	
Alabama						
ALASKA						
Arizona						
Arkansas						
California ²						
Colorado						
Connecticut						
Delaware						
District of Columbia Florida						
Georgia						
Hawaii						
Idaho						
Illinois						
Indiana ³						
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						
Ohio⁴						
Oklahoma						
Oregon⁵						
Pennsylvania						
Rhode Island						
South Carolina ⁶						
South Dakota						
Tennessee						
Texas						
Utah ⁷						
Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington ⁸ West Virginia						
Wisconsin						
Wyoming						
wyoning	25	17	4	4	1	
	25	17	4	4		

T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

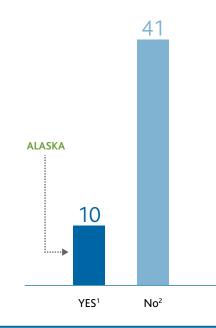
Alaska provides a fair and flexible defined contribution pension plan for all teachers. This plan is also highly portable, as teachers are entitled to 100 percent of employer contributions after five years of service. South Dakota's defined benefit plan has some creative provisions, which makes it more 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.
- 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, Nevada, 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.
- teachers vest in the state's defined contribution plan after o
- 3. For teachers who join the system on or after July 1, 2012.
- 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.
- 6. 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.

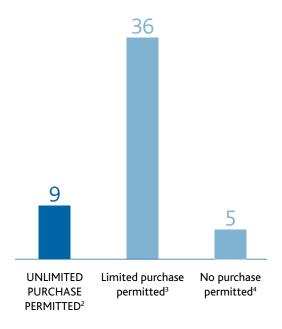
	3 YEARS OR LESS	4 to 5 years	6 to 9 years	10 years
Alabama				ycurs
ALASKA				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware ¹				
District of Columbia				
Florida ²				
Georgia				
Hawaii ³				
Idaho				
Illinois				
Indiana				
lowa ³				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
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				
Oregon ⁵				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina ⁶				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington ⁷				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
vvyorning				
	3	29	3	16



Figure 112		Only their own contriked	F /	Their own contribution	THER DIUS INVERTIGATION
What funds do states p	ermit		Their own contribution Plus interest	tion	rest .
teachers to withdraw fr	5	Dintri	įbuti	, Libu	
their defined benefit pl		20 21	ontr	coni smp	
	Less than their Contribution	ir or	Their own con, plus interest	the the	
<i>if they leave after</i>	s the ribui	ţ,	inte,	t of ribu	
five years? ¹	Cont Les	^{flu} o	olus	Cont Par	~ ~ 05
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		24		1
	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.
- 2. 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
- 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

ALASKA

Area 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

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 **Alaska** Analysis

State Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

As of June 30, 2009, the most recent date for which an actuarial valuation is available, Alaska's defined contribution pension plan is fully funded for its members' accounts. The state's current defined contribution system is financially sustainable according to actuarial benchmarks.

Alaska does not commit excessive resources toward its defined contribution teachers' retirement plan. The mandatory employee contribution rate to the defined contribution plan is 8 percent, and the current employer contribution rate is 12.56 percent (7.96 percent funds the defined contribution plan and the excess helps pay the unfunded liabilities of the now-closed defined benefit plan). Both of these rates are reasonable, considering that teachers and local districts are not also contributing to Social Security. School districts in Alaska also must continue to contribute toward the state's closed defined benefit system. The total employer contribution is 38.56 percent, with 12.56 percent from districts and 26 percent from the state. The rate is determined according to statutory requirements, which establishes a set rate that districts must pay. The state is required to fund the remaining cost needed to meet the actuarially required contribution.

The state is commended for switching to a financially sustainable system, but the debts of the closed system still add a burden to districts and the state.

Supporting Research

Alaska Department of Administration, Retirement and Benefits, Employer Contribution Rates http://doa.alaska.gov/drb/employer/employer_contribution_rates/db-dcr-plan-fy11-employer-rates.html Teachers' Retirement System, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010 http://doa.alaska.gov/drb/pdf/trs/cafr/2010_TRS_CAFR.pdf

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Do state pension systems meet standard benchmarks for financial health?

