

Minnesota Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

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2020-2021 MACTE Legislative Priorities

1. Maintain high quality standards for teacher preparation.
 - a. Support the PELSB proposal to improve the Tier 2 licensure requirements by removing completion of coursework and two years of teaching as pathways to Tier 3 licensure.
 - b. Support the PELSB proposal to expand non-BA exemptions to tier 1 licensure by including world languages for native speakers, dance, and theater.
 - c. Continue to refine data reporting requirements but ensure that no data are reported for programs with small numbers because of data privacy concerns.
 - d. Support PELSB's proposal to add two additional teacher positions to the Board and add one representative from teacher preparation to PELSB in order to enhance opportunities within the Board to bring the knowledge and perspectives of preparation providers to the Board's deliberations
 - e. Ensure that reading standards reflect current research-based findings about how best to help all readers achieve reading proficiency.
2. Increase the diversity of Minnesota's teaching force through strategies to recruit, prepare, and retain teachers of color.
 - a. Support the recommendations of the Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers to provide multiple pathways to licensure, including Grow Your Own programs and support of Collaborative Urban and Greater MN Educators of Color grant programs.
 - b. Support the creation of state goals to increase teachers of color and American Indian teachers, including an Outcomes Assessment Report.
 - c. Improve practices and the environment in which teachers work, including changing principal evaluations to include culturally responsive skills and practices; developing resources for creating positive school climates to reduce discrimination; develop curriculum policies to prohibit discrimination or discipline for educating about persons from protected classes; and fund teacher mentorship and retention grants.
3. Reduce barriers for candidates to become teachers
 - a. Provide the financial support needed to help candidates meet all program and licensure requirements with an emphasis on grants and loan forgiveness programs like an aspiring MN Teachers of Color Scholarship Program, Student Teacher Candidate Grants, and Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness program, in order to reduce the long term impact of student loans.
 - b. Support changes in licensure rules and testing that remove barriers for teachers of color and American Indian Teachers, including removing the requirement to obtain a passing score on a Basic Skills Test in order to obtain a Tier 4 license.

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4. Support opportunities to increase PreK-12 student learning/achievement
 - a. Extended summer programing, especially when our teacher education candidates can be involved and gain field experience
 - b. Support high quality research-based reading preparation/instruction