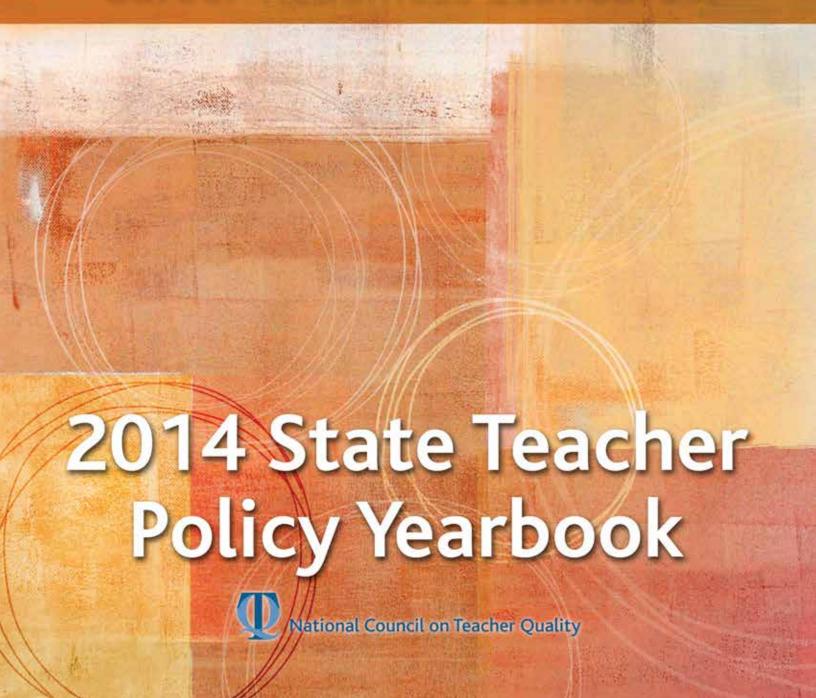
# Hawaii

Are New Teachers Being Prepared for College- and Career-Readiness Standards?



## **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. Although this year's edition did not require the extensive review that comprehensive editions require, we still wanted to make sure that we captured all relevant policy changes and that states' perspectives were represented. Every state formally received a draft of the policy updates we identified in June 2014 as well as a draft of analyses and recommendations for the new indicators related to college- and career-readiness standards for comment and correction. States also received a final draft of their reports a month prior to release. All but two states responded to our inquiries. While states do not always agree with our recommendations, their willingness to engage in dialogue, explain their differing points of view and often acknowledge the imperfections of their teacher policies are important steps in moving forward.

#### **FUNDERS**

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Special thanks to Leigh Zimnisky and Justin Rakowski at Ironmark for their design of the 2014 *Yearbook*. Thanks also to Colleen Hale and Jeff Hale at EFA Solutions for the original *Yearbook* design and ongoing technical support.



## Teacher Preparation Policy Priorities for Hawaii

## Prepare all teachers to meet the instructional shifts of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

- Strengthen preparation requirements to ensure teacher candidates have the ability to address the use of
  informational texts as well as incorporate complex informational texts into classroom instruction.
   Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.
- Through testing frameworks or teacher standards, include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

  \*Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.\*
- Ensure teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling with reading. *Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.*

## Additional priorities for elementary teacher preparation:

- Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass
  a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects, including mathematics, and requires
  a meaningful passing score for each area.
- Require a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
- Require a content specialization in an academic subject area.

## Additional priorities for middle school teacher preparation:

■ Require teacher candidates to pass a content test in every core area they are licensed to teach.

## Additional priorities for secondary teacher preparation:

- Require secondary candidates to pass a content test in each subject they are licensed to teach.
- Require secondary science and social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.

## Additional priorities for special education teacher preparation:

- Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and require licenses that differentiate between 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.

## Hold preparation programs accountable:

- Collect performance data to monitor programs, including student achievement gains.
- Set minimum standards for program performance with consequences for failure to meet those standards.
- Publicly report performance data.

## Teacher Preparation in Hawaii

The 2014 State Teacher Policy Yearbook keeps the spotlight on the critical issue of teacher preparation. In addition to updating the full set of teacher preparation policies reviewed in last year's comprehensive edition, the 2014 Yearbook casts a critical eye on whether states have established requirements for teacher preparation and licensure that help to ensure that teachers are ready for the increased demands of states' college- and career-readiness standards for K-12 students.

## Current Status of **Hawaii** Teacher Prep Policy

Prior Grades: **F** 2013 **D** 2012 **D** 2011

Yearbook Goal	Торіс	2014 Score	2013 Score
1-A	Admission into Preparation Programs		
1-B	Elementary Teacher Preparation		
1-C	Elementary Teacher Preparation in Reading Instruction		
1-D	Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics		
1-E	Middle School Teacher Preparation		
1-F	Secondary Teacher Preparation		
1-G	Secondary Teacher Preparation in Science		
1-H	Special Education Teacher Preparation	•	
1-I	Assessing Professional Knowledge	0	
1-J	Student Teaching	•	
1-K	Teacher Preparation Program Accountability	0	0

## 2014 Teacher Prep Policy Update for Hawaii

Based on a review of state legislation, rules and regulations, NCTQ has identified the following recent teacher prep policy changes in Hawaii:

## Elementary Teacher Preparation

The selected test for elementary teacher candidates has changed to the revised Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001) test. The selected test for early childhood has changed to the revised Education of Young Children (5024) test.

Praxis Test Requirements http://www.ets.org/praxis

## Hawaii Response to Policy Update

States were asked to review NCTQ's identified updates and also to comment on policy changes related to teacher preparation that have occurred in the last year, pending changes, or teacher preparation in the state more generally.

Hawaii noted that secondary preparation programs are now able to recommend teacher candidates for licensure in specific science fields instead of the broad science field. Certifications to teach grades 6-12 are now available in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, environmental science, marine science and physics.

The state added that effective July 1, 2017, all preparation programs must require the edTPA or the ETS Pre-Service Assessment. Candidates must pass the selected assessment prior to being recommended as a program completer by their programs.

Hawaii indicated that candidates must have a separate student teaching placement at every level for which they will be recommended for licensure. The state also asserted that beginning in June 2014 programs are audited annually to verify that candidates recommended for licensure meet basic skills and content knowledge requirements, and that their student teaching placements are in the appropriate field and level.

igure A				
elivering well-				
repared teachers	2014 GRADE	2013 GRADE	2012 GRADE	2011 GRADE
Alabama	B-	В	B-	С
Alaska	F	F	F	F
Arizona	D	D-	D-	D-
Arkansas	C+	C+	С	С
California	D+	D+	D	D
Colorado	D-	D-	D	D-
Connecticut	B-	B-	C+	C-
Delaware	B-	C+	D-	D-
District of Columbia	C-	D+	D	D
Florida	B+	B+	B-	B-
Georgia	C+	C+	С	С
HAWAII	D-	F	D	D
Idaho	D+	D+	D	D
Illinois	D+	D+	D	D
Indiana	B+	B+	B-	C+
lowa	D+	D+	D	D
Kansas	D+	D+	D+	D+
Kentucky	B-	B-	C+	C-
Louisiana	C C	C-	C	C
Maine	D+	D+	D+	D
				D+
Maryland	D+	D+	D+	
Massachusetts	B-	B-	C+	C+
Michigan	D+	D	D+	D+
Minnesota	C+	C+	C+	С
Mississippi	С	C-	С	С
Missouri	B-	C-	D+	D+
Montana	F	F	F	F
Nebraska	D-	F	D-	D-
Nevada	D-	D-	D-	D-
New Hampshire	C-	C-	C-	D
New Jersey	B-	B-	C-	D+
New Mexico	D+	D	D+	D+
New York	В	B-	C-	D+
North Carolina	C+	C+	D-	D-
North Dakota	D	D	D	D
Ohio	С	С	C-	D+
Oklahoma	С	С	С	С
Oregon	D+	D	D-	D-
Pennsylvania	C	С	С	С
Rhode Island	B+	B+	С	D+
South Carolina	C+	С	C-	C-
South Dakota	D	D-	D	D
Tennessee	B-	B-	B-	B-
Texas	В	В	C+	C+
Utah	C-	D+	D	D
Vermont	С	С	C-	D+
Virginia	B-	C+	C-	C-
Washington	D+	D+	D+	D+
West Virginia	C+	C+	C-	C-
Wisconsin	C	C-	D+	D
Wyoming	D-	F	F	F
WWOMING				

