

Acknowledgments

STATES

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

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NCTQ PROJECT TEAM

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Executive Summary

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

South Dakota at a Glance



Overall 2015 Yearbook Grade

2013

2011

2009





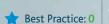


2015 South Dakota Area Goal Scores

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

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

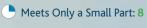
Goal Summary











Does Not Meet: 17

Progress on Goals Since 2013



Progress Increased: 0



Progress Decreased: 0

Teacher Policy Priorities for South Dakota

AREA 1: Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

Admission into Teacher Preparation

■ Limit admission to teacher preparation programs to candidates in the top half of the college-going population. Academic ability can be measured by a test normed to the general college-bound population or a minimum GPA requirement.

Elementary Teacher Preparation

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

Middle School Teacher Preparation

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

Secondary Teacher Preparation

Ensure all new secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and careerreadiness standards.

Special Education Teacher Preparation

■ Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and require licenses that differentiate between the preparation of elementary and secondary teacher candidates.

- Require elementary special education candidates to pass a rigorous content test as a condition of initial licensure, as well as a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
- Ensure secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge for the grades and subjects they teach.
- Ensure that all new special education candidates are prepared to meet the instructional shifts related to informational text, incorporating literacy into all content areas and supporting struggling readers associated with college- and career-readiness standards.

Student Teaching

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

Teacher Preparation Program Accountability

■ Hold teacher preparation programs accountable by collecting data that connect student achievement gains to programs, as well as other meaningful data that reflect program performance, and by establishing the minimum standard of performance for each category of data.

AREA 2: Expanding the Teaching Pool

Alternate Routes to Certification

- Increase admission requirements to alternate route programs by setting a high bar for academic proficiency.
- Establish guidelines for alternate route programs that require preparation that meets the immediate needs of new teachers. Ensure programs provide intensive induction support to alternate route teachers.
- Broaden alternate route usage, and allow a diversity of providers for alternate route programs.

License Reciprocity

 Grant certification to teachers from other states who can demonstrate evidence of effectiveness.

AREA 3: Identifying Effective Teachers

State Data Systems

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

Teacher Evaluation

■ Require annual evaluations for all teachers.

Tenure

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

Licensure Advancement

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

Equitable Distribution of Teachers

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

AREA 4: Retaining Effective Teachers

New Teacher Induction

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

Professional Development

■ Place teachers with less than effective evaluation ratings on structured improvement plans.

Compensation

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

AREA 5: Exiting Ineffective Teachers

Extending Emergency Licenses

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

Dismissal for Poor Performance

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

Reductions in Force

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

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

How to Read the Yearbook

GOAL SCORE

The extent to which each goal has been met:



Best Practice



Fully Meets



Nearly Meets



Partially Meets



Meets Only a Small Part



Does Not Meet

PROGRESS INDICATOR

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



Goal progress has increased since 2013



Goal progress has decreased since 2013

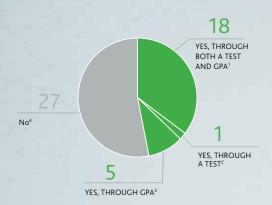
BAR RAISED FOR THIS GOAL



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

READING CHARTS AND TABLES:

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



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

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



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

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



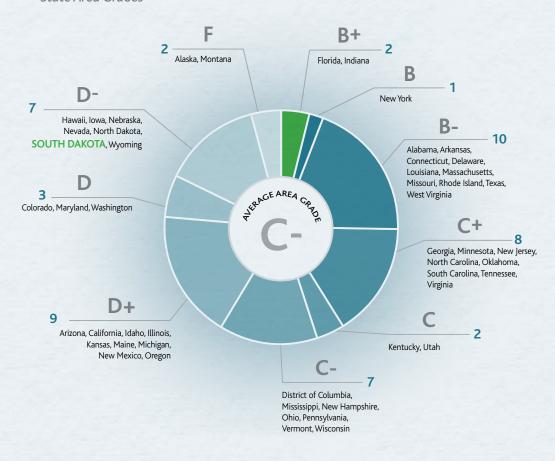
as a comprehensive set of tables and graphs that provide a national overview of the teacher policy landscape.

Area 1 Summary



How States are Faring on Delivering Well-Prepared Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

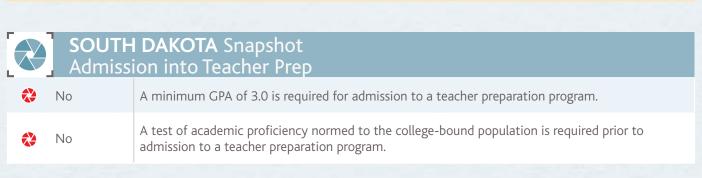
- Admission into Teacher Preparation
- Elementary Teacher Preparation
- Middle School Teacher Preparation
- Secondary Teacher Preparation

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

Admission into Teacher Prep

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings	
Admission into Teacher Prep Preparation programs only admit candidates with strong academic records.	•
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet	
↑ Progress increased since 2013	



SOUTH DAKOTA	SOUTH DAKOTA Admission into Teacher Prep Characteristics			
Test Requirement	Not required			
GPA Requirement	2.5			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- Increase admission requrements.

 South Dakota should raise the bar for admission to teacher preparation programs by either requiring a minimum GPA of 3.0 or requiring a test of academic proficiency normed to the general college-bound population.
- subject-matter tests as a condition of admission into teacher programs.

 In addition to ensuring that programs require a measure of academic performance for admission, South Dakota might also want to consider requiring content testing prior to program admission as opposed to at the point of program completion.

