

TRANSFORMING EDUCATOR PREPARATION

Making sure that every child succeeds in college, career and life depends on having a highly effective teacher in every classroom. Georgia, a member of the Network for Transforming Educator Preparation, is taking important steps to make sure new teachers have the knowledge and skills they need.



RAISING THE BAR FOR TEACHERS

Aspiring teachers must meet more rigorous requirements to enter an educator preparation program at a college or university and to earn a state license to teach:



- Students who want to prepare to teach must have at least a **2.5 GPA**.



- To earn a license, aspiring teachers must demonstrate they have the necessary skills and knowledge in their subject area and in working directly with students in the classroom.

ASKING MORE OF PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Georgia is setting higher standards for the programs that prepare teachers in order to ensure every new teacher is ready to meet the needs of students on their first day in their classroom. Improvements include:

- All programs will be reviewed using nationally agreed upon standards.
- Programs are revising their curriculum so new teachers know how to evaluate whether their students are learning and make necessary adjustments throughout a school year.
- Programs are partnering with K-12 school districts to ensure teachers are prepared to meet local needs.
- Aspiring teachers are working in a classroom for a full school year to get hands-on training.

USING DATA TO MEASURE SUCCESS

By setting goals and examining data each year, Georgia is learning what works and making needed changes along the way:

- The state now reviews data annually to determine which programs are best meeting the needs of aspiring teachers.



- The state and preparation programs use new measures, such as feedback from recent graduates and teacher and leader performance in the field, as indicators of program quality.



“Collaboration is essential to making progress in education. In Georgia, our partnership with teachers, parents, institutions of higher education and others is how we have been able to raise the bar in educator preparation so our state can fulfill its promise to graduate students who are ready to learn, ready to live and ready to lead.”

– Richard Woods, State School Superintendent