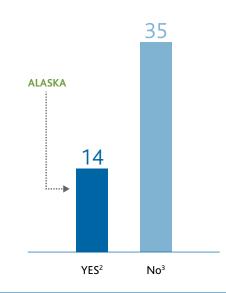


	45	<i>\ ₹</i> ₹	
Alabama			
ALASKA			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			
Indiana			
lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky		1	
Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
Massachusetts			
Michigan ²			
Minnesota			
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			
Utah³			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	16	26	
	10	20	

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

- Cannot be determined for Michigan or Utah, which recently opened new systems.
- 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

- 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%
	78.9%
Michigan 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%
	66.5%
Vermont	65.9%
Maine New Mexico	65.7%
	65.4%
Maryland Montana	
Montana	65.4%
Colorado	64.8% 64.2%
Mississippi Massachusetts	
Connecticut	63%
	61.4%
Hawaii	61.4% 61%
Kentucky	59.1%
Ohio New Hampshire	
New Hampshire	58.5%
New Jersey Oklahoma	57.6% 56.7%
Kansas	56%
Louisiana	54.4%
Illinois Dhada Island	48.4%
Rhode Island	48.4%
West Virginia	46.5%

海

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 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

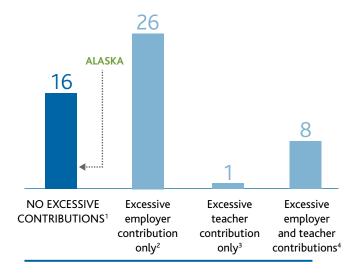
Figure 121

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 Columbia	0							
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	15.5							
Massachusetts ³	22.6							
Michigan ^₄	N/A							
Minnesota ³	6.2							
Mississippi	12							
Missouri	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	9.2							
Tennessee	6.4							
Texas ⁷	6.6							
Utah	10							
Vermont	7.4							
Virginia								
-	8.8							
Washington	9.2							
West Virginia	29.2							
Wisconsin Wyoming	4.8							
	7.1							

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.
- 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?

Social Security (+6.2%)	0%	5% 	10% 	15% 	209
Alabama ¹	7.3				1
ALASKA	8		l i		
Arizona	11.4 🗖				
Arkansas	6				
California	8		I		
Colorado	8				
Connecticut	7.3				
Delaware ¹	3				
District of Columbia	8		1		
Florida	3				
Georgia ¹	5.5				
Hawaii ¹	6				
Idaho	6.2				
Illinois	9.4				
Indiana	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					
Nevada ⁴	8.8				
New Hampshire	11.9	_			
	7			•	
New Jersey ¹	6.5		_		
New Mexico New York	11.2				
	3.5				
North Carolina	6			_	
North Dakota ¹	7.8				
Ohio	10			_	
Oklahoma	7				
Oregon	6	_		_	
Pennsylvania ⁵	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.)

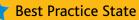
- The formula that determines pension benefits should be neutral to the number of years worked. It should not have a multiplier that increases with years of service or longevity bonuses.
- 2. The formula for determining benefits should preserve incentives for teachers to continue working until conventional 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 How States are Faring on Pension Neutrality **Best Practice State** 1 ALASKA 3 States Meet Goal Illinois¹, Minnesota, New Jersey¹ States Nearly Meet Goal 8 Louisiana¹, Maine¹, Michigan¹, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah 1, Washington 26 States Partly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii 1, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota¹, Oklahoma¹, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin State Meets a Small Part of Goal New Hampshire 12 States Do Not Meet Goal Arizona, California, Connecticut, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wyoming Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 1:10 ⇔:40 ↓:1

Area 4: Goal I Alaska Analysis



Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska provides a defined contribution pension plan for teachers. In a defined contribution plan, benefits are based on employee and employer contributions plus investment earnings or losses earned by those contributions, rather than on a benefit formula. Therefore, the state's plan is neutral, with pension wealth accumulating equally for all teachers for each year of work.

Supporting Research

Alaska Department of Administration, Retirement and Benefits, DCR Plan General Information http://doa.alaska.gov/drb/dcrp/dcr_plan/general_info.html

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS



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



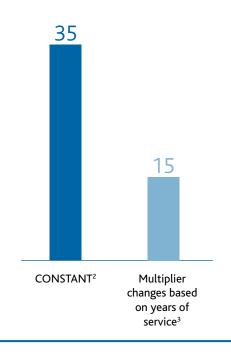
- 1. This only refers to determining retirement eligibility, not retirement benefits.
- 2. Strong Practice: Alaska, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey
- 3. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, 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

Figure 126

- 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.
- 4. 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.
- 6. 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.