Consider requiring candidates to pass

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP FIGURES

Figure 1 Academic proficiency requirements

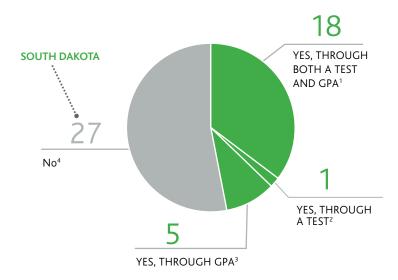
Other admission figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

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

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

Figure 1

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



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

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

Elementary Teacher Preparation

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings	
Content Knowledge New elementary teachers know the subject matter they are licensed to teach.	
Reading Instruction New elementary teachers know the science of reading instruction and understand the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.	
Mathematics New elementary teachers have deep knowledge of the math content taught in elementary grades.	•
Early Childhood Teachers who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license are appropriately prepared for the elementary classroom.	0
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet N/A Not Applie Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013 Bar raised for this goal	cable

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

SOUTH DAKOTA	Elementary Teacher Preparation Characteristics
Elementary Licenses	K-8; Birth to grade 3
Content Tests	Praxis II Elementary Education:Content Knowledge (5018) or Praxis II Middle School Content Knowledge (5146) K-8; not required for Birth to grade 3
Science of Reading Requirements	Not required
Academic Specialization	Not required
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Not addressed (K-8); Partially addressed (Birth to grade 3) Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed (K-8); Partially addressed (Birth to grade 3) Struggling readers: Not addressed

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass a subject-matter test designed to ensure sufficient content knowledge of all subjects including reading/language arts, math, science and social studies.
 - South Dakota should require a rigorous content test with separate, meaningful passing scores for each core academic area to assure elementary teachers have adequate knowledge in each subject area they are licensed to teach.
- Require teacher candidates to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

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

SUMMARY OF ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

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

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

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

Support struggling readers.

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

 Require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area.

In addition to enhancing content knowledge, this requirement would ensure that prospective teachers in South Dakota take higher-level academic coursework.

Examples of Best Practice

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

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

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

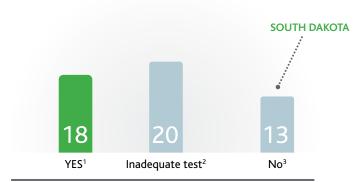
EEMENTARY CONTENT PASSING SCORE FOR EACH Elementary content test for some subjects Elementary content test Figure 2 Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content? Alabama Alaska 1 Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia П П П Florida Georgia Hawaii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

Figure 2

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

Figure 3

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

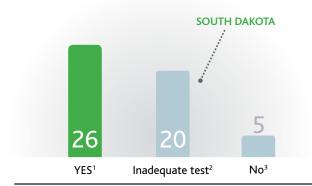


- Strong Practice: Alabama⁴, California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee⁶, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 2. Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky,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

Figure 4		NCORPORATIVE	SUPPORTING STRUGGING
Are states ensuring that new	,	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	1572 1876 1500
elementary teachers are pre	nared .	X / X	18/8
for the instructional shifts	Pan ee	Z / Z	¥ / y
	, ×	/ 2/2	2 / 2 / 2
associated with college- and	6	/ 0,5	26.0
career-readiness standards?	** /	<i>₹ §</i>	\ 3 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
Alabama			<u> </u>
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
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Florida			
Georgia Hawaii			
Idaho			
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lowa			
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Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico New York			
North Carolina			
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 5

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



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

Figure 6

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

Figure 6		/
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What do states require	Z Z	/ 5,
of early childhood	\$ \$	
teachers who teach	PES Y	N S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S
elementary grades?	CONTENT TEST WITH SUBSC ORES FOR EACH	40EQUATE SGENCE
Alabama		
Alaska ¹		
Arizona		
Arkansas ¹		
California ¹		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida	2	
Georgia ¹		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky ¹		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan ¹		
Minnesota		
Mississippi ¹		
Missouri		
Montana ¹		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina ¹		
North Dakota		
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Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia Wisconsin		
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Wyoming	7	13

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

Middle School **Teacher Preparation**

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings

Middle School Teacher Preparation



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



Fully meets
Nearly meets





♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013





SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot Middle School Teacher Preparation

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Middle School Teacher Preparation Characteristics

Middle School Licenses	5-8; K-8
Content Tests	5-8: Praxis II Middle School single-subject tests K-8: Praxis II Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (5018) test
Academic Requirements	No requirements for major or minors
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career-Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Partially addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Require content testing in all core areas.

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

- Eliminate the K-8 generalist license.
 - South Dakota should not allow middle school teachers to teach on a generalist license that does not differentiate between the preparation of middle school teachers and that of elementary teachers.
- Ensure that middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and careerreadiness standards for students.

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

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

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject. To ensure that middle school students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, South Dakota should include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

South Dakota should articulate more specific requirements ensuring that middle school teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

Figure 7	m K-8 LICENSE NO.	K-8 license office of for	s _{woo}
Do states distinguish	Ś	t pais	K-8 license of
middle grade preparation fro	m 🐇	, of) / v
elementary preparation?	<u> </u>		
31 1	18-y	K-81 Self-c	K-81
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			<u> </u>
Arkansas			
California		2	
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Connecticut			
Delaware District of Columbia			
Florida			
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Hawaii			
Idaho			
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Maryland			
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New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
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Ohio			
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Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
SOUTH DAKOTA			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			1
Wyoming			
J0	22	<u> </u>	43
	32	6	13

^{1.} Offers 1-8 license.

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

Figure 8			on Rubje	ïes.
Do middle school teachers		No test does not to	No, K-8 license E.	No, tec.
have to pass an appropriate		8)]]e /	[\$\frac{1}{2}\]
content test in every core		7 9 6		£ / ;
subject they are licensed		, te), K.	, to
to teach?	755	× 3	/ × &	/ *,
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Mississippi				
Missouri Montana				
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New Jersey		n	$\overline{\Box}$	
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New York	7			
North Carolina	8			
North Dakota				
Ohio				
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Rhode Island				
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Texas				
Utah Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin		-		
Wyoming				
, ,				
	26	2	14	9

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

Figure 9 Are states ensuring that new	LIST OF WEORK	INCORPORATING ITES	SUPPOS.
middle school teachers are	Š		γ ₇₇
prepared for the instructional	Ş	, \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	₹ / .
shifts associated with college-	± }	/ A	/ 2
and career-readiness standards	25/		/ \$
	: > /	δ,	<i></i>
Alabama Alaska			_
Alaska			
Arizona Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
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New Mexico			
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Oregon			
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Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
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West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

Secondary Teacher Preparation

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings Content Knowledge New secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared to teach appropriate grade-level content and for the ways that college-and career-readiness standards affect instruction. General Science and Social Studies Secondary science and social studies teachers know all the subject matter they are licensed to teach. Fully meets Nearly meets Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013 Bar raised for this goal

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Secondary Teacher Preparation Characteristics				
Secondary Licenses	7-12			
Content Tests	Praxis II single-subject content test required for initial licensure			
General Science License and Testing Requirements	General science not offered. Physical science license offered; requires chemistry or physics test			
General Social Studies License and Testing Requirements	Not offered			
Endorsement Requirements	Content test required			
Instructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career-Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Partially addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

South Dakota's physical science requirements allow passage of either a chemistry or physics test, which does not ensure that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge to teach physical science in general or the subject for which the test was not taken.