Figure B	
Delivering well-	
prepared teachers	2014 GRADE
Florida	B+
Indiana	B+
Rhode Island	B+
New York	В
Texas	В
Alabama	B-
Connecticut	B-
Delaware	B-
Kentucky	B-
Massachusetts	B-
Missouri	B-
New Jersey	B-
Tennessee	B-
Virginia	B-
Arkansas	C+
Georgia	C+
Minnesota	C+
North Carolina	C+
South Carolina	C+
West Virginia	C+
Louisiana	С
Mississippi	С
Ohio	С
Oklahoma	С
Pennsylvania	С
Vermont	C
Wisconsin	С
District of Columbia	C-
New Hampshire	C-
Utah California	C-
	D+
Idaho	D+
Illinois	D+
lowa	D+
Kansas Maine	D+ D+
Maryland	D+
Michigan	D+
New Mexico	D+
Oregon	D+
Washington	D+
Arizona	D
North Dakota	D
South Dakota	D
Colorado	D-
HAWAII	D-
Nebraska	D-
Nevada	D-
Wyoming	D-
Alaska	F
Montana	F
Average State Grade	C
G	

## **Elementary Teacher Preparation**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- 1. The state should ensure that all elementary teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that college- and career-readiness standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should require that all new elementary teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - B. The state should ensure that all new elementary teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new elementary teachers of English language arts are prepared to support struggling readers.
- 2. The state should require that new elementary teachers, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, pass a rigorous test of reading instruction in order to attain licensure.
- 3. The state should ensure that all elementary teacher candidates, including those who can teach elementary grades on an early childhood license, possess sufficient content knowledge in all core subjects, including mathematics.
- 4. The state should require that its approved teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 45 credit hours to ensure appropriate depth in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies and fine arts.
- 5. The state should require elementary teacher candidates to complete a content specialization in an academic subject area. In addition to enhancing content knowledge, this requirement ensures that prospective teachers have taken higher-level academic coursework.



## Elementary Teacher Prep Analysis: Hawaii

## PREPARING ELEMENTARY TEACHERS FOR COLLEGE- AND **CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS**

The new demands of college- and career-readiness standards for students heighten the need for elementary teachers to have a strong content background in all of the subject matter taught in the elementary grades. Hawaii, like most states, has adopted such standards and must ensure that its preparation and licensure requirements for new teachers address this need.

Currently, Hawaii offers an elementary license to teach grades K-6. The state also offers an early childhood license for grades PreK-3. Key licensing requirements for elementary school teachers in Hawaii include:



## HAWAII **ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREP SNAPSHOT**



X State requires passing a content test in each of the four core subjects.



State requires adequate test on the science of reading.



X State requires academic content specialization.



State has adequate/appropriate requirements for teachers who teach elementary grades on an early childhood license.



Yes



In addition to the strong content background called for by collegeand career-readiness standards, teacher candidates must also be prepared for the key instructional shifts that differentiate these standards from their predecessors.

Elementary teachers in Hawaii may pass the newly revised Praxis II Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001) test; however, it is not required. The reading and language arts subtest includes some of the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with the state's college- and career-readiness standards. However, although the framework now addresses complex texts, it does so only in the context of measuring text complexity and does not address how to also incorporate increasingly complex texts into instruction.

Early childhood education teachers may pass the revised Education of Young Children (5024) test, which now addresses informational texts but this test regrettably does not adequately include the specific skills needed to teach the instructional shifts associated with Hawaii's new standards.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Hawaii's adoption of the new Multiple Subjects test is a step in the right direction; however, the test is not required as a condition of initial licensure. Further, neither the Multiple Subjects framework nor the framework for the state's early childhood test adequately captures the major instructional shifts of college- and career-readiness standards. Hawaii is therefore encouraged to strengthen its teacher preparation requirements and ensure that all candidates who teach the elementary grades have the ability to address the use of informational texts as well as incorporate complex informational texts into classroom instruction—prior to entering the classroom.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that elementary students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Hawaii should also-either through testing frameworks or teacher standards—include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

### Support struggling readers.

Hawaii should articulate specific requirements ensuring that elementary teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling. The early elementary grades are an especially important time to address reading deficiencies before students fall behind.

Only the Education of Young Children test vaguely addresses literacy skills in other core areas by requiring that a teacher "knows strategies to integrate literacy into the content areas (e.g., mathematics, social studies, science, and the arts)."

The Multiple Subjects test does not address struggling readers, and the Education of Young Children test only indirectly addresses the topic, for example, by requiring that a teacher "knows how to collect, analyze and interpret observation and assessment results to inform instructional decision making."

### **Supporting Research**

**Praxis Tests** 

www.ets.org/praxis

New Business Items 12-29, 12-30

Hawaii Teacher Standards

http://www.htsb.org/standards/teacher/

Licensure Tests

http://www.htsb.org/licensing-permits/licensure-tests/

#### HAWAII RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Hawaii was helpful in providing NCTQ with facts that enhanced this analysis. The state added that with regard to struggling readers, the elementary reading and language arts subtest addresses the stages of language acquisition and instructional approaches for ELLs, while the Education of Young Children test addresses support for children with diverse needs (e.g., at-risk, ELLs, children in need of early intervention) as well as knowledge of the progression of language development and strategies to address language delays.

#### LAST WORD FROM NCTQ

Although Hawaii's assessments address the literacy topics outlined in its response, teachers are not required to pass the tests. Consequently, the state cannot ensure teachers are adequately prepared in this area.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

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 mathematics.

Although Hawaii has selected a better content test (Multiple Subjects) than many available options, the test is undermined by the state's policy allowing teacher candidates to demonstrate content knowledge in ways that do not include the passage of a test with individual subscores. Relevant upper-level coursework lays the foundation for requisite content knowledge, but to ensure that teacher candidates possess sufficient subject-matter knowledge for the elementary classroom, Hawaii should require all teacher candidates to pass a rigorous test.

In addition, Hawaii is urged to require all early childhood education teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass an appropriate test, either the same test as required of other elementary teachers or a comparably rigorous one geared to early childhood content. It is especially worrisome that the state allows teachers up through grade 3 to teach without ever having passed a content test.

 Require all teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

Hawaii should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its elementary teacher candidates are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom. The assessment should clearly test knowledge and skills related to the science of reading and address all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. If the test is combined with an assessment that also tests general pedagogy or elementary content, it should report

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

a subscore for the science of reading specifically. Elementary teachers who do not possess the minimum knowledge in this area should not be eligible for licensure.

Hawaii should also require all early child-hood education teacher candidates who teach elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment to ensure that they are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom.

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 Hawaii take higher-level academic coursework. The requirement also provides an important safeguard in the event that candidates are unable to successfully complete clinical practice requirements. With an academic concentration (or better still a major or minor), candidates who are not ready for the classroom and do not pass student teaching can still be on track to complete a degree.