Figure 126	5 Total amount in banefits paid Per teacher from the banefits paid retriement until age 65 me of	that 's
How much do states	Tefit time 5	Farliest a teacher vino and teacher vino starte teaching at age 27 may ceive unreduced benefi
pay for each teacher	in be 71 the 88e 6	ed b
that retires with	ount r froi until	retir "who the age
unreduced benefits at	ache Pent	tiest achei ing a tunr
an early age? ¹	Tota Per te tiren.	Ear a te each ceive
ALASKA ²	46 1	~ 2
ALASKA- Illinois	\$0	67
Maine	\$0 \$0	67 65
Minnesota ³	\$0 \$0	66
New Hampshire	\$0	65
New Jersey	\$0 \$0	65
Washington	\$0	65
Tennessee	\$238,654	52
Michigan	\$289,187	60
California⁴	\$310,028	62
Indiana	\$317,728	55
Hawaii⁵	\$337,385	60
Kansas	\$337,385	60
Oregon	\$361,536	58
North Dakota	\$385,583	60
Oklahoma	\$385,583	60
Maryland	\$413,808	56
Wisconsin	\$416,007	57
Rhode Island	\$430,013	59
New York	\$440,819	57
Texas	\$443,421	60
South Dakota	\$447,707	55
Virginia	\$468,982	56
Louisiana	\$481,979	60
Florida	\$485,257	55
Vermont	\$486,832	56
Montana	\$518,228	47
Connecticut	\$520,009	57
Utah	\$520,009	57
lowa	\$551,428	55
Idaho	\$551,743	56
North Carolina	\$568,555	52
South Carolina	\$577,142	50
Nebraska	\$577,687	55
West Virginia	\$577,687	55
Delaware	\$577,927	52
District of Columbia	\$585,737	52
Massachusetts ⁶	\$594,296	57
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	\$681,789	50
Ohio Now Maxico	\$687,265	52
New Mexico Nevada	\$734,124	52
Missouri	\$780,983	52
Kentucky	\$789,343 \$701,670	51 49
ACHLUCKY	\$791,679	45

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.

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

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.

Figure 129 How States are Faring on Closing Licensure Loopholes **Best Practice States** Colorado, Illinois 1, Mississippi, New Jersey States Meet Goal Nevada, New Mexico, South Carolina, Virginia 13 States Nearly Meet Goal Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Kentucky 1, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma 1, Rhode Island 1, Utah 1, West Virginia States Partly Meet Goal 2 Iowa, Wyoming States Meet a Small Part of Goal 2 Michigan, Vermont States Do Not Meet Goal 26 ALASKA, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin Progress on this Goal Since 2009: 4:0 1:5 👄 : 46

Area 5: Goal A **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska does not require subject-matter testing for new teachers. The state's initial license only requires candidates to have a passing score on a basic skills test. The state's current certification system allows new teachers to delay passing a subject-matter test for three years.

The state does require that teachers receive passing scores on the Praxis II to obtain a professional teaching certificate, which a teacher may obtain after three years of teaching.

Supporting Research 4 AAC 12.305; 4 AAC 04.210

RECOMMENDATION

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

All students are entitled to teachers who know the subject matter they are teaching. Permitting individuals who have not yet passed state licensing tests to teach neglects the needs of students, instead extending personal consideration to adults who may not be able to meet minimal state standards. Licensing tests are an important minimum benchmark in the profession, and states that allow teachers to postpone passing these tests are abandoning one of the basic responsibilities of licensure. As such, Alaska should require all teachers to pass subject-matter tests prior to entering the classroom. The state's current policy puts students at risk.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

		Figure 131			
		How long can new teachers practice without passing /			
		licensing tests?			
			RRA	ig.	
T EXAMPLES OF E	BEST PRACTICE		DEFL	م مرد مرد	/
Colorado, Illinois, Missis	sippi, and New Jersey require		NO DEFERRAL	Up to 7 year	/
	s all required subject-matter	Alabama			
tests as a condition of ini	tial licensure.	ALASKA			
		Arizona			
5. 120		Arkansas			
Figure 130		California			
Do states still award e	mergency licenses? ¹	Colorado			
NI 11		Connecticut			
Nonrenewable emerger		Delaware			
or provisional licenses	Renewable	District of Columbia			
	emergency or	Florida			
ASKA	provisional licenses ³	Georgia			
A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A		Hawaii			
27		Idaho			
	10/	Illinois			
	13	Indiana Iowa ¹			
		Kansas			
9		Kentucky			
		Louisiana			
		Maine			
		Maryland			
NO EMERGENO PROVISIONAL LIC		Massachusetts			
		Michigan			
		Minnesota			
	Nebraska, which do not require subject	Mississippi			
matter testing.		Missouri			
	ornia, Connecticut, Delaware, District Jaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland,	Montana ²			
Massachusetts, New Hampshire	e, New York, North Carolina,	Nebraska ³			
Washington, West Virginia, Wyo	ia, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, ming	Nevada			
3. Arizona, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisia	ina, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota,	New Hampshire			
Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Da	akota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin	New Jersey			
	is, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey,	New Mexico			
New Mexico, South Carolina, Ut	-	New York			
5. License is renewable, but only if	licensure tests are passed.	North Carolina			
		North Dakota			
		Ohio			
		Oklahoma			
		Oregon			
		Pennsylvania			
		Rhode Island			
		South Carolina			
		South Dakota			
		Tennessee Texas			
F: 404		Utah ⁴			
Figure 131		Vermont			
1. Iowa only requires subject-matt	ter testing for elementary teachers.	Virginia			
2. Montana does not require subje	ect-matter testing.	Washington			
3. Nebraska does not require subje	ect-matter testing.			_	