SUMMARY OF SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

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

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

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

Support struggling readers.

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

Examples of Best Practice

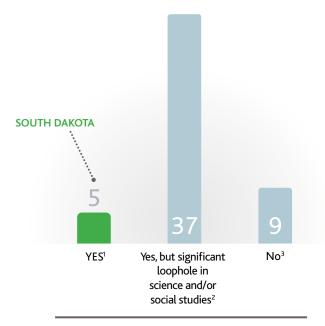
Missouri requires that secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core secondary subjects. Of particular note, Missouri ensures that its secondary science teachers know the content they teach by taking a dual approach to general secondary science certification. The state offers general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

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

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

Figure 10

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



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, Tennessee⁴
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina⁵, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska⁶, Arizona⁷, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Iowa, Montana, Washington, Wyoming
- New legislation in Tennessee allows teachers to delay passage of content and pedagogy tests if they possess a bachelor's degree in a core content area.
- 5. Teachers may also have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 6. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.
- 7. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.

Figure 11		2/2	\$ 5
Are states ensuring that		Ž / 5	
new secondary teachers			13/8
are prepared for the	Ž		¥ / Ş
instructional shifts associate	d ≱	\ \Q \ \\ \Q \ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \	2 / 187
with college-and career-	.6	10,5	PPC
readiness standards?] USE OF INFORM.	/ × × ×	\ \\ \? \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\
Alabama		INCORPORATING.	SUPPORTING STRICTS READERS
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia Hawaii			
Idaho			
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Indiana Iowa			
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Louisiana			
Maine			
Maryland			
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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			
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Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
J			

Special Education Teacher Preparation

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

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Special Education Teacher Preparation Characteristics		
Special Education License(s)	K-8; 7-12; K-12	
Content Tests	Not required	
cience of Reading Test	Not required	
nstructional Shifts Associated with College-and Career- Readiness Standards	Complex informational text: Not addressed Incorporating literacy into core subjects: Not addressed Struggling readers: Not addressed	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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 South Dakota to ensure that a K-12 special education teacher knows all the subject matter he or she is expected to be able to teach. While the broad K-12 umbrella may be appropriate for teachers of low-incidence special education students, such as those with severe cognitive disabilities, it is deeply problematic for the overwhelming majority of high-incidence special education students, who are expected to learn grade-level content.

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

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

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION FIGURES

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

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

Science of reading tests (p. 39)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.
 - While it may be unreasonable to expect multi-subject secondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements as single-subject teachers, South Dakota's current policy of requiring no subject-matter testing is problematic and will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards.
- Require all special education teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
 - South Dakota should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that special education teacher candidates are adequately prepared in all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.
- Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction. Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, South Dakota should specifically address the instructional shifts
 - teacher standards, South Dakota should specifically address the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with the state's college- and career-readiness standards for students.
- Ensure that new special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

South Dakota should also include specific requirements regarding literacy skills and using text as a means to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Examples of Best Practice

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

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Prepare special education teachers to support struggling readers.

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

Figure 12

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

Figure 12	DOESNOT OFFER	Offes K-12 and	iation(s)
Do states distinguish	FE	Q / P	entif
between elementary	0,0		76
and secondary special		1 2 8 K	s on
education teachers?	25/2/	J. J	
	7 &	/ % /	Office only a K-12
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona			
Arkansas			
California Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			
Georgia			
Hawaii			
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Michigan	Ī	\Box	
Minnesota			
Mississippi		$\overline{\Box}$	
Missouri	1		
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	2		
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma			
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina			
SOUTH DAKOTA			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			3
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	14	16	21

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

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

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

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structional shifts associated with co	llege- 🙎	/ & §	\ \Q_{\infty}^{\infty}
nd career-readiness standards?	J. SEC		PEAC SU
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Oregon			
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South Carolina			
SOUTH DAKOTA			
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			

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

Assessing Professional Knowledge





SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot Pedagogy

Yes

All new teachers must pass a pedagogy test.

SOUTH DAKOTA Pedagogy Characteristics		
Pedagogy Test	Praxis II	
Type of Test	Multiple choice	
Teachers Included	All new teachers	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

 Verify that commercially available tests of pedagogy actually align with state standards.

South Dakota should ensure that its selected test of professional knowledge measures the knowledge and skills the state expects new teachers to have.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF ASSESSING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE FIGURES

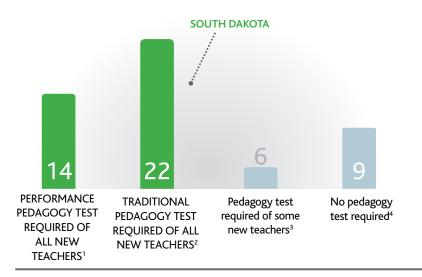
Figure 15 Pedagogy tests

For more information about

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

Figure 15

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



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

Student Teaching

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

South Dakota Ratings Student Teaching Teacher candidates are provided with a high-quality clinical experience. Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013



SOUTH DAKOTA Student Teaching Characteristics		
Duration of Student Teaching	At least 10 weeks; it is unclear if South Dakota intends this to be a full-time experience	
Selection of Cooperating Teachers Connected to Effectiveness	No specific requirements	
Other Criteria for Selection of Cooperating Teachers	No specific requirements	

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- Ensure that cooperating teachers have demonstrated evidence of effectiveness as measured by student learning.
 - In addition to the ability to mentor an adult, cooperating teachers in South Dakota should also be carefully screened for their capacity to further student achievement.
- Use evidence from the state's teacher evaluation system to select cooperating teachers.

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

- Require teacher candidates to spend at least 10 weeks student teaching.
 - South Dakota should require a full-time, summative clinical experience for all prospective teachers; this ensures both adequate classroom experience and exposure to a variety of ancillary professional activities.
- Explicitly require that student teaching be completed locally, thus prohibiting candidates from completing this requirement abroad.