Ensure that teacher preparation programs deliver a comprehensive program of study in broad liberal arts coursework.

Hawaii should either articulate a more specific set of standards or establish comprehensive coursework requirements for elementary teacher candidates that align with college- and career-readiness standards to ensure that candidates will complete coursework relevant to the common topics in elementary grades. An adequate curriculum is likely to require approximately 45 credit hours in the core subject areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies and fine arts.

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## SUMMARY OF ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREP FIGURES

■ Figure 1

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

- Figure 2

  Content test requirements
- **Figure 3**Specific subject-matter requirements
- **Figure 4**Science of reading requirements
- Figure 5

  Math requirements
- **Figure 6**Requirements for academic concentrations
- Figure 7

  Requirements for early childhood teachers
- Figure 8

  Teacher Prep Review findings about elementary teacher prep

Figure 2	_	Lementary Content test	Elementary content	<i>ts</i> /
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## **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

Both Arkansas and California ensure that elementary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of collegeand career-readiness standards for students. These states specify that elementary 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 are also required to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject and are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling.

In addition, Indiana ensures that all candidates licensed to teach the elementary grades, including early childhood education candidates, possess the requisite knowledge of core content and of the key elements of scientifically based reading instruction before entering the classroom. Elementary and early childhood teacher candidates are required to pass a content test comprised of four independently scored subtests, including mathematics. In addition, these candidates are required to pass a comprehensive assessment that tests the five elements of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Elementary teacher candidates in Indiana must also earn either a major or minor in an academic content area.

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.

<sup>1.</sup> Alaska does not require testing for initial licensure.

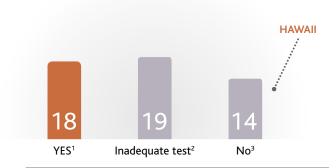
<sup>2.</sup> Massachusetts and North Carolina require a general curriculum test that does not report scores for each elementary subject. A separate score is reported for math.

<sup>3.</sup> Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass a content test in Ohio.

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Figure 4

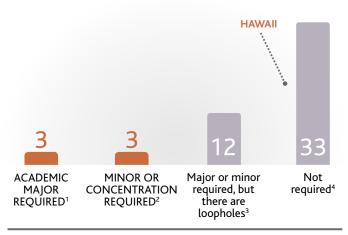
Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of the science of reading?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, California<sup>4</sup>, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wyoming
- 3. Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota
- California allows an exemption from the state's reading test for teachers who already have a single subject credential.
- 5. Teachers have until their second year to pass the reading test.

Figure 6

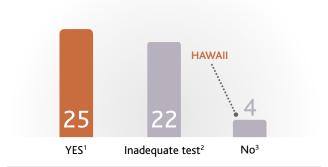
Do states expect elementary teachers to complete an academic concentration?



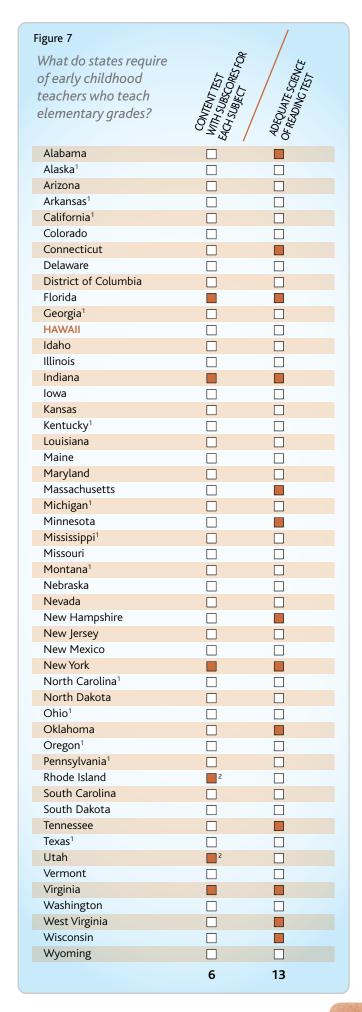
- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico
- 2. Strong Practice: Indiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma
- California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia
- These states require a major, minor or concentration but there is no assurance it will be in an academic subject area.
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire<sup>5</sup>, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Only K-8 teachers must complete an area of concentration in a field such as humanities, fine arts, social sciences and sciences.

Figure 5

Do states measure new elementary teachers' knowledge of math?



- Strong Practice: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, 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, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin
- 3. Alaska<sup>4</sup>, Hawaii, Montana, Ohio<sup>5</sup>
- 4. Testing is not required for initial licensure.
- 5. Only teachers of grades 4 and 5 are required to pass an adequate content test.



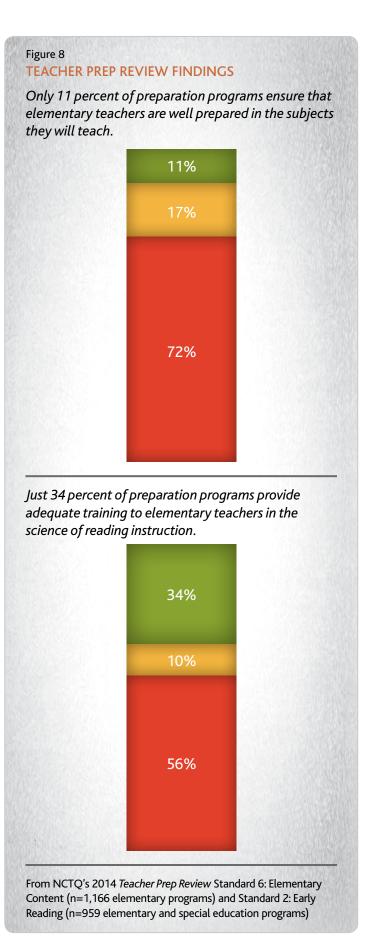


Figure 7

- 1. 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.
- Early childhood candidates may pass either multiple subjects (subscores) or content knowledge (no subscores) test.

## Middle School Teacher Preparation

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should ensure that all middle school teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that college- and career-readiness English language arts standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should require that all new middle school teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - B. The state should ensure that all new middle school teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new middle school teachers of English language arts are prepared to support struggling readers.
- 2. The state should require that new middle school teachers pass a licensing test in every core academic area they are licensed to teach.
- 3. The state should not permit middle school teachers to teach on a generalist license that does not differentiate between the preparation of middle school teachers and that of elementary teachers.



How well are states ensuring that middle school teachers are prepared for college- and career-readiness standards?

- Alaska, Arizona, California, HAWAII,
  Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Montana,
  Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma,
  Oregon, South Dakota, Utah,
  Washington, Wyoming
- Colorado, Massachusetts,
  Nevada, North Dakota, Wisconsin
  - District of Columbia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia

Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware,

- Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas
- Arkansas, Indiana

## Middle School Teacher Prep Analysis: Hawaii

## PREPARING MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR COLLEGE-AND CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS

The middle school years are critical to students' education, but, too often, states fail to distinguish the knowledge and skills needed by middle school teachers from those needed by an elementary teacher. Middle school teachers should not only be prepared to teach grade-level content, but should also be prepared to meet the increased instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

Currently, Hawaii offers middle school certification to teach grades 6-8. Key licensing requirements for middle school teachers in Hawaii include:





State requires teachers to pass a content test for each subject they teach.



State requires middle school teachers to hold a middle grade or secondary license.



Yes



Preparation and licensure requirements for middle school teachers must address more than just content knowledge; the key instructional shifts articulated in college- and career-readiness standards for students must also be incorporated. Regrettably, Hawaii's preparation and licensure requirements for middle school teachers do not ensure that teachers will be prepared to teach to these new standards.