West Virginia

Wisconsin

Wyoming⁵

ALASKA

- 4. 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.

Jyears or more (or unspecified)

18

Up to 2 years

 \square

 \square

8

9

 \square

14

NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 : 143 ALASKA

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Goal 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.

 (The factors considered in determining the states' rating for the goal.) 1. 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. 2. The state should require that all teachers who receive two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations or two unsatisfactory evaluations within five years be formally eligible for dismissal, whether or not they have tenure. 	 How States are Faring on Consequences for Unsatisfactory Evaluations 2 Best Practice States Illinois¹, Oklahoma 11 States Meet Goal ALASKA, Arkansas¹, Colorado¹, Delaware¹, Florida, Indiana¹, Louisiana, New Mexico, New York¹, Rhode Island¹, Washington 6 States Nearly Meet Goal Georgia, Hawaii, Michigan¹, North Carolina,
 who receive a single unsatisfactory evaluation be placed on an improvement plan, whether or not they have tenure. 2. The state should require that all teachers who receive two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations or two unsatisfactory evaluations within five years be formally eligible for 	 Illinois¹, Oklahoma 11 States Meet Goal ALASKA, Arkansas¹, Colorado¹, Delaware¹, Florida, Indiana¹, Louisiana, New Mexico, New York¹, Rhode Island¹, Washington 6 States Nearly Meet Goal Georgia, Hawaii, Michigan¹, North Carolina,
who receive two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations or two unsatisfactory evaluations within five years be formally eligible for	 Florida, Indiana 1, Louisiana, New Mexico, New York 1, Rhode Island 1, Washington 6 States Nearly Meet Goal Georgia, Hawaii, Michigan 1, North Carolina,
	Georgia, Hawaii, Michigan 🕇 , 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
	5 States Meet a Small Part of Goal Arizona, Idahot, Ohiot, Virginia, Wyomingt
	● 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:
	1 :15 ↔:35 ↓:1

Area 5: Goal B **Alaska** Analysis

State Meets Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

Alaska requires local districts to place tenured teachers who do not meet district performance standards on a "plan of improvement." District officials must observe such teachers at least twice during the course of the plan, which lasts between 90 and 180 workdays. If, at the conclusion, the teacher does not meet the plan's goals, the district may "non-retain" that teacher.

Unfortunately, Alaska's effort to make unsatisfactory evaluations grounds for non-retention does not carry over to the state's dismissal policy (see Goal 5-C).

Supporting Research Alaska Statute 14.20.149 (e) and 14.20.175

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



Figure 133	MPPOVENENT PLANAFER	EUCREE EOR DISMISSIL AFTER	× /	/ 5
What are the	AFT.		Ő,	No articulated consequences
consequences for	PLAN	SINIS	<u>چ</u>	lsequ
teachers who receive	NSA)	NS4	Inen	^{co}
unsatisfactory	OVEN LE U	PLE F	onse	ulat _t
evaluations?	NIS SINC		her c	arti
	ेरङ् /	152	Other consequences	22
Alabama				
ALASKA				
Arizona				
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
Florida				
Georgia				
Hawaii				
Idaho			1	
Illinois				
Indiana				
lowa				
Kansas				
Kentucky				
Louisiana				
Maine				
Maryland				
Massachusetts			2	
Michigan				
Minnesota				
Mississippi				3
Missouri				
Montana				
Nebraska			4	
Nevada			•	
New Hampshire				
New Jersey New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina		5		
North Dakota				
Ohio			6	
Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	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.
- 3. 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





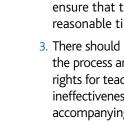
- 1. Strong Practice: Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Washington
- 2. Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho³, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, 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.