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF STUDENT TEACHING FIGURES

Figure 16 Student teaching requirements

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

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

For more information about

SOUTH DAKOTA's student teaching policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis

and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 16	TEACHER.	STUDENT TEACHING
Do states ensure a	ASE, TWC	18 Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z
high-quality student	\$ 6 E	
teaching experience?	COO SHECT FECT	4575
Alabama		7
Alaska		
Arizona Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
lowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
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For more information about
SOUTH DAKOTA and other states'
leacher prep program accountability
policies, including full narrative
analyses, recommendations and state
responses, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Teacher Prep Program Accountability

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

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

Teacher Prep Program Accountability Characteristics
None
None
None
None
State maintains authority over teacher preparation program approval

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

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

■ Gather other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

South Dakota's accountability system should include other objective measures in addition to student growth that show how well programs are preparing teachers for the classroom.

SUMMARY OF TEACHER PREP PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY FIGURES

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

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

National accreditation (p. 49)

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

 South Dakota should establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data, which programs should be held accountable for meeting.
- state's website.

 South Dakota should produce an annual report card on individual teacher preparation programs, which should be published on the state's website at the program level and presented in a manner that clearly

conveys whether programs have met per-

formance standards.

Publish an annual report card on the

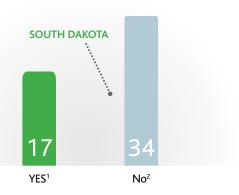
Examples of Best Practice

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

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

Figure 17

Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



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

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

Figure 18	OBJECTIVE PROPAM.	MINIMUM STANDARDS	$\Box A_{A'A A'B'B' A'A'} \\ \Box A_{A'A A'B'E} \\ \Box A_{A'A'A'B'E} \\ \Box A_{A'A'B'E} \\ \Box A_{A'B'E} $
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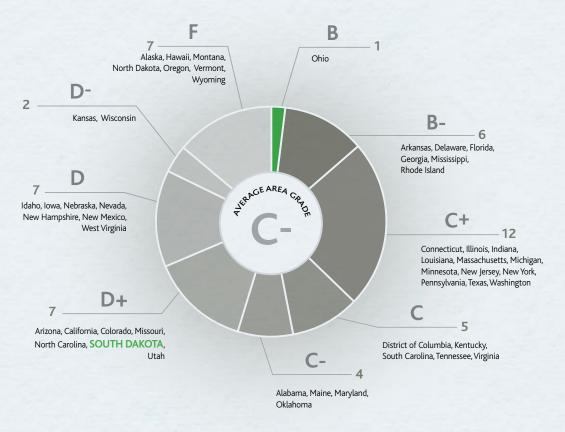
- $1. \ For \ traditional \ preparation \ programs \ only.$
- 2. Report cards only include limited data.
- 3. Report cards are at the institution rather than the program level.
- ${\it 4. Non-university based alternate route programs are not included.}$
- $5. \ For \ alternate \ route \ programs \ only.$
- 6. University-based programs only; state does not distinguish between alternate route programs and traditional programs in public reporting.

Area 2 Summary



How States are Faring in Expanding the Pool of Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- · Alternate Routes to Certification
- Part-Time Teaching Licenses

• Licensure Reciprocity

Alternate Routes to Certification

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

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Alternate Routes to Certification Characteristics					
Name of Route(s)	Alternative Route to Certification Program and Teach For America (TFA)				
Academic Requirements for Entry	Minimum 2.5 GPA; a passing score on the subject-matter exam exempts applicants from the GPA requirement				
Subject-Matter Requirements for Entry	Subject-matter exam required. Alternative Route to Certification also requires a major in the intended teaching area; five years of relevant work experience may be used in lieu of the major requirement.				
Coursework Requirements	Alternative Route to Certification Program: six credits of coursework in pedagogy, South Dakota Indian Studies, and Human Relations; TFA: five-week summer training institute that includes the fundamentals of teaching, practice of instructional techniques, classroom management and planning, six semester hours of education coursework in pedagogy and related fields of the education school curriculum.				
Practice Teaching/Mentoring Requirements	All candidates assigned a mentor; Alternative Route to Certification Program: no practice teaching opportunity required; TFA: practice teaching opportunity required				
Usage	Alternate Route to Teacher Certification only certifies teachers in grades 7-12 and K-12 certification areas; TFA has no subject or grade limitations but is limited to urban or rural communities				
Eligible Providers	With the exception of TFA, only colleges and universities; TFA candidates must take coursework at a college or university				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- Screen candidates for academic ability. South Dakota should require that candidates to its alternate routes provide some evidence of good academic performance, such as the GRE or a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Offer flexibility in fulfilling coursework requirements.

South Dakota should allow any candidate who already has the requisite knowledge and skills to demonstrate such by passing a rigorous test.

SUMMARY OF ALTERNATE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION FIGURES

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Consider flexibility in work-experience requirement.

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

 Ensure that coursework is relevant to the immediate needs of new teachers.

While South Dakota is commended for the nature and amount of coursework in place for TFA candidates, the requirements of the Alternate Route to Teacher Certification may be too few to adequately prepare new teachers. Requirements should be manageable and contribute to the immediate needs of new teachers.

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

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

- Broaden usage for all alternate routes.
 - South Dakota should reconsider grade-level and subject-area restrictions on its alternate route, as a way to expand the teacher pipeline throughout the state.
- Encourage diversity of alternate route providers.

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

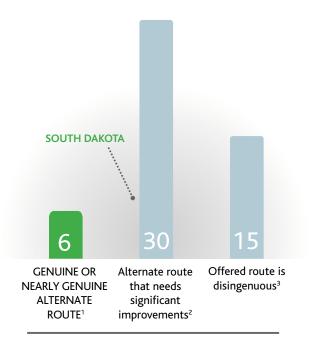
With regard to admissions into alternate routes, the **District of Columbia** and **Michigan** have established a high bar. Both require candidates to demonstrate strong academic performance as a condition of admission with a minimum 3.0 GPA. In addition, neither requires a content-specific major; subjectarea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

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

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

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

Figure 19
Do states provide real alternative pathways to certification?



