

## Christie Administration Announces Release of Annual Reports on Teacher Preparation

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**Trenton, NJ** â€" The Christie Administration today announced the release of the New Jersey Department of Education's 2015 Educator Preparation Provider Annual Reports. The reports link information about newly certified teachers back to their teacher preparation programs. The 2015 reports include data on teacher demographics, educational background, testing results, certification and hiring, placement, and classroom assignment.

The reports have been developed since 2013 in collaboration with New Jersey's colleges and universities and the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education. The first public version was posted last year.

"As we continue our efforts to better prepare new teachers and improve our requirements for certification, the annual reports offer a vital source of information for preparation providers, the state, and the public," said Education Commissioner David C. Hespe. "I'm grateful for the collaboration of the New Jersey Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (NJACTE) and the program deans and directors. We will continue to work with our partners in higher education to support them as they prepare the next generation of teachers and to refine these reports even further."

Hespe added, "We know that great teachers are crucial for student success â€" and that our investments in supporting the teaching profession pay dividends for the future of New Jersey's school children."

The 2015 Educator Preparation Provider Annual Reports include data on candidates who were prepared by a New Jersey program, obtained a New Jersey teacher certification endorsement between September 1, 2011 and August 31, 2013, and were working in a New Jersey public school during the 2014-2015 school year. The reports are designed to:

- Provide institutions of higher education with information that can improve their teacher preparation programs;
- Supply schools and other prospective employers with data about providers and their graduates;
- Empower prospective teachers with information that can guide their choices;
- Identify programs that are successfully preparing strong educators; and
- Help improve the stability and appeal of the teaching profession.

"Having access to data that inform us about job placement, diversity of schools in which our graduates work, persistence in the field, and demographics is essential for continuous improvement," said Sharon Sherman, president of NJACTE. "It is important to know the key endorsements that our teacher candidates must obtain in order to meet the specific needs of New Jersey's schools, which include filling positions with highly qualified candidates in shortage areas and meeting the needs of underserved populations. We look forward to our continued collaboration."

Peter Shulman, Assistant Education Commissioner and Chief Talent Officer, touched on the future vision for the reports. "The information released today represents the next phase of the Department's commitment to sharing data," he explained. "For future versions, we intend to explore additional elements such as candidates hired out of state or in private and parochial schools, survey results from candidates completing programs, and summary evaluation data to provide a richer picture for programs, candidates, and the public."

To view the reports, click <u>here</u>.