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

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 ensure that this appeal occurs within a Colorado¹, Illinois¹, Michigan¹, New York¹, 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, Georgia, A detailed rationale and supporting research for 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



ALASKA

Area 5: Goal C **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

In Alaska, tenured teachers who are terminated may appeal multiple times. After receiving written notice of the employer's decision to dismiss, a teacher has 15 days to appeal and request a hearing before the school board. The time frame for the hearing is not addressed by the state. If the school board sustains the dismissal, the teacher may appeal this decision to the superior court for judicial review.

Alaska does not explicitly make teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal, nor does the state distinguish the due process rights of teachers dismissed for ineffective performance from those facing other charges commonly associated with license revocation, such as a felony and/or morality violations. The process is the same regardless of the grounds for dismissal, which include "failure to perform the teacher's customary teaching duties in a satisfactory manner," immorality and substantial noncompliance with school laws.

Supporting Research Alaska Code 14.20.180; 175; 170

RECOMMENDATION

Specify that classroom ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.

"Failure to perform customary teaching duties" is ambiguous at best and may be interpreted as concerning dereliction of duty rather than ineffectiveness. Alaska should explicitly make teacher ineffectiveness grounds for dismissal so that districts do not feel they lack the legal basis for terminating consistently poor performers.

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

Nonprobationary teachers who are dismissed for any grounds, including ineffectiveness, are entitled to due process. However, cases that drag on for years drain resources from school districts and create a disincentive for districts to attempt to terminate poor performers. Therefore, the state must ensure that the opportunity to appeal occurs only once and only at the district level. It is in the best interest of both the teacher and the district that a conclusion be reached within a reasonable time frame.

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

While nonprobationary teachers should have due process for any termination, it is important to differentiate between loss of employment and issues with far-reaching consequences that could permanently impact a teacher's right to practice. Alaska should ensure that appeals related to class-room effectiveness are only decided by those with educational expertise.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.

Figure 136

Do states articulate that ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal?

	VES TH DISMISS	PES TH	No	
Alabama		- 44	<	
ALASKA				
Arizona			1	
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			2	
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
Oklahoma				
Oregon				
Pennsylvania Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Carolina South Dakota				
Tennessee				
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia			3	
Washington				
West Virginia			3	
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	9	13	38	

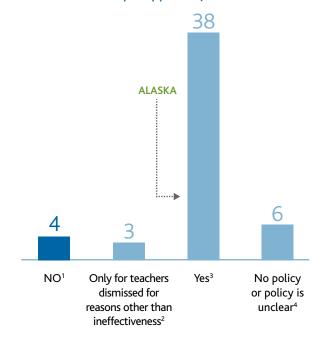
T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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

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).

150 : NCTQ STATE TEACHER POLICY YEARBOOK 2011 ALASKA

Area 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

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.

Figure 138



Area 5: Goal D **Alaska** Analysis

State Does Not Meet Goal

Progress Since 2009

ANALYSIS

In Alaska, the factors used by districts to determine which teachers are laid off during a reduction in force consider a teacher's tenure status and are decided at the district level. School districts may only lay off tenured teachers after notice of dismissal has been given to nontenured teachers. In addition, "a school district may retain a nontenured teacher and place on layoff status a tenured teacher if there is no tenured teacher in the district who is qualified to replace the nontenured teacher."

Supporting Research Alaska Statute 14.20.177

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

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

While it is not unreasonable to lay off probationary teachers before those with tenure, doing this without also considering performance is in effect a proxy for seniority-based layoffs and risks sacrificing effective teachers while maintaining low performers. Further, because probationary teachers draw lower salaries, the state may in fact be mandating that districts dismiss a larger number of effective probationary teachers rather than a smaller group of ineffective tenured teachers to achieve the same budget reduction.

ALASKA RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Alaska recognized the factual accuracy of this analysis.



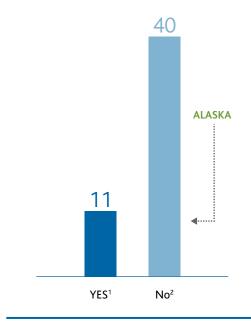
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T EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE

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?

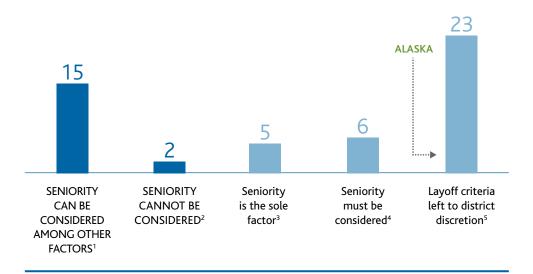


1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah

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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