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

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Wyoming									

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

Part-Time Teaching Licenses

Part-Time Teaching Licenses A license with minimal requirements is offered that allows content experts to teach part time. Progress increased since 2013 Lost ground since 2013



Nο

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Part-Time Teaching Licenses Characteristics				
Name of License	Not offered			
Subject-Matter Requirements	Not applicable			
Other Requirements	Not applicable			

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

South Dakota 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.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF PART-TIME TEACHING LICENSES FIGURES

■ Figure 21 Part-time licenses

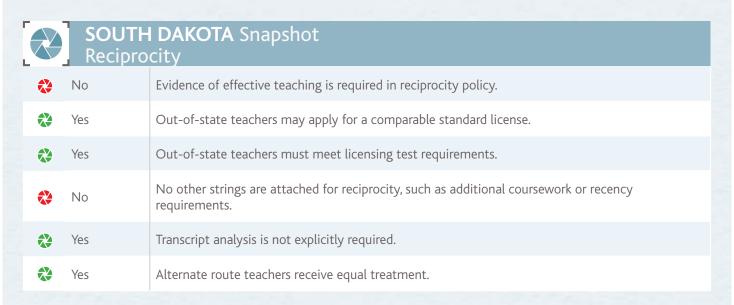
For more information about
SOUTH DAKOTA's part-time teaching licenses
policies, including detailed recommendations,
full narrative analysis and state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

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Licensure Reciprocity

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





SOUTH DAKOTA	Reciprocity Characteristics
License Available to Fully Certified Out-of-State Teachers	A comparable license
Effectiveness Requirements	None
Testing Requirements	Must meet South Dakota's testing standards.
Coursework and/or Recency Requirements	If the out-of-state teacher's degree is more than five years old, must show proof of six semester credit hours within the five-year period preceding application. Must also complete two courses in human relations and South Dakota Indian Studies.
Additional Alternate Route Requirements	None

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RECIPROCITY POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

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

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

South Dakota should reconsider its recency requirement regarding coursework, as it may deter talented teachers from applying for certification. The state should also offer a test-out option for its human relations and South Dakota Indian Studies coursework requirements.

SUMMARY OF RECIPROCITY FIGURES

■ **Figure 22** Requirements for licensing teachers from other states

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

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

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

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Examples of Best Practice

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

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

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

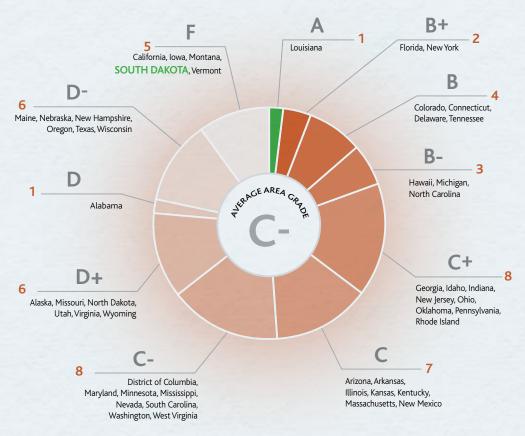
^{3.} Allows up to three years to submit passing scores.

Area 3 Summary



How States are Faring in Identifying Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

- State Data Systems
- Teacher Evaluation
- Tenure

- · Licensure Advancement
- · Equitable Distribution of Teachers

State Data Systems

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

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

	SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot State Data Systems						
*	No	Use of data system for providing evidence of effectiveness is mandated.					
*	No	Teacher of record is adequately defined.					
*	No	A process is in place for teacher roster verification.					
*	No	Data on teacher production are publicly reported.					

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

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE STATE DATA SYSTEM POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

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

■ Publish data on teacher production.

South Dakota should look to Maryland's "Teacher Staffing Report" as a model whose primary purpose is to determine teacher shortage areas, while also identifying areas of surplus.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF STATE DATA SYSTEMS FIGURES

■ Figure 23 Using data system elements to assess teacher effectiveness

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

Teacher production data (p. 77)

For more information about

SOUTH DAKOTA's state data system policies, including detailed recommendations, full narrative analysis

and state response, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 23		6 /	7 × 7
Do states' data systems		1 S / 5	8/
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^{1.} Lacks capacity to connect student identifiers to teacher identifiers and match records over time.

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

Teacher Evaluation

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

	SOUTH Teacher	DAKOTA Snapshot Evaluation
*	Yes	Objective student data is the preponderant or a significant criterion of teacher evaluations.
	No	All teachers are evaluated annually.
*	No	Multiple observations are required for all teachers.
*	Yes	More than two rating categories are used.
*	No	New teachers receive feedback early in the school year.
*	No	Surveys (student, parent, peer) are explicitly required or allowed.

SOUTH DAKOTA Teacher Evaluation Characteristics					
Use of Student Achievement Data in Evaluation	Significant criterion.				
Types of Required Student Data	A teacher assigned to a tested grade or subject must use data from state-mandated assessments as part of the SLO process.				
Other Required Measures	Observations				
Number of Rating Categories	3				
Frequency of Evaluations	Nonprobationary teachers must be evaluated once every two years. New teachers must be evaluated annually.				
Number of Observations	Required as a part of evaluations.				
System Structure	State provides criteria for and approves district-designed evaluation systems				
Surveys (Parent, Student, Peer)	Not mentioned				
Evaluator Requirements	Training				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TEACHER EVALUATION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

South Dakota falls short by failing to require that evidence of student learning be the most significant criterion, and the state's vague language leaves room for interpretation as to the actual measure of "significant" in the overall evaluation score. South Dakota should strengthen its policy by ensuring a teacher is unable to receive an effective rating if found to be ineffective in the classroom.

Examples of Best Practice

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

 Require annual formal evaluations for all teachers.

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

 Base evaluations on multiple observations.

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

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

South Dakota should ensure that the primary component of a classroom observation be quality of instruction, as measured by student time on task, student grasp or mastery of the lesson objective and efficient use of class time.

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

South Dakota should ensure that its new teachers get the support they need, and that supervisors know early on which new teachers

SUMMARY OF TEACHER EVALUATION FIGURES

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

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

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

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

Figure 24	DEN	Requires that student Sentievement Seouth	Requires that student	ridout explicit guidelins Requires some of:	Sudent achievement
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 The state has an ESEA waiver requiring an evaluation system that includes student achievement as a significant factor. However, no specific guidelines or policies have been articulated.