Although the assessment adopted by Hawaii for middle school English language arts teachers—the Praxis II Middle School English Language Arts (5047) test—includes some of the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these standards, content assessments are not required for certification.

Neither teacher standards nor middle school tests in other content areas address incorporating literacy skills.

Regarding struggling readers, Hawaii's middle school English content test requires that a teacher "knows commonly used researchbased approaches to grouping and differentiated instruction to meet specific instructional objectives in English Language Arts" and "understands commonly used research-based strategies for teaching adolescent reading."

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, Hawaii 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.

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, Hawaii should also include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/ social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

Support struggling readers.

Hawaii should articulate requirements ensuring that middle school teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling. While college- and career-readiness standards will increase the need for all middle school teachers to be able to help struggling readers to comprehend grade-level material, training for English language arts teachers in particular must emphasize identification and remediation of reading deficiencies.

#### **Supporting Research**

**Praxis Tests** 

www.ets.org/praxis

New Business Item 12-22; 12-29

Licensing Requirements

http://www.htsb.org/licensing-permits/licensure-tests/

#### HAWAII RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Hawaii asserted that its Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) has adopted CAEP standards for all preparation programs. The first standard reads: "The provider ensures that candidates develop a deep understanding of the critical concepts and principles of their discipline and, by completion, are able to use discipline-specific practices flexibly to advance the learning of all students toward attainment of college- and career-readiness standards." Within this standard, providers must "ensure that completers demonstrate skills and commitment that afford all P-12 students access to rigorous college- and career-ready standards."

Hawaii also noted that preparation programs must provide evidence that their teacher candidates incorporate the teaching of reading, including working with students who have reading difficulties, into their practice. The HTSB requires programs to show evidence of this in their annual reports.

**Supporting Research** 

NBI 13-24

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

- Require content testing in all core areas.
  - Hawaii 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. To ensure meaningful middle school content tests, the state should set its passing scores to reflect high levels of performance.
- Close the loophole that allows teachers to add middle grade levels to an existing license without demonstrating content knowledge.

Hawaii allows teachers to add new fields to certificates either by completing a state-approved teacher education program, submitting proof of teaching experience and 30 hours of coursework or by proof of experience and a passing score on a content test. The state is urged to require that all teachers who add the middle grade levels to their certificates pass a rigorous subject-matter test to ensure content knowledge of all subject areas before they are allowed in the classroom.

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## SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER PREP FIGURES

## Figure 9

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

## ■ Figure 10

Distinctions in licenses betweeen middle and elementary teachers

## ■ Figure 11

Content test requirements

## ■ Figure 12

*Teacher Prep Review* findings about middle school teacher prep

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## **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

**Illinois** ensures that middle school teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. The state's new standards for the middle grades include the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these standards. The standards also address the needs of struggling readers.

Illinois's requirements connecting literacy to all subject areas are particularly noteworthy. All middle school teachers must understand "the role, perspective and purpose of text in specific disciplines" and be able to perform tasks such as scaffolding reading to allow students to understand and learn from challenging text; guiding reading discussions that require students to identify key ideas and details of a text; analyze craft and structure and critically evaluate the text; and model reading strategies to improve comprehension.

In addition, **Georgia**, **Mississippi**, **New Jersey** and **South Carolina** ensure that all middle school teacher candidates are adequately prepared to teach middle school-level content. None of these states offers a K-8 generalist license and all require passing scores on subject-specific content tests. Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina explicitly require at least two content-area minors, and New Jersey requires a content major along with a minor for each additional area of certification.

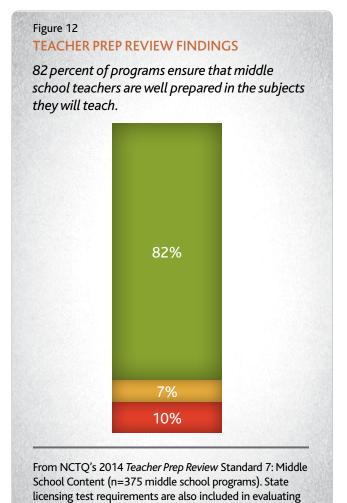
<sup>1.</sup> Offers 1-8 license.

<sup>2.</sup> California offers a K-12 generalist license for all self-contained classrooms.

 $<sup>3.</sup> With \ the \ exception \ of \ mathematics.$ 

<sup>4.</sup> Oregon offers 3-8 license.

Do middle school teachers have to pass an appropriate content test in every core subject they are licensed to teach?  Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia HAWAII Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas		Company to the control of the contro	Only Reliense Face	No, testing of an inchesting of an inche
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1. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.

this standard.

- 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 and draft test frameworks are not yet available for review.
- 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 pass a middle school content test in one core area.
- 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.

## **Secondary Teacher Preparation**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should ensure that all secondary teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that collegeand career-readiness English language arts standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should require that all new secondary teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - B. The state should ensure that all new secondary teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new secondary teachers of English language arts are prepared to support struggling readers.
- 2. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a licensing test in every subject they are licensed to teach.
- 3. The state should require secondary general science and general social studies teachers to pass a subject-matter test of each discipline they are licensed to teach.
- 4. The state should require that secondary teachers pass a content test when adding subject-area endorsements to an existing license.



## Secondary Teacher Prep Analysis: Hawaii

## PREPARING SECONDARY TEACHERS FOR COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS

To be prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for their students, secondary teachers must be experts in the subject matter they teach. States should ensure that secondary teachers have sufficient content knowledge in all the subjects they are licensed to teach.

Currently, Hawaii offers single-subject secondary licenses to teach grades 6-12. Key licensing requirements for secondary school teachers in Hawaii include:



## HAWAII SECONDARY TEACHER PREP SNAPSHOT



State requires a content test to teach any single core subject.



State offers only single-subject science certifications or has appropriate requirements for teachers with general science license.



State offers only single-subject social studies certifications or has appropriate requirements for teachers with general social studies license.



State requires a content test in order to add an endorsement to a license.



Yes



Not only must secondary teachers possess strong backgrounds in content knowledge as required by college- and career-readiness standards, they must also be able to address the key instructional shifts associated with the standards. Regrettably, Hawaii's preparation and licensure requirements for secondary teachers do not ensure that teachers will be prepared to teach to these new standards.

Although the Praxis II test adopted by Hawaii for secondary English language arts teachers includes some of the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these standards, content assessments are not required for certification.

Neither teacher standards nor secondary tests in other content areas address incorporating literacy skills.

Hawaii has no requirements for the preparation of secondary teachers that address struggling readers.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

 EEnsure 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 Hawaii's secondary English language arts content tests address informational texts, the state should ensure that all secondary English language arts teachers have the ability to adequately incorporate complex informational text into classroom instruction—prior to entering the classroom.

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, Hawaii should also—either through testing frameworks or standards—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.

Hawaii should articulate requirements ensuring that secondary teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling. While college- and career-readiness standards will increase the need for all secondary teachers to be able to help struggling readers to comprehend grade-level material, training for English language arts teachers in particular must emphasize identification and remediation of reading deficiencies.

 Require subject-matter testing for secondary teacher candidates.

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

#### **Supporting Research**

**Praxis Tests** 

www.ets.org/praxis

New Business Items 12-22, 12-29

Licensing Requirements

http://www.htsb.org/licensing-permits/licensure-tests/

Add a Field

http://www.htsb.org/licensing-permits/add-field/

#### HAWAII RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Hawaii asserted that its Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) has adopted CAEP standards for all preparation programs. The first standard reads: "The provider ensures that candidates develop a deep understanding of the critical concepts and principles of their discipline and, by completion, are able to use discipline-specific practices flexibly to advance the learning of all students toward attainment of college- and career-readiness standards." Within this standard, providers must "ensure that completers demonstrate skills and commitment that afford all P-12 students access to rigorous college- and career-ready standards."

