



Moving Forward Together

Modernizing Teacher Certification & Reimagining Performance Evaluation in Connecticut

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is committed to breaking down barriers for those entering the teaching profession, and for retention of all teachers. This document outlines the ongoing processes the CSDE is leading to modernize educator evaluation and certification in Connecticut.

Educator Evaluation and Support

The CSDE convened the Educator and Evaluation Support (EES) Council in April 2021. Over the past 20 months, the EES Council has been meeting to develop revised Connecticut Guidelines for Educator Evaluation focused on growth and development for educators.

The EES Council has:

- Engaged with stakeholders and identified priority focus areas for developing revised CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation
- Conducted a comparative evaluation of educator evaluation plans from three other states (IA, MA, OH)
- Established a consensus for design principles to include in developing a revised framework for educator evaluation

Educator Evaluation Design Principles

- Support educator growth and agency
- Allow for differentiation
- Simplify and reduce burden
- Focus on things that matter
- Implement continuous improvement cycles that include specific, timely and actionable feedback and opportunities for meaningful professional learning
- Focus on standards connected to best practices in the delivery of content and the development of the whole child

Looking Ahead

Flexibilities for Implementing the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation were approved by the State Board of Education on March 1, 2023, for the 2023-24 school year.

Revisions are coming to the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation. Districts will have the 2023-24 school year to plan for training and implementation in the 2024-25 school year.

Emergency Certifications will remain in place for the 2023-24 school year.

Educator Certification

The CSDE has partnered with The Region 2 Comprehensive Center (R2CC) to review legislation related to the certification process and identify obsolete provisions within Connecticut state regulations.

The CSDE/R2CC legislative review focused on three research questions:

1. What statutory changes have made sections of the 1998 educator certification regulations obsolete?
2. What statutory changes have altered teacher educator certificate criteria?
3. What statutory changes have created barriers for future educators in Connecticut?

Initial phase of the report was submitted to the General Assembly in January of 2023.

Looking Ahead

CSDE, along with input from stakeholders, has identified short-term regulatory proposals to improve certification while Connecticut moves toward long-term solutions.

CSDE will convene a group of stakeholders to review and identify a framework to evaluate the effectiveness of the certification regulations.

Similar to the EES Council, this group will be pivotal to the modernization of certification regulations.

Educator Evaluation System (EES) Council Members, led by CSDE

