

Summary of Illinois Teacher Policies:



2015	2013
C+	C+
2011	2009
C	D+

- ★ Best Practice
- Meets Goal
- ◐ Nearly Meets Goal
- ◑ Partly Meets Goal
- ◒ Meets a Small Part of Goal
- Does Not Meet Goal

Progress on Goals Since 2015

- ↑ Progress Increased: 5
- ↓ Progress Decreased: 1

A state's progress on policy was tracked solely for goals that remained constant between 2015 and 2017.

AREA 1: General Teacher Preparation	C+
Program Entry	◑
Teacher Shortages and Surpluses	◑
Program Performance Measures	◑
Program Reporting Requirements	◑
Student Teaching/Clinical Practice	◑
AREA 2: Elementary Teacher Preparation	C
Content Knowledge	◑ ↑
Teaching Mathematics	● ↑
Teaching Reading	◑
Licensure Deficiencies	◑ ↑
AREA 3: Secondary Teacher Preparation	C+
Middle School Content Knowledge	●
Middle School Licensure Deficiencies	●
Adolescent Literacy	◑
Secondary Content Knowledge	◑
Secondary Licensure Deficiencies	◑
AREA 4: Special Education Teacher Preparation	D-
Content Knowledge	◑
Teaching Reading	◑
Licensure Deficiencies	○
AREA 5: Alternate Route Teacher Preparation	B
Program Entry	★ ↑
Preparation for the Classroom	◑

AREA 6: Hiring	C
Requirements for Out-of-State Teachers	◑
Provisional and Emergency Licensure	● ↑
AREA 7: Teacher and Principal Evaluation	C
Measures of Student Growth	◑
Measures of Professional Practice	◑
Frequency of Evaluation and Observation	◑
Linking Evaluation to Professional Growth	◑
Data Systems Needed for Evaluation	◑
Distributing Teacher Talent Equitably	◑
Principal Effectiveness	◑
Principal Evaluation and Observation	◑
AREA 8: Teacher Compensation	F
Performance	◑
High-Need Schools and Subjects	○ ↓
Prior Work	○
AREA 9: Retaining Effective Teachers	C+
Licensure Advancement	◑
Tenure	◑
Leadership Opportunities	◑
Dismissal	◑
Layoffs	●

Teacher Policy Strengths and Areas for Growth Illinois

POLICY AREA	ILLINOIS'S STRENGTHS	ILLINOIS'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH
AREA 1: GENERAL TEACHER PREPARATION		
Program Entry		The state should require that all teacher preparation programs limit admission to applicants with either a minimum 3.0 GPA or those who have scored in the top half of all college-going students on tests of academic proficiency.
Teacher Shortages and Surpluses	The state publishes teacher production data and connects program completion, certification, and district hiring statistics.	
Program Performance Measures	The state collects objective, meaningful data on program graduates to measure teacher preparation program performance.	
Program Reporting Requirements		The state should hold teacher preparation programs accountable for teacher quality by outlining consequences for programs that do not meet standards, including loss of program approval.
Student Teaching/ Clinical Practice		The state should require that the clinical practice experience is at least 10 weeks, full time, and that candidates for licenses with broad grade spans have experience in at least two different developmental grade levels.
AREA 2: ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION		
Content Knowledge		The state should require elementary teacher candidates to pass a content test with individually scored subtests in each of the core content areas and to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area.
Teaching Mathematics	The state's elementary content test includes an independently scored math subtest.	
Teaching Reading		The state should require that elementary teacher candidates pass a science of reading test to ensure knowledge of effective reading instruction.
Licensure Deficiencies		The state should require early childhood education teachers who are eligible to teach elementary grades to pass an elementary content test with individually scored subtests in each of the core content areas and pass a science of reading test.
AREA 3: SECONDARY TEACHER PREPARATION		
Middle School Content Knowledge	The state requires middle school teachers to pass a rigorous single-subject content test.	
Middle School Licensure Deficiencies	The state does not allow middle school teachers to teach on a K-8 generalist license.	
Adolescent Literacy	The state requires that middle and secondary candidates are prepared to meet the instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards.	
Secondary Content Knowledge	The state requires all secondary teachers to pass a single-subject content test as a condition of initial licensure.	
Secondary Licensure Deficiencies		The state should require secondary general science teachers and secondary social studies teachers to pass a single-subject content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.
AREA 4: SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREPARATION		
Content Knowledge		The state should require elementary special education teachers to pass the same content test as general elementary education teachers and that secondary special education teachers demonstrate content knowledge in core subjects at the secondary level.