Hawaii also noted that preparation programs must provide evidence that their teacher candidates incorporate the teaching of reading, including working with students who have reading difficulties, into their practice. The HTSB requires programs to show evidence of this in their annual reports.

In addition, the state pointed out that the HTSB has adopted InTASC standards for Hawaii's teacher performance standards, which stress that teachers develop and implement supports for learner literacy across content areas.

**Supporting Research** 

NBI 13-24, 11-06

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

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

By allowing general social studies and general science certifications—and only requiring general knowledge exams for each—Hawaii is not ensuring that these secondary teachers possess adequate subject-specific content knowledge. The state's required general social studies assessment combines all subject areas (e.g., history, geography, economics), and its required general science assessment combines subject areas that include biology, chemistry and physics. Neither assessment reports separate scores for each area. Therefore, candidates could answer many—perhaps all—chemistry questions, for example, incorrectly, yet still be licensed to teach chemistry to high school students. Further, Hawaii should require content tests as a condition of initial licensure.

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

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

Figure 13 <i>Are states ensuring that</i>	ed ed Son	14	SUPPORTING STRICTS READERS
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## SUMMARY OF SECONDARY TEACHER PREP FIGURES

■ Figure 13

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

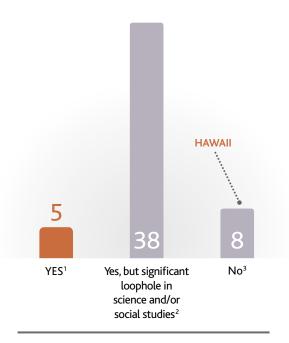
- **Figure 14**Content test requirements
- **Figure 15**Requirements for general science teachers
- Figure 16

  Requirements for general social studies teachers
- Figure 17

  Teacher Prep Review findings about secondary teacher prep

Figure 14

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



- 1. Strong Practice: Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, Tennessee
- 2. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Newada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina<sup>4</sup>, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin [For more on loopholes, see Figure 15 (science) and Figure 16 (social studies).]
- 3. Alaska<sup>5</sup>, Arizona<sup>6</sup>, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Montana, Washington, Wyoming
- 4. Teachers may have until second year to pass tests, if they attempt to pass them during their first year.
- 5. Alaska does not require content tests for initial licensure.
- 6. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.



## **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

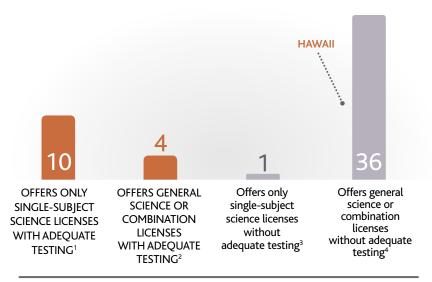
Arkansas has done more than other states to ensure that secondary teachers are prepared to meet the instructional requirements of college- and career-readiness standards for students. Not only does the state address the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these new standards in its educator competencies for secondary English language arts teachers, it also requires teachers to incorporate literacy skills into all content areas. For example, the secondary social studies competency to "incorporate disciplinary literacy" states that "reading competencies for literacy in history/social studies for grades 7-12 include the ability to read informational texts in history and social studies closely and critically to analyze the key ideas and details as well as craft and structure with the purpose of integrating knowledge and ideas both within and across texts." A similar competency exists for both the life science and physical science secondary certifications.

Indiana, Minnesota and Tennessee require that all secondary teacher candidates pass a content test to teach any core subject—both as a condition of licensure and to add an additional field to a secondary license. Further, neither of these states offers secondary certification in general social studies or science; all teachers must be certified in a specific discipline.

Also worthy of mention is **Missouri**, which requires general social studies teachers to pass a multi-content test with six independently scored subtests. Missouri also offers a general science license that can only be used to teach general science courses. All other science teachers must be certified in a specific discipline.

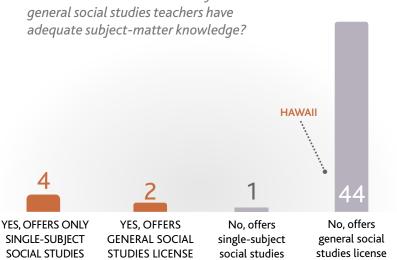
Figure 15

Do states ensure that secondary general science teachers have adequate subject-matter knowledge?



- 1. Strong Practice: Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia
- 2. Strong Practice: Missouri, New Jersey, Rhode Island<sup>5</sup>, West Virginia<sup>5</sup>
- 3. California
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona<sup>6</sup>, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia<sup>7</sup>, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 5. Teachers with the general science license may only teach general science courses.
- Arizona limits teachers with the general science license to teaching only general science courses.However, candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.
- 7. Georgia's science test consists of two subtests.

Figure 16 Do states ensure that secondary



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- 1. Strong Practice: Georgia, Indiana, South Dakota, Tennessee
- 2. Strong Practice: Minnesota<sup>5</sup>, Missouri

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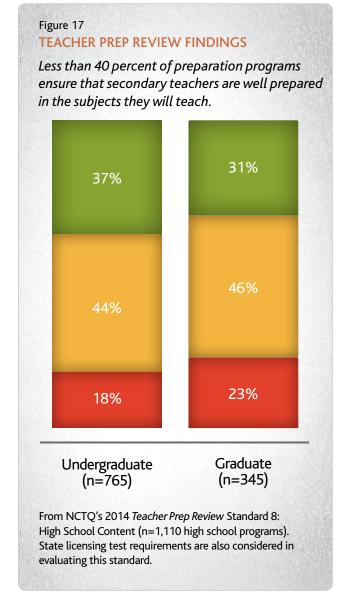
ADEQUATE TESTING1

- 3. Arizona<sup>6</sup>
- 4. Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma<sup>7</sup>, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

WITH ADEQUATE

TESTING<sup>2</sup>

- 5. Minnesota's test for general social studies is divided into two individually scored subtests.
- 6. Candidates with a master's degree in the subject area do not have to pass a content test.
- 7. Oklahoma offers combination licenses without adequate testing.



## Special Education Teacher Preparation

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should ensure that all special education teachers are sufficiently prepared for the ways that college- and career-readiness English language arts standards affect instruction of all subject areas. Specifically,
  - A. The state should ensure that all new secondary special education teachers are prepared to support struggling readers.
  - B. The state should require that all new secondary special education teachers are prepared to incorporate complex texts and academic language into instruction.
  - C. The state should ensure that all new secondary special education teachers are prepared to incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.
- 2. The state should require that new elementary special education teachers pass a rigorous test of reading instruction in order to attain licensure.
- 3. The state should not permit special education teachers to teach on a K-12 license that does not differentiate between the preparation of elementary teachers and that of secondary teachers.
- 4. All elementary special education candidates should be required to pass a subject-matter test for licensure that is no less rigorous than what is required of general education candidates.
- The state should ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.



## Special Education Teacher Prep Analysis: Hawaii

## PREPARING SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS FOR **COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READINESS STANDARDS**

Although most special education students are expected to meet the same high college- and career-readiness standards as typical students, too many states set an even lower bar for the preparation and licensure requirements of special education teachers. States must ensure that special education teachers are well grounded in all of the subject matter they will be licensed to teach.