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

3. Explicitly defined for 2014-15 school year.

Figure 25	į.	CHERS OW,
Do states require districts	17 K	ZE / ZZ
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	27	45

Tenure

For more information about SOUTH DAKOTA and other states' tenure policies, including full narrative 🔓 analyses, recommendations and state responses, see

http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings Tenure Tenure decisions are based on evidence of teacher effectiveness. Fully meets • Nearly meets Partially meets • Meets only a small part Does not meet Lost ground since 2013



SOUTH DAKOTA Tenure Characteristics			
Consideration of Teacher Effectiveness	Evidence of effectiveness not required.		
Length of Probationary Period	3 years		

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE TENURE POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- 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 that evidence of effectiveness is the preponderant criterion in tenure decisions.
 - South Dakota should make evidence of effectiveness, rather than 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.
 - South Dakota 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.

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF TENURE FIGURES

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

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

Figure 26	Z.	ERION	, red	/ ح
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decisions made?	07.	¹ ⁄ ₂ / ² ⁄ ₂	15 / 15 CO	10 te
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- Florida only awards annual contracts; decisions are connected to effectiveness.
- 2. Kansas only awards annual contracts; decisions are not connected to effectiveness.
- 3. North Carolina generally awards only one-year contracts, except that teachers can be awarded a two- or four-year contract if they have "shown effectiveness as demonstrated by proficiency on the evaluation instrument." However, no student growth measures required.
- 4. No state-level policy.
- Oklahoma has created a loophole by essentially waiving student learning requirements and allowing the principal of a school to petition for career-teacher status.

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

Licensure Advancement

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

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

	Licensu	re Advancement
₹	No	Advancement from a probationary to a professional license is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.
	No	Renewal of a professional license is based on evidence of teacher effectiveness.
₹	No	Other advancement/renewal requirements have a direct connection to classroom effectiveness.
	Yes	An advanced degree is not a requirement for license advancement.

SOUTH DAKOTA Licensure Advancement Characteristics					
Performance Requirements to Advance from a Probationary to Professional License	None				
Other Requirements for Advancement	None; single-tier system				
Initial Certification Period	None				
Performance Requirements to Renew a Professional License	None				
Other Requirements for Renewal	6 semester hours of college credit.				
Renewal Period	5 years				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- Require evidence of effectiveness as a part of teacher licensing policy.
 - South Dakota should require evidence of teacher effectiveness to be a factor in determining whether teachers can renew their licenses or advance to a higher-level license.
- Discontinue license requirements with no direct connection to classroom effectiveness.

While targeted requirements may potentially expand teacher knowledge and improve teacher practice, South Dakota's general, nonspecific credit hour coursework requirements for license advancement and renewal do not correlate with teacher effectiveness.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF LICENSURE ADVANCEMENT FIGURES

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

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

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

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

Figure 28	OBJECTIVE EVIDENCE	Some objective evit	ر / بع	classion effective but Performance is not tied to Performance not conc.
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Georgia does not require evidence of effectiveness for each year of renewal period.

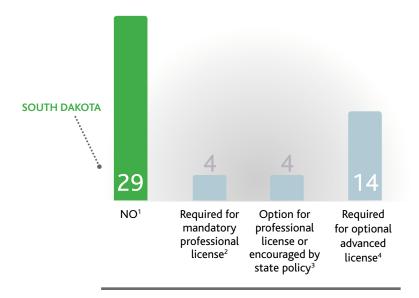
^{2.} Illinois allows revocation of licenses based on ineffectiveness.

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

^{4.} An optional license requires evidence of effectiveness.

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

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



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

Equitable Distribution of Teachers

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings

Equitable Distribution

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









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



♠ Progress increased since 2013





SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot Equitable Distribution of Teachers

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Equitable Distribution of Teachers Characteristics

Public Reporting of Teacher Effectiveness Data	Not reported
Other Public Reporting Related to Teacher Distribution	Reports percentage of classes taught by highly qualified teachers, as well as the average years of experience and the percentage of teachers with advanced degrees for each school. Compares percentage of highly qualified teachers in high- and low-poverty schools at the state level.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

 Report school-level teacher effectiveness data.

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

Publish other data that facilitate comparisons across schools.

South Dakota 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.

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

Ensure that ideas outlined in the Equity Plan evolve into state policy.

South Dakota's 2015 Equity Plan outlines the state's intention to further report on the equitable distribution of its teachers throughout the state. However, because adherence is voluntary, South Dakota is strongly encouraged to follow through with its public reporting plan.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF TEACHERS FIGURES

Figure 30 Reporting of teacher effectiveness data

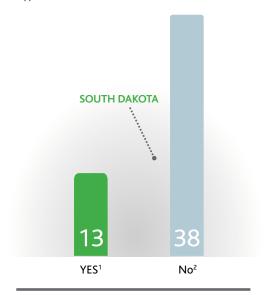
Other equitable distribution of teachers figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Data reporting requirements (p. 99)

For more information about
SOUTH DAKOTA's equitable distribution
of teachers policies, including detailed
recommendations, full narrative analysis and
state response, see
http://nctq.org/StatePolicyDashboard

Figure 30

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



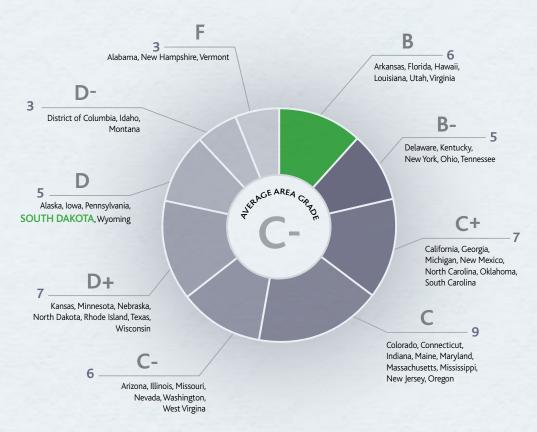
- Strong Practice: Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania
- Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland,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

Area 4 Summary



How States are Faring in Retaining Effective Teachers

State Area Grades



Topics Included In This Area

New Teacher Induction

Compensation

Professional Development

New Teacher Induction

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings

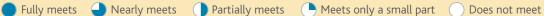
Induction

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











↑ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot New Teacher Induction

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

SOUTH DAKOTA New Teacher Induction Characteristics

Induction Program	None
Requirements for Mentor/ New Teacher Contact	Not applicable
Selection Criteria for Mentors	Not applicable
Other Mentor Requirements	Not applicable
Required Induction Strategies Other than Mentoring	Not applicable

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE NEW TEACHER INDUCTION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

South Dakota should ensure that all new teachers—and especially any teacher in a low-performing school—receive mentoring support, especially in the first critical weeks of school.

