
Report Card on the Effectiveness of Teacher Training Programs

The Background:

Tennessee Code Annotated 49-5-108 specifies that the State Board of Education “with the assistance of the department of education and the Tennessee higher education commission, shall develop a report card or assessment on the effectiveness of teacher training programs”.

The State Board is directed to “annually evaluate performance of each institution of higher education providing an approved program of teacher training and other state board approved teacher training programs”. The performance is meant to “focus on the performance of each institution's graduates and shall include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

- Placement and retention rates;
- Performance on PRAXIS examinations or other tests used to identify teacher preparedness; and
- Teacher effect data created pursuant to § 49-1-606”.

As part of the state’s Race to the Top reforms, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission has taken primary responsibility for producing and improving the report card. As specified in the RTTT application, a committee was formed to (1) examine the three variables currently included on the report card and determine what other measurements accurately reflect effectiveness, (2) study report card redesign options, if any, so the data are clear and easily understood, and (3) discuss ways in which to use the report card (i.e. program improvement, renewal or non-renewal).

Based on Committee feedback, the following changes and additions have been made to the report card:

- The technical language on each institution page is easier to understand.
- The executive summary is shorter and provides specific findings.
- The report will be available in a user-friendly portal that will enable comparisons across programs and years.
- Teacher preparation programs report student data directly to THEC for the report card and additional variables are collected (i.e. ACT, GPA).
- Each preparation program report includes a summary information page in order to provide greater detail, including school location, number of approved endorsement areas, student demographic information, and student academic history.

- Maps are included to show where graduates from each program are teaching in their first year.
- There is a glossary of terms to ensure consistent use and understanding of technical terms throughout the report.
- Growth measures for teachers in non-tested subjects and grades will be integrated into the report as they are developed for the new teacher evaluation system.
- Institutions will receive individual feedback reports in addition to the public report card to help identify specific strengths and weaknesses and areas that can be improved.

Master Plan Connection:

This item supports the *Master Plan* by evaluating effective teachers to support Tennessee students.

The Recommendation:

For informational purposes only, no action required.

**Report will be handed out at meeting and
can be found at the following web link**

<http://www.tn.gov/sbe/teacherreportcard.htm>