Teaching Reading		The state should require that all new special education teachers who teach elementary grades pass a rigorous elementary test of scientifically based reading instruction.
Licensure Deficiencies		The state should require elementary or secondary special education certification.
AREA 5: ALTERNATE ROUTE TEACHER PREPARATION		
Program Entry	The state maintains high academic standards for admission to alternate route programs, including by requiring all alternate route candidates to pass a subject-matter test prior to admission.	
Preparation for the Classroom	The state's alternate route programs prepare new teachers for the classroom through relevant coursework and intensive mentoring and induction.	
AREA 6: HIRING		
Requirements for Out-of-State Teachers		The state should require evidence of effective teaching during previous employment for licensure reciprocity, ensure out-of-state teachers meet the state's testing requirements, and offer a standard license to certified out-of-state teachers without unnecessary requirements.
Provisional and Emergency Licensure	The state requires that all teachers pass all required subject-matter tests as a condition of initial licensure.	
AREA 7: TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL EVALUATION		
Measures of Student Growth		The state should ensure objective evidence of student growth is the determinative factor in teacher evaluations.
Measures of Professional Practice	The state requires that all teacher evaluations include observations, and be conducted by trained and certified evaluators.	
Frequency of Evaluation and Observation		The state should require that all teachers are evaluated annually and observed multiple times, and that new teachers are supported with feedback early in the year.
Linking Evaluation to Professional Growth	The state requires that teachers are supported with adequate evaluation feedback and improvement plans (for ineffective teachers), under a system with four rating categories.	
Data Systems Needed for Evaluation		The state should adequately define teacher of record, have a process in place for teacher roster verification, and publish teacher mobility data.
Distributing Teacher Talent Equitably		The state should report school-level data about teacher performance to help support the equitable distribution of teacher talent.
Principal Effectiveness		The state should require that principal effectiveness is determined, in part, by survey data, and that ineffective principals participate in improvement planning.
Principal Evaluation and Observation	The state requires all principals to be observed/visited on-site, and requires principal evaluators to be trained and certified.	
AREA 8: TEACHER COMPENSATION		
Performance		The state should support performance pay based on evidence of effectiveness.
High-Need Schools and Subjects		The state should support additional pay for working in high-need schools and teaching in shortage subject areas.
Prior Work		The state should encourage additional compensation for new teachers with relevant prior work experience.
AREA 9: RETAINING EFFECTIVE TEACHERS		
Licensure Advancement		The state should base licensure renewal on teacher effectiveness.
Tenure	The state requires tenure decisions to be connected to evidence of teacher effectiveness.	
Leadership Opportunities	The state supports teacher leadership opportunities.	
Dismissal	The state enables ineffective classroom performance to be a basis for dismissal.	
Layoffs	The state requires evidence of effectiveness to be the top criterion districts use in determining which teachers are laid off during reductions in force.	

