

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12th, 2018 at 12:01 AM

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MICHIGAN TEACHER PREP PROGRAMS RATED IN NCTQ'S 2018 TEACHER PREP REVIEW

RATINGS HIGHLIGHT DISCONNECT between PREPARATION TEACHERS GET and REAL DEMANDS OF TEACHING; LACK of PREP MAY CONTRIBUTE TO FLAT NAEP RESULTS

Washington DC – Today, the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) releases its [latest ratings for traditional graduate and alternative route programs](#) preparing either elementary or secondary teachers, including five traditional graduate programs and one alternative route program based in Michigan.

Teacher Prep Review results for Michigan

Ranked secondary programs (national percentile out of 406 programs):

- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Interim Certification Program (91st)
- Oakland University (90th)
- Aquinas College (82nd)
- University of Detroit Mercy (75th)
- University of Michigan - Dearborn (56th)
- University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (48th)

Programs earn top marks for having strong admission criteria and providing candidates with both the content knowledge and instructional techniques needed to enter the classroom ready to teach. The best programs do more to instill classroom management skills and systematically provide high-quality practice opportunities.

The full list of Michigan's graduate and alternative route programs can be found [here](#).

Key Findings for Michigan

- Four of the six programs reviewed ensure all science and social studies teachers possess adequate content knowledge. Nationally, just 36 percent of programs address the need for science and social studies teachers to know multiple subjects through adequate admissions screening or by requiring candidates to complete additional subject area coursework.
- Every program reviewed in Michigan requires aspiring high school teachers to take a course in the best

ways to teach their specific subject, which exceeds the national rate of 70 percent.

- With all the emphasis on providing teacher candidates with more and better practice, none of the Michigan programs reviewed pay sufficient attention to basic indicators of quality such as the teaching skills of the classroom mentor and providing regular observations and feedback to each candidate (the national average is 6 percent). The need to build classroom management skills is also overlooked: Of the five programs that could be evaluated, only the **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor's Interim Certification Program** (the national rate is 15 percent) adequately verifies the competency of candidates.

A full analysis of the findings can be found [here](#).

Recommendations: Based on these findings, programs need to take several essential steps to provide stronger training to aspiring teachers.

1. Prescreen applicants to make sure they already know the core content they will teach—or be prepared to prescribe the necessary remediation.
2. Better use of student teaching and internships as an opportunity to give constructive, targeted feedback on specific classroom management strategies that are found to be universally effective.
3. Raise the quality of practice teaching experiences by requiring staff to more frequently observe and give feedback to candidates, and confirming that mentor teachers have the necessary skills.

“By better aligning teacher preparation with the real demands of teaching, Michigan’s teacher prep programs could play a major role in boosting the quality of new teachers in the state and improving learning in schools. What a privilege and opportunity this represents,” commented Kate Walsh, president of the National Council on Teacher Quality. “As the new NAEP results suggest, the status quo in training teachers is simply insufficient for our students’ needs.”

To schedule an interview with Rob Rickenbrode, Senior Managing Director of Teacher Prep Strategies, please contact Eric Duncan at eduncan@nctq.org or (202) 393-0020 ext. 130.

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About the National Council on Teacher Quality:

The National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) is a nonpartisan research and policy group committed to modernizing the teaching profession and based on the belief that all children deserve effective teachers. NCTQ is the nation’s expert on the quality of teacher preparation programs and evaluates national teacher education against evidence-based criteria. More information about NCTQ can be found on our website, www.nctq.org