Currently, Hawaii offers a K-12 special education certification, in addition to grade-specific options for PK-3, K-6 and 7-12. Key licensing requirements for special education teachers in Hawaii include:



## HAWAII SPECIAL ED TEACHER PREP SNAPSHOT



State only offers discrete elementary and secondary special education licenses.



Elementary subject-matter test required for special education license.



Secondary test in at least one subject area required for secondary special education license.





Special education teachers must also be prepared for the key instructional shifts that differentiate college- and career-readiness standards from previous student standards. Regrettably, Hawaii's preparation and licensure requirements for special education teachers are not aligned with these new standards.

Hawaii does not require its special education teachers who teach the elementary grades to pass a rigorous test of reading instruction. The state also does not require content testing, and teacher standards do not address informational texts or literacy skills.

Hawaii has no requirements for the preparation of elementary or secondary special education teachers that address struggling readers.

#### Supporting Research

New Business Item 12-22

Licensing Requirements

http://www.htsb.org/licensing-permits/licensure-tests/

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

Require all special education teacher candidates who teach the elementary grades to pass a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.

Hawaii should require a rigorous reading assessment tool to ensure that its elementary special education teacher candidates are adequately prepared in the science of reading instruction before entering the classroom. The assessment should clearly test knowledge and skills related to the science of reading and address all five instructional components of scientifically based reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. If the test is combined with an assessment that also tests general pedagogy or elementary content, it should report a subscore for the science of reading specifically. Elementary special education teachers who do not possess the minimum knowledge in this area should not be eligible for licensure.

Incorporate informational text of increasing complexity into classroom instruction.

Either through testing frameworks or teacher standards, Hawaii 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.

Incorporate literacy skills as an integral part of every subject.

To ensure that special education students are capable of accessing varied information about the world around them, Hawaii 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.

#### HAWAII RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

Hawaii asserted that its Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) has adopted CAEP standards for all preparation programs. The first standard reads: "The provider ensures that candidates develop a deep understanding of the critical concepts and principles of their discipline and, by completion, are able to use discipline-specific practices flexibly to advance the learning of all students toward attainment of college-and career-readiness standards." Within this standard, providers must "ensure that completers demonstrate skills and commitment that afford all P-12 students access to rigorous college- and career-ready standards."

Hawaii also noted that preparation programs must provide evidence that their teacher candidates incorporate the teaching of reading, including working with students of reading difficulties, into their practice. The HTSB requires programs to show evidence of this in their annual reports.

In addition, Hawaii pointed out that during the 2014-2015 school year, the HTSB will consider dual certification policy for special education teachers to ensure content mastery.

**Supporting Research** 

NBI 13-24

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

## Support struggling readers.

Hawaii 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.

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

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

To ensure that special education teacher candidates who will teach elementary grades possess sufficient knowledge of the subject matter at hand, Hawaii should require a rigorous content test that reports separate passing scores for each content area. Hawaii should also set these passing scores to reflect high levels of performance. Failure to ensure that teachers possess requisite content knowledge deprives special education students of the opportunity to reach their academic potential.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED**

 Ensure that secondary special education teachers possess adequate content knowledge.

Secondary special education teachers are frequently generalists who teach many core subject areas. While it may be unreasonable to expect secondary special education teachers to meet the same requirements for each subject they teach as other teachers who teach only one subject, Hawaii's current policy of requiring no subject-matter testing is problematic and will not help special education students to meet rigorous learning standards. To provide a middle ground, Hawaii should consider a customized HOUSSE route for new secondary special education teachers and look to the flexibility offered by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which allows for a combination of testing and coursework to demonstrate requisite content knowledge in the classroom.

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## **SUMMARY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PREP FIGURES**

### Figure 18

Requirements for instructional shifts associated with college- and career-readiness standards

## Figure 19

Distinctions in licenses between elementary and secondary teachers

## Figure 20

Content test requirements

## Figure 21

Science of reading requirements

### Figure 22

Teacher Prep Review findings about special education teacher prep



## **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

Although all states have weaknesses when it comes to special education teachers' preparedness to meet the instructional requirements of college- and careerreadiness standards for students, both Indiana and New York are notable for addressing the instructional shifts toward building content knowledge and vocabulary through increasingly complex informational texts and careful reading of informational and literary texts associated with these standards.

Unfortunately, states are also weak in other areas of special education teacher preparation. However, three states—Missouri, 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 required to teach. These three 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. Secondary special education teachers in Missouri can either take a multi-subject test comprised of four separately scored sections or a single-subject secondary assessment.

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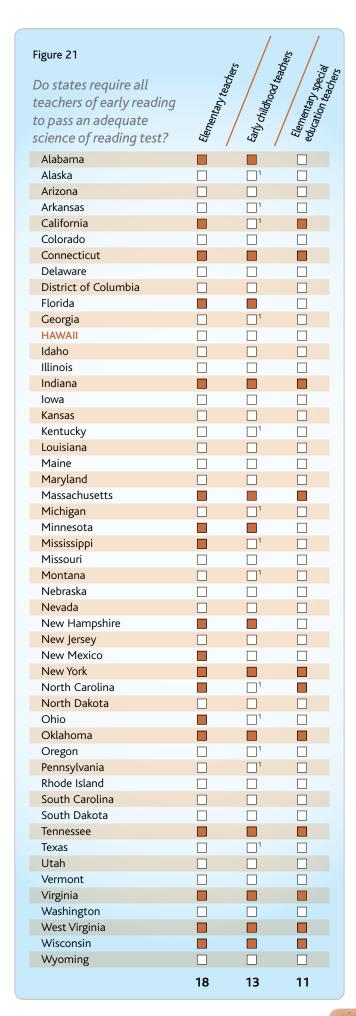
Figure 20
Which states require subject-matter testing for special education teachers?

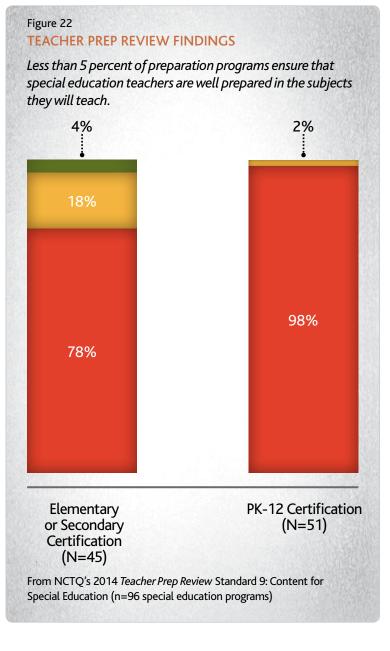
jor special education tea	circis.				
Elementary Subject-Matter Test					
Required for an elementary special education license	Alabama, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri <sup>1</sup> , New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania <sup>2</sup> , Rhode Island, West Virginia <sup>3</sup> , Wisconsin				
Required for a K-12 special education license	Colorado, Idaho, North Carolina				
Secondary Subject-Matter Test(s)					
Tests in all core subjects required for secondary special education license	Missouri¹, New York⁴, Wisconsin⁵				
Test in at least one subject required for secondary special education license	Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania², Rhode Island, West Virginia³				
Required for a K-12 special education license	None				
	it candidates must pass either the elementary dle/secondary multi-content assessment.				
	s for dual certification in elementary or secondary ecialist does not have to take a content test.				
certification in early childhood, which	special education candidates to earn dual would not require a content test. Secondary a dual certification as a reading specialist are				
<ol> <li>New York requires a multi-subject cor education candidates. It is divided into</li> </ol>	ntent test specifically geared to secondary special o three subtests.				

Figure 19

Missouri, New Jersey, Oregon and Vermont issue a K-12 certificate, but candidates must meet discrete elementary and/or secondary requirements.

5. Wisconsin requires a middle school level content area test which does not report subscores for each area.





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.

## **Admission into Teacher Preparation**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- 1. The state should limit admission to teacher preparation programs to candidates in the top half of the college-going population.
- 2. The state should require teacher candidates to pass a test of academic proficiency that assesses reading, writing and mathematics skills as a criterion for admission to teacher preparation programs. Alternatively, academic proficiency could be demonstrated by grade point average.



## Admission into Teacher Prep Analysis: Hawaii

## RAISING THE BAR FOR TEACHER PREP THROUGH HIGHER ADMISSION STANDARDS

NCTQ has repeatedly found that too many teacher preparation programs are in need of major improvement, graduating first-year teachers lacking skills and content knowledge adequate to thrive in the classroom. One important way states can raise the bar for teacher preparation programs is to set more ambitious admission requirements for new elementary, secondary and special education teachers. This is even more relevant and important as the increasing expectations of college- and career-readiness standards demand more from teachers academically. A key criterion for admissions is evidence of a strong academic background, and states should require programs to select candidates from the top half of the college-going population. Countries like Singapore and Finland are even more restrictive in admissions; the top half goal is realistic and achievable while representing a significantly higher standard for programs throughout the United States. Until recently, few states had rigorous academic standards for admission, but with states like Rhode Island and Delaware significantly raising the bar by taking the lead in establishing higher standards and new accreditation requirements from CAEP, this is beginning to change.





into teacher prep.



State requires a test normed to college-bound population prior to admission to prep program.



Yes



No

Hawaii requires that approved undergraduate teacher preparation programs only accept teacher candidates who have passed a basic skills test. Although the state sets the minimum score for this test, it is only normed to the prospective teacher population. Hawaii allows teacher preparation programs to exempt candidates who demonstrate equivalent performance on the SAT, at a level set by the state.

However, to earn CAEP accreditation, as mandated by Hawaii, all programs need to ensure that the average grade point average of its accepted cohort of candidates meets or exceeds 3.0, and the group average performance on nationally normed ability/achievement assessments such as ACT, SAT or GRE is:

- In the top 50 percent from 2016-2017
- In the top 40 percent of the distribution from 2018-2019
- In the top 33 percent of the distribution by 2020.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

 Establish rigorous admission criteria independent of accreditation process.

While the CAEP standards set an admirably high bar for admission to teacher preparation programs, Hawaii should enact its own policy articulating rigorous criteria for admission. Whether CAEP will uniformly uphold its standards and deny accreditation to programs that fall short in key areas such as admissions is still unknown. Clear state policy would eliminate this uncertainty and send an unequivocal message to programs about the state's expectations.

 Consider requiring candidates to pass subject-matter tests as a condition of admission into teacher programs.

In addition to ensuring that programs require a measure of academic performance for admission, Hawaii might also want to consider requiring content testing prior to program admission as opposed to at the point of program completion. Program candidates are likely to have completed coursework that covers related test content in the prerequisite classes required for program admission. Thus, it would be sensible to have candidates take content tests while this knowledge is fresh rather than wait two years to fulfill the requirement, and candidates lacking sufficient expertise would be able to remedy deficits prior to entering formal preparation.

## **Supporting Research**

NBI 09-30 Rev

http://www.htsb.org/licensing-permits/licensure-tests/

## HAWAII RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

While not asked to respond to the full analysis for this section, Hawaii reiterated that it has adopted the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) Standards for Hawaii Educator Preparation Providers, and that it requires that approved undergraduate teacher preparation programs only accept teacher candidates who have passed a basic skills test.

**Supporting Research** 

NBI 13-24

anddates only during or after TETNORMED TO COLLEGE Completion of prep program Figure 23 Test normed to teacher Test normed to teacher candidates only before admission to prep program ADMISSON TO PREPROC Do states measure the academic proficiency of teacher candidates? Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia HAWAII 1 Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa П Kansas Kentucky Louisiana 1 Maine П Maryland П Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi П П Missouri П П Montana П Nebraska Nevada П П П П New Hampshire П П New Jersey П New Mexico New York **1** П North Carolina 1 North Dakota Ohio П <u></u>2 П П Oklahoma Oregon П П Pennsylvania Rhode Island П South Carolina **1** П П П South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont П Virginia П Washington П West Virginia П П Wisconsin Wyoming П 7 13 18 13

## SUMMARY OF ADMISSION INTO TEACHER PREP FIGURES

- **Figure 23**Test of academic proficiency requirements
- **Figure 24**GPA requirements
- Figure 25

  Teacher Prep Review findings about admissions



## **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

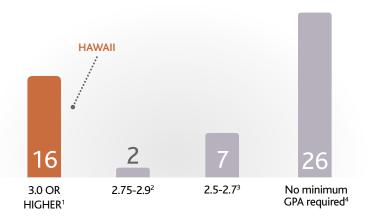
While many states now require CAEP accreditation which includes a standard requiring strong admission practices, **Rhode Island** and **Delaware** have set requirements independent of the accreditation process, ensuring that the states' expectations are clear. Both states require a test of academic proficiency normed to the general college-bound population rather than a test that is normed just to prospective teachers. Delaware also requires teacher candidates to have a 3.0 GPA or be in the top 50th percentile for general education coursework completed. Rhode Island also requires 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.

Requirements for admissions test normed to college-bound population is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admission policy.

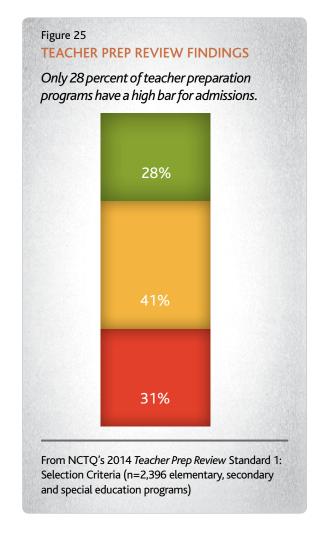
<sup>2.</sup> Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission with a 3.0 GPA.

Figure 24

Do states require a minimum GPA for admission to teacher prep?



- Strong Practice: Delaware, District of Columbia<sup>5</sup>, Georgia<sup>6</sup>, Hawaii<sup>5</sup>, Louisiana<sup>5</sup>, Michigan<sup>5</sup>, Mississippi<sup>6</sup>, New Jersey<sup>6</sup>, New York<sup>5</sup>, North Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Oklahoma<sup>7</sup>, Pennsylvania<sup>8</sup>, Rhode Island, South Carolina<sup>5</sup>, Utah, Virginia<sup>5</sup>
- 2. Kentucky, Texas
- 3. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut<sup>9</sup>, Florida, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wisconsin<sup>10</sup>
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming
- 5. Required minimum GPA of 3.0 is based on CAEP accreditation standards, not state's own admission policy.
- 6. The 3.0 GPA requirement is a cohort average; individual candidates in Mississippi and New Jersey must have a 2.75 GPA. Individual candidates in Georgia must have a 2.5 GPA.
- 7. Candidates in Oklahoma also have the option of gaining admission by passing a basic skills test.
- 8. Students can also be admitted with a combination of a 2.8 GPA and qualifying scores on the basic skills test or SAT/ACT.
- 9. Connecticut requires a B- grade point average for all undergraduate courses.
- 10. The GPA admission requirement is 2.5 for undergraduate and 2.75 for graduate programs.



## **Teacher Preparation Program Accountability**

### **Key Components**

(The factors considered in determining the states' ratings for this topic.)

- The state should incorporate preparation to teach to college- and career-readiness standards into its accountability requirements for teacher preparation programs.
- 2. The state should collect data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs. Such data can include value-added or growth analyses conducted specifically for this purpose or evaluation ratings that incorporate objective measures of student learning to a significant extent.
- 3. The state should establish the minimum standard of performance for each category of data. Programs should be held accountable for meeting these standards, with articulated consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.
- 4. The state should produce and publish on its website an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs.
- The state should retain full authority over its process for approving teacher preparation programs.



How well are states ensuring that teacher preparation programs are accountable for their performance?

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

## Teacher Prep Program Accountability Analysis: Hawaii

## HOLDING PREPARATION PROGRAMS ACCOUNTABLE FOR RESULTS

The ultimate goal of teacher preparation programs should be to produce teachers who are effective in educating their students and ensure that they are ready for college and career. As programs operate by virtue of state approval, it is the state's responsibility to connect approval to accountability measures that ensure high performance. While this goal may have been hard to assess a few years ago, that is no longer the case. Redesigned evaluations of teacher effectiveness in the majority of states offer an opportunity for states to collect meaningful objective data on the performance of program graduates. To date, few states connect their process of approving teacher preparation programs to measurable outcome data about programs' graduates.



## **HAWAII**

## TEACHER PREP ACCOUNTABILITY SNAPSHOT



State collects data that connects student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs.



State collects other meaningful data that reflect program performance.



State has set minimum standards for program performance.



State publishes an annual report card on its own website



State retains full authority over its approval process.



Yes



No

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

Most importantly, Hawaii does not collect or report data that connect student achievement gains to teacher preparation programs. The state also fails to collect other objective, meaningful data to measure the performance of teacher preparation programs, and it does not apply any transparent, measurable criteria for conferring program approval.

Hawaii collects programs' annual summary licensure test pass rates but sets a low bar in its definition of "low performing," only requiring teacher preparation programs to show at least a 70 percent pass rate for a three-year average. Further, in the past three years, no programs in Hawaii have been identified as low perform-

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

As one way to measure whether programs are producing effective classroom teachers, Hawaii should consider the academic achievement gains of students taught by programs' graduates, averaged over the first three years of teaching. Data that are aggregated to the institution (e.g., combining elementary and secondary programs) rather than disaggregated to the specific preparation program are not useful for accountability purposes. Such aggregation can mask significant differences in performance among programs. Although the state has outlined its intentions to ensure that preparation programs are held accountable as part of Race to the Top, it is urged to codify these requirements and specify that they apply to alternate route programs as well as to traditional teacher preparation programs.

Report other meaningful data that reflect program performance.

Although measures of student growth are an important indicator of program effectiveness, they cannot be the sole measure of program quality for several reasons, including the fact that many programs may have graduates whose students do not take standardized tests. The accountability system must therefore include other objective measures that show how well programs are preparing teachers for the classroom, such as:

- Evaluation results from the first and/or second year of teaching
- Satisfaction ratings by school principals and teacher supervisors of programs' stu dent teachers, using a standardized form to permit program comparison
- Average raw scores of teacher candi dates on licensing tests, including aca demic proficiency, subject-matter and professional-knowledge tests
- 4. Number of times, on average, it takes teacher candidates to pass licensing tests
- 5. Five-year retention rates of graduates in the teaching profession.

ing—an additional indicator that programs lack accountability.

According to the state's Race to the Top Report, dated February 1, 2013, it has "modified an existing contract for monitoring, evaluating and providing feedback to educator preparation programs to include an evaluation of teachers who complete the programs and their corresponding student achievement data." Plans to publish such reports were originally slated for end of year one, but effectiveness data were not available. The state has "incrementally expanded the feedback reports as data become available."

In Hawaii, national accreditation is required for program approval.

### **Supporting Research**

Standards

www.htsb.org/html/details/teacherstandards/sateperformancestandards.

Title II State Reports

https://title2.ed.gov

Race to the Top

http://hawaiidoereform.org/Reports

www.ncate.org

#### HAWAII RESPONSE TO ANALYSIS

While not asked to respond to the full analysis for this section, Hawaii did not indicate any policy updates related to teacher prep program accountability.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

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

Merely collecting the types of data described above is insufficient for accountability purposes. The next and perhaps more critical step is for the state to establish precise minimum standards for teacher preparation program performance for each category of data. Programs should then be held accountable for meeting these standards, and there should be consequences for failing to do so, including loss of program approval.

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

Hawaii should produce an annual report card that shows all the data the state collects on individual teacher preparation programs, which should be published on the state's website at the program level for the sake of public transparency. Data should be presented in a manner that clearly conveys whether programs have met performance standards.

 Maintain full authority over the process for approving teacher preparation programs.

Hawaii should not cede its authority and must ensure that it is the state that considers the evidence of program performance and makes the decision about whether programs should continue to be authorized to prepare teachers.

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## SUMMARY OF TEACHER PREP PROGRAM **ACCOUNTABILITY FIGURES**

Figure 26

Accountability requirements

Figure 27

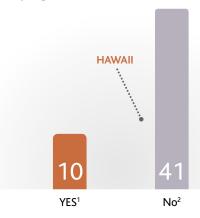
Use of student achievement data



## **EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE**

No state has yet implemented a full accountability system for teacher preparation that features data, including student achievement gains, connected to teacher preparation programs (not just the institution level); has clear minimum standards of performance for those data; and publishes the results for use by prospective teachers, hiring school districts and the general public. Some states are well on their way. Georgia and Louisiana collect student achievement gains and set minimum standards of performance, while Ohio and Tennessee have published report cards that include connections to student achievement gains.

Figure 27 Do states connect student achievement data to teacher preparation programs?



- 1. Strong Practice: Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas
- 2. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia<sup>3</sup>, Hawaii<sup>3</sup>, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland³, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York<sup>3</sup>, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- 3. Included in state's Race to the Top plan, but not in policy or yet implemented.

- 1. For traditional preparation programs only.
- 2. State does not distinguish between alternate route programs and traditional preparation programs in public reporting.
- 3. For alternate routes only.

## Teacher Preparation Policy Priorities for Hawaii

## Prepare all teachers to meet the instructional shifts of college- and career-readiness standards for students.

- Strengthen preparation requirements to ensure teacher candidates have the ability to address the use of
  informational texts as well as incorporate complex informational texts into classroom instruction.
   Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.
- Through testing frameworks or teacher standards, include literacy skills and using text to build content knowledge in history/social studies, science, technical subjects and the arts.

  \*Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.\*
- Ensure teachers are prepared to intervene and support students who are struggling with reading. *Priority for elementary, middle, secondary and special education teacher preparation.*

## Additional priorities for elementary teacher preparation:

- Require all elementary teacher candidates—including candidates for an early childhood license—to pass
  a rigorous content test that assesses knowledge of all core subjects, including mathematics, and requires
  a meaningful passing score for each area.
- Require a rigorous assessment in the science of reading instruction.
- Require a content specialization in an academic subject area.

## Additional priorities for middle school teacher preparation:

• Require teacher candidates to pass a content test in every core area they are licensed to teach.

## Additional priorities for secondary teacher preparation:

- Require secondary candidates to pass a content test in each subject they are licensed to teach.
- Require secondary science and social studies teachers to pass a content test for each discipline they are licensed to teach.

## Additional priorities for special education teacher preparation:

- Eliminate the K-12 special education certificate, and require licenses that differentiate between 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.

### Hold preparation programs accountable:

- Collect performance data to monitor programs, including student achievement gains.
- Set minimum standards for program performance with consequences for failure to meet those standards.
- Publicly report performance data.