State Grades

State Grades 2009 – 2017

	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017
ALABAMA	C-	C-	C-	D+	C
ALASKA	D	D	D	D-	D-
ARIZONA	D+	D+	C-	C-	D
ARKANSAS	C-	C	B-	B-	C+
CALIFORNIA	D+	D+	D+	D	D+
COLORADO	D+	C	C+	C	D+
CONNECTICUT	D+	C-	B-	B-	C+
DELAWARE	D	C	C+	B-	B-
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	D-	D	D+	D+	D+
FLORIDA	C	B	B+	B+	B+
GEORGIA	C-	C	B-	B-	B-
HAWAII	D-	D-	D+	D+	D+
IDAHO	D-	D+	D+	C-	C
ILLINOIS	D+	C	C+	C+	C+
INDIANA	D	C+	B-	B	B-
IOWA	D	D	D	D	D+
KANSAS	D-	D	D	D+	D+
KENTUCKY	D+	D+	C	C	C-
LOUISIANA	C-	C-	B	B	B+
MAINE	F	D-	C-	C-	D+
MARYLAND	D	D+	D+	D+	D+
MASSACHUSETTS	D+	C	B-	B-	B-
MICHIGAN	D-	C+	B-	C+	C
MINNESOTA	D-	C-	C-	C-	C-
MISSISSIPPI	D+	D+	C	C	C
MISSOURI	D	D	C-	C-	C
MONTANA	F	F	F	F	F
NEBRASKA	D-	D-	D-	D	D
NEVADA	D-	C-	C-	C-	C-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	D-	D-	D	D	D+
NEW JERSEY	D+	D+	B-	C+	B
NEW MEXICO	D+	D+	D+	C	C
NEW YORK	D+	C	B-	B	B
NORTH CAROLINA	D+	D+	C	C-	C+
NORTH DAKOTA	D-	D	D	D	D
OHIO	D+	C+	B-	B-	B-
OKLAHOMA	D+	B-	B-	B-	D+
OREGON	D-	D-	D	D	D-
PENNSYLVANIA	D	D+	C-	C-	C
RHODE ISLAND	D	B-	B	B-	B
SOUTH CAROLINA	C-	C-	C-	C	C+
SOUTH DAKOTA	D	D	D-	D-	F
TENNESSEE	C-	B-	B	B	B
TEXAS	C-	C-	C-	C-	B-
UTAH	D	C-	C	C+	C
VERMONT	F	D-	D-	D-	D
VIRGINIA	D+	D+	C+	C+	C+
WASHINGTON	D+	C-	C-	C-	C-
WEST VIRGINIA	D+	D+	C-	C-	C+
WISCONSIN	D	D	D+	D	D+
WYOMING	D-	D	D	D	D

Best Practices

AREA 1: General Teacher Preparation

Program Entry - *None*

Teacher Shortages and Surpluses - *None*

Program Performance Measures - *Alabama, Florida*

Program Reporting Requirements - *Delaware, Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas*

Student Teaching/Clinical Practice - *Georgia, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Tennessee*

AREA 2: Elementary Teacher Preparation

Content Knowledge - *None*

Teaching Mathematics - *Massachusetts*

Teaching Reading - *Arkansas, California*

Licensure Deficiencies - *None*

AREA 3: Secondary Teacher Preparation

Middle School Content Knowledge - *Arkansas, Georgia, Ohio*

Middle School Licensure Deficiencies - *None*

Adolescent Literacy - *Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana*

Secondary Content Knowledge - *Indiana, Minnesota*

Secondary Licensure Deficiencies - *Minnesota*

AREA 4: Special Education Teacher Preparation

Content Knowledge - *None*

Teaching Reading - *California*

Licensure Deficiencies - *None*

AREA 5: Alternate Route Teacher Preparation

Program Entry - *Illinois, Michigan*

Preparation for the Classroom - *Delaware, New Jersey*

AREA 6: Hiring

Requirements for Out-of-State Teachers - *None*

Provisional and Emergency Licensure - *Mississippi, New Jersey, Rhode Island, South Carolina*

AREA 7: Teacher and Principal Evaluation

Measures of Student Growth - *Indiana*

Measures of Professional Practice - *Iowa*

Frequency of Evaluation and Observation - *Idaho, New Jersey, Washington*

Linking Evaluation to Professional Growth - *Louisiana, New York, North Carolina*

Data Systems Needed for Evaluation - *Georgia*

Distributing Teacher Talent Equitably - *None*

Principal Effectiveness - *Connecticut, Florida, South Dakota*

Principal Evaluation and Observation - *New York*

AREA 8: Teacher Compensation

Performance - *None*

High-Need Schools and Subjects - *Florida, New Mexico, Utah*

Prior Work - *Louisiana, North Carolina*

AREA 9: Retaining Effective Teachers

Licensure Advancement - *Louisiana*

Tenure - *Hawaii, Indiana, Nevada, New York*

Leadership Opportunities - *Ohio, Utah*

Dismissal - *Nevada, New York*

Layoffs - *Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana*