State Strategies for Shaping Effective Teacher Preparation Programs

SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

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National Council on Teacher Quality
About NCTQ

• Non-partisan, non-profit research and policy group
• Committed to increasing the accountability and transparency of the institutions having the greatest impact on teacher quality:
  • States
  • Teacher preparation programs
  • Teacher unions
  • School districts
Effect of teacher quality on student achievement

Analysis of test data from Tennessee showed that teacher quality affected student performance more than any other variable; on average two students with average performance (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) would diverge by more than 50 percentile points over a three year period depending on the teacher they were assigned.

SOURCE: Sanders & Rivers (1996): Cumulative and Residual Effects on Future Student Academic Achievement, McKinsey
Related NCTQ work
How can state policy drive efforts deliver well-prepared teachers?

Establish **high standards for admission** into teacher preparation programs

Ensure that teacher candidates have **rigorous knowledge** of the subjects they will teach

Explicitly require teacher preparation programs to address the **instructional shifts required** by college- and career-readiness standards

Holding teacher preparation institutions **accountable for the quality of teachers** they produce
Admissions

Additionally, only three states require teacher candidates to pass a test normed to the college-bound population prior to admission to prep program.

Delaware, Rhode Island, Texas
Content Knowledge

**Progress:** 5 years ago not a single state required teachers to demonstrate adequate knowledge in all core subjects as a condition of licensing.

Do states ensure that elementary teachers know core content?

- Elementary content test with separate passing score for each subject: 22
- Elementary content test with separate passing score for some subjects: 9
- Elementary content test with composite score: 15
- No test required: 5

States: AL, AR, CT, DE, DC, FL, ID, IN, KY, LA, ME, MO, NH, NJ, RI, SC, TX, UT, VT, VA, WV, WY
Instructional Shifts

Over 1 million teachers have graduated since states adopted college- and career-readiness standards. Yet the vast majority of states do not ensure new teachers are ready to teach these standards. Who is doing this work well?

- **Elementary Prep**
  - Arkansas
  - California

- **Middle School Prep**
  - Arkansas
  - Illinois

- **Secondary Prep**
  - Arkansas
Accountability

- Connect preparation program approval to teacher production

17 states use student achievement for accountability

*Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas*
Want to learn more?

State Teacher Policy Yearbook
www.nctq.stpy
Next edition coming out in December 2015

Teacher Prep Review 2014
www.nctq.org/TeacherPrep

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