■ Ensure high quality mentors.

South Dakota should articulate minimum guidelines for the selection of high-quality mentors. Of particular importance is that mentors themselves are effective teachers. Teachers without evidence of effectiveness should not be able to serve as mentors.

Set specific parameters.

To ensure that all teachers receive high quality mentoring, South Dakota 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, South Dakota should make certain that induction includes strategies such as intensive mentoring, seminars appropriate to grade level or subject area and a reduced teaching load and/or frequent release time to observe other teachers.

Examples of Best Practice

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

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

SUMMARY OF NEW TEACHER INDUCTION FIGURES

Figure 31 Quality of induction policies

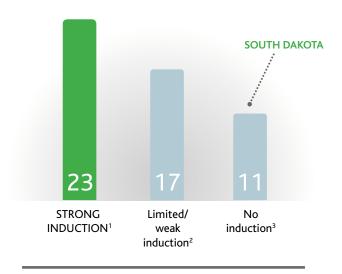
Other new teacher induction figures available in the *Yearbook* National Summary at http://www.nctq.org/2015NationalYearbook

Elements of induction (p. 104)

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

Figure 31

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



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

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

Professional Development

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings

Professional Development

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



Fully meets
Nearly meets
Partially meets





Meets only a small part Does not meet



♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot Professional Development

*	Yes	Teachers must receive feedback about their performance from their evaluations.
4	Yes	Professional development must be aligned with evaluation results.
*	Somewhat	Teachers with unsatisfactory/ineffective ratings are placed on improvement plans.

SOUTH DAKOTA Professional Development Characteristics

Connection Between Evaluation and Professional Development	Evaluation results must be used to guide professional growth for all teachers.
Evaluation Feedback	Provided "clear, timely, and useful feedback which identifies needs and guides professional development."
Improvement Plan	Required for teachers who do not meet a district's performance standards, but only teachers who have been teaching four years or longer.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

 Ensure that teachers receiving less than effective ratings are placed on a professional improvement plan.

Although South Dakota requires a plan of assistance for teachers not meeting district standards, this only applies to teachers in their fourth or subsequent years of teaching. The state should adopt a policy requiring that all teachers who receive even one less than effective evaluation be placed on structured improvement plans that focus on performance areas that directly connect to student learning.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FIGURES

Figure 32 Connecting teacher evaluation to continuous improvement

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

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

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

		/ ≈	4 / 5 7
Do states ensure that		& /\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	\$ \\\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \
evaluations are used to	28.5 28.5 28.5	\$ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	\$ \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
help teachers improve?	<u> </u>	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	\$\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
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Alaska			
Arizona			1
Arkansas			1
California			
Colorado			
Connecticut			
Delaware			
District of Columbia			
Florida			1
Georgia			
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois			1
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lowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			1
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Nebraska			
Nevada			
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North Carolina			
North Dakota			
Ohio			
Oklahoma		- Ē	
Oregon			
Pennsylvania			
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South Carolina			
SOUTH DAKOTA			2
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah			
Vermont			
Virginia			
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming			
	38	31	35

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

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

Compensation

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

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

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Compensation Characteristics					
Authority for Salary Schedule	Controlled by local districts				
Performance Pay Initiatives	None				
Role of Experience and Advanced Degrees in Salary Schedule	Not explicitly discouraged				
Differential Pay for Shortage Subjects	None; the Dakota Corps Scholarship Program provides full tuition and reimbursement to selected qualified applicants who promise to enter a "critical need occupation."				
Differential Pay for High-Need Schools	None				
Pay for Prior Work Experience	None				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

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

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

South Dakota should ensure that performance pay structures thoughtfully measure classroom performance and connect student achievement to teacher effectiveness.

SUMMARY OF COMPENSATION FIGURES

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- Support differential pay initiatives for effective teachers in high-need schools.
 South Dakota should encourage districts to link compensation to district needs.
 Such policies can help districts achieve a more equitable distribution of teachers.
- Expand differential pay initiatives for teachers in shortage subject areas.
 South Dakota should expand its scholarship program to include those who are already part of the teaching pool, as a salary differential is an attractive incentive for every teacher.
- Consider tying National Board supplements to teaching in high-need schools.

Teachers who earn National Board Certification are eligible to receive a stipend of \$2,000 a year for five years. This differential pay could be an incentive to attract some of South Dakota's most effective teachers to low-performing schools.

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

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

Examples of Best Practice

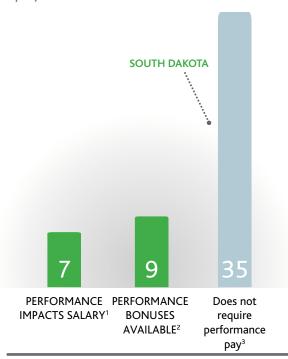
Florida allows local districts to develop their own salary schedules while preventing districts from prioritizing elements not associated with teacher effectiveness. Local salary schedules must ensure that the most effective teachers receive salary increases greater than the highest salary adjustment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

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

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

Figure 33

Do states ensure pay is structured to account for performance?



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

Figure 34

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

Figure 34		PROHIBITADIO	¥ /	Requires compensation for
Do states prevent districts	á	ANCED DEGRETAM PROHIBITS ADDITION	Leaves pay to district	
from basing teacher pay on	P. P.		<i>D</i> / <i>\$</i> ;6	, \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\
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advanced degrees?	¥5	CE A	, / g .	
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West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	3	2	31	15

Figure 35		HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS	/	SHORTAGE SUBJECT	- /
Do states provide				\ ABEAC	
incentives to teach in		Loan forgiveness		AREAS SUPPLIES AND AREAS	
high-need schools		\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	/ /	,	146
or shortage subject	i,		ER /		No support
areas?	D/E/	/ _(Pe)	DIF.	/ veo;	/ §
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Alaska					
Arizona					
Arkansas					
California					
Colorado					
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District of Columbia					
Florida					
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lowa					1
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Maryland	2				
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Minnesota Mississippi					
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska					
Nevada					
New Hampshire	П				
New Jersey	П				
New Mexico					
New York					
North Carolina					
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma					
Oregon					
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island					
South Carolina					2
SOUTH DAKOTA					3
Tennessee					
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Utah Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia					
VVCSL VII ZIIII II					
_					
Wisconsin Wyoming					

