



## 2014 Educator Preparation Provider Annual Reports

### **Background**

In recent years, data-driven decision-making and a focus on continuous improvement have risen to the forefront in education. A wide range of stakeholders – including the US Department of Education (USED), the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) – all encourage the use of data to inform efforts to enhance student achievement. As a part of this movement, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) maintains a statewide longitudinal data system (NJ SMART), which tracks student achievement over time and includes a link between students and their teachers. For the first time, the NJDOE has formed a database to link information from NJSMART with our Teacher Certification Information System (TCIS) and the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education’s Student Unit Record (SURE) system to connect teachers and their placement, performance, and persistence back to their teaching college or university.

### **Purpose**

As the first publicly released version, the 2014 Annual Reports are not designed for accountability purposes. Rather, they summarize and share available data in order to:

- Empower institutes of higher education with information to promote continuous improvement;
- Supply hiring entities with data about providers and their graduates;
- Equip prospective teachers with empirical information about their choices for preparation;
- Shed light on programs which are preparing strong educators; and
- Promote ongoing efforts to professionalize teaching and teacher preparation.

As additional forms of data become available, the content and purpose of the Annual Reports will evolve accordingly.

### **Content**

The 2014 Annual Reports include data on candidates who were prepared at a particular New Jersey institution, obtained a Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) or Certificate of Eligibility (CE) between September 1, 2010 and August 31, 2012, and were working in a New Jersey Public School on October 15, 2013. Data is culled from a variety of sources, including: NJ SMART, SURE, TCIS, and USED’s Title II reports. Specific data elements include:

- Certification and Licensure: Number of completers receiving NJ certification/licensure, plus subject areas of endorsement
- Hiring: Number of NJ-certified completers employed by NJ school districts
- School Placement and Classroom Assignment: Districts/subject areas of hired NJ-certified completers
- Post-Secondary Education: Highest level of education, undergraduate GPA, major, and transfer history

### **Timeline and Collaboration**

Since early 2013, the NJDOE has worked with leaders and representatives of teaching programs in developing the Annual Reports and preparing the first version for public release. In particular, the New Jersey Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (NJACTE) has collaborated closely with the Department as depicted in the following chart:

Date	Activity
Fall 2012	NJDOE begins outlining Annual Report system
January 2012-March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NJDOE collaborates with Educator Preparation Working Group, NJACTE, and teaching program Deans and Directors to inform Annual Report development</li> <li>• Early version of reports shared with program providers in August 2013; feedback incorporated to improve 2014 version for public release</li> </ul>
May 2014	2014 Annual Reports released to public
Ongoing	NJDOE receives feedback on the report from institutions, NJACTE, and the public; continues outreach with stakeholders on development of future reports
Spring 2015	2015 Educator Preparation Provider Annual Reports released to public

### **Future Versions of the Annual Report**

The 2014 version of the Annual Reports reflect currently available data and represent the earliest iteration in a series of continually evolving documents. As the NJDOE continues to develop and refine the Reports – and as new sources of data become available –future releases are likely to include:

- AchieveNJ evaluation data<sup>1</sup>
- Clearly reported retention and departure data
- Information on private and private special education schools
- Graduate school data
- Data on progression to standard certification
- Data on NJ-trained educators employed out of state
- Different types of reports for specific audiences, such as deans, prospective teacher candidates, and hiring entities
- A corresponding website allowing individuals to manipulate and view the data in specific ways to compare programs
- Use of the data to inform state policies, program approval, and accountability structures

### **Contact Information**

For more information about the Annual Reports and about educator preparation in New Jersey, please visit our website at: <https://www.state.nj.us/education/> or contact [rpr@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:rpr@doe.state.nj.us).

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<sup>1</sup> Note: individual evaluation information attributed to a particular educator is confidential and protected by law and will not be released to the public.