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

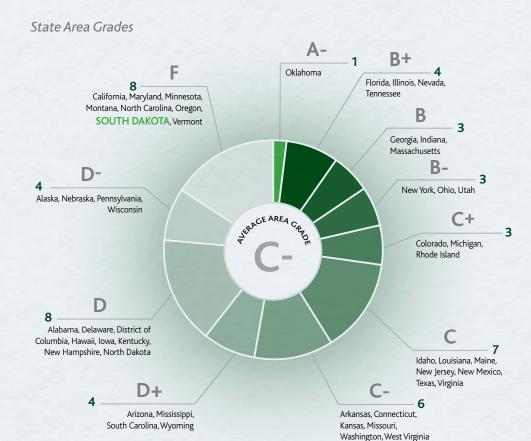
Maryland offers tuition reimbursement for teacher retraining in specified shortage subject areas and offers a stipend for alternate route candidates teaching in shortage subject areas.

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

Area 5 Summary



How States are Faring in Exiting Ineffective Teachers



Topics Included In This Area

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

Extended Emergency Licenses

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings	
Emergency Licenses Teachers who have not met licensure requirements may not continue teaching.	
Fully meets Nearly meets Partially meets Meets only a small part Does not meet	
↑ Progress increased since 2013	



SOUTH DAKOTA Extended Emergency License Characteristics					
Emergency License	One-year certificate				
Minimum Requirements	Emergency certificate requires program completion except licensure tests				
Duration	1 year				
Renewal Requirements	The certificate can be renewed once, but it is unclear whether Praxis II subject-matter tests are required for renewal.				

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSE POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

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.

■ Limit exceptions to one year.

There might be limited and exceptional circumstances under which conditional or emergency licenses need to be granted. The state should specify whether teachers are required to pass subject-matter tests in order to teach a second year on a one-year license.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF EXTENDED EMERGENCY LICENSES FIGURES

Figure 36 Time to pass licensure tests

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

Emergency licenses (p. 127)

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

Figure 36		/	/	/
How long can new teachers				
practice without passing		/	/	ى /
licensing tests?	Z Z	' / ' '	/ 5	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
licensing tests:	FE	/ 🔏	/ 🔏	sor Peci,
	DE	to 1	/ ° ° ∕	/sat
	NO DEFERRAL	Up to Tyear	Up to 2 years	ω,φ
Alabama				3 years or more
Alaska				
Arizona			$\overline{\Box}$	
Arkansas				
California				
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware				
District of Columbia				
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New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				
North Dakota				
Ohio				
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Oregon				
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
SOUTH DAKOTA				
Tennessee				3
Texas				
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia				
Washington				
West Virginia	2			
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				
	9	18	6	18

- 1. Teachers can have up to two additional years to pass licensing tests in the event of "extraordinary extenuating circumstances."
- 2. Out-of-state teachers can teach on a non-renewable license until all requirements are met.
- 3. Tennessee does not offer emergency licenses but candidates for initial practitioner license have three years to pass licensure tests.
- 4. Permits can be extended without passing licensing tests if districts receive hardship approval.

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

Dismissal for Poor Performance

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings Dismissal

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



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

↑ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot Dismissal

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Dismissal Characteristics			
Dismissal for Ineffectiveness	Ineffectiveness not grounds for dismissal		
Due Process Rights of Teachers	Same regardless of the grounds for cancellation, which include "breach of contract, poor performance, incompetency, gross immorality, unprofessional conduct, insubordination, neglect of duty, or the violation of any policy or regulation of the school district"		
Length of Appeals Process	Multiple opportunities to appeal: After written notice, the teacher may request a hearing, which must occur within 45 days. This decision may then be appealed to the circuit court within 90 days. The decision of the circuit court may be appealed to the state supreme court.		

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE DISMISSAL POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

- Specify that classroom ineffectiveness is grounds for dismissal.
 - South Dakota 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.
 - South Dakota should ensure that the opportunity to appeal occurs only once and only at the district level so that a conclusion is reached within a reasonable time frame.
- Distinguish the process and accompanying due process rights between dismissal for classroom ineffectiveness and dismissal for morality violations, felonies or dereliction of duty.

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

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF DISMISSAL FIGURES

Figure 37 Dismissal due to ineffectiveness

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

Dismissal appeals (p. 130)

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

Figure 37		/
Do states articulate that	~ ·	85 /
	\$ ₹)
ineffectiveness is grounds	\$ \$ £	§ /
for dismissal?	YES THROUGH EVALUATIONS	
Alabama	\(\frac{\partial}{2}\)	/ %
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
Hawaii		
Idaho		
Illinois		
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lowa		
Kansas		1
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
Montana Nebraska		
Nebraska Nevada		2
New Hampshire New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Carolina		
North Dakota		
Ohio		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
SOUTH DAKOTA		
Tennessee		
Texas		
Utah		
Vermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming		
	28	23

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

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

Reductions in Force

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

SOUTH DAKOTA Ratings

Reductions in Force

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



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

♠ Progress increased since 2013

Lost ground since 2013



SOUTH DAKOTA Snapshot Reductions in Force



No

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



No

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE REDUCTIONS IN FORCE POLICIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

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

South Dakota 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 seniority is not the only factor used to determine which teachers are laid off.

Unlike some states, South Dakota does not require that districts consider seniority; however, the state should do more to prevent districts from making decisions solely on this basis.

Examples of Best Practice

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

SUMMARY OF REDUCTIONS IN FORCE FIGURES

■ Figure 38 Layoff criteria

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

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

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

Figure 38	55	SENIORITY CANNOT DE
Do states prevent districts	S. F. M.	/ 🕺
from basing layoffs solely	ANC FRE	72
on "last in, first out"?	NS/I	18/2
	PERFORMANCE MUST	SENIC
Alabama		
Alaska		
Arizona		
Arkansas		
California Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
District of Columbia		
Florida		
Georgia		
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Indiana		
Iowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland		
Massachusetts		
Michigan Minnesota		
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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		
	19	22





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

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