



Introduction

The Rhode Island Standards for Educator Preparation and the Performance Review of Educator Preparation in Rhode Island (PREP-RI) center on the belief that effective educators are crucial for ensuring that all Rhode Island students are college- and career-ready upon graduating from high school. Every educator who completes a Rhode Island educator preparation program should:



Demonstrate PK-12 student achievement

Program completers positively affect student learning and enable their students to meet Rhode Island standards.



Be ready to succeed in Rhode Island schools

Program completers possess the knowledge, skills, and techniques required to be effective educators from day one in Rhode Island public schools.



Serve as leaders and professionals

Program completers serve as contributing members of their school and district communities. They demonstrate responsibility and professionalism in their work with colleagues, supervisors, families, and students.

In order for candidates to be ready on day one in their role, it is critical that educator preparation programs deeply understand important Rhode Island and federal initiatives and ensure that candidates also develop a deep understanding and have opportunities to implement them.

Standard 1.7 of the Rhode Island Standards for Educator Preparation focuses on current Rhode Island initiatives and other Rhode Island education laws and policies, but programs should also consider where these initiatives are embedded within other aspects of the standards.

This document provides a list of current Rhode Island and federal initiatives as of September 2018. This list is extensive but not exhaustive. RIDE recognizes that initiatives, policies, and laws change frequently and is committed to updating this document annually. In addition, preparation programs may identify or be involved in other state initiatives not listed here. When that is the case, preparation programs should upload evidence in support of Standard 1.7 for the additional initiative, policy, or law.



Key Rhode Island Initiatives for All Programs

| Standards 1, 2, and 3: | |
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| Candidate Experience | |
| <u>Rhode Island Basic Educational Plan</u> | The Basic Education Program (BEP) is a set of regulations promulgated by the Board of Regents pursuant to its delegated statutory authority to determine standards for the Rhode Island public education system and the maintenance of local appropriation to support its implementation. |
| <u>High Quality Curriculum Materials</u> | RIDE is continuing to work with districts and schools to support their adoption of curriculum materials that are high quality. RIDE has completed a statewide definition of curriculum and is partnering with Ed-Reports to help districts and schools access and use information about the quality of curriculums as they move through the adoption process. RIDE is also helping districts plan for professional learning that supports the implementation of new curriculum. |
| <u>Comprehensive Literacy Guidance</u> | The Rhode Island Comprehensive Literacy Guidance supports educators in better understanding the components of literacy and implementation of best practices for students from birth through grade 12. |
| <u>Personal Literacy Plan (PLP)</u> | A PLP is a plan of action used to accelerate a student's learning in order to move toward grade level reading proficiency. A problem-solving approach is used to develop this plan in order to determine specific needs, establish short-term student goals, and set the course of action. |
| <u>Educator Evaluation</u> | All districts in Rhode Island implement an approved educator evaluation system. The intention of this system is to provide feedback to educators on their practice that will inform professional growth and continuous instructional improvement. Districts report educator evaluation data annually to RIDE. |
| <u>Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)</u> | Each school district is required to ensure that schools promote a positive climate with emphasis on mutual respect, self-control, good attendance, order and organization, and proper security. The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has identified five core groups of social emotional competencies that all students should develop. RIDE offers a SEL listserv and hosts three open meetings per year focused on SEL. |



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| <u>Bullying and School Violence</u> | The Rhode Island Statewide Bullying Policy, known as the Safe School Act, recognizes that the bullying of a student creates a climate of fear and disrespect that can seriously impair the student's health and negatively affect learning. The purpose of the policy is to ensure a consistent and unified statewide approach to prohibiting bullying in school. The Guidance for Rhode Island Schools on Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Youth includes federal and state laws specifically related to creating safe and supportive environments for all youth. |
| <u>Emergency Preparedness</u> | Each local education agency in Rhode Island must ensure that there are school crisis response plans for each school that address preparedness, response, and recovery in all types of situations in collaboration with their local district administrators, principals, teachers, students, state officials, police and fire departments. |
| <u>Personalized Learning</u> | "Personalized learning is a student experience where the pace of learning and the instructional approach are optimized for the needs of each student. Standards-aligned learning objectives, instructional approaches, and instructional content (and its sequencing) may all vary based on learner needs and interests. Learning activities are meaningful and relevant to learners, driven by their interests and past performance and are often self-initiated or self-selected." ¹ Personalized learning is a priority in Rhode Island's strategic plan. |
| <u>Every Student Succeeds Act</u> | The Every Student Succeeds Act reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and replaces No Child Left Behind. This law aims to help ensure success for students and schools and includes the following federal programs within it. |
| <u>IDEA</u> | The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law ensuring services to children with disabilities throughout the nation. IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education, and related services to more than 6.5 million eligible infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities. |
| <u>21st Century Community Learning Centers</u> | 21 st Century Community Learning Centers are federally funded, high quality after-school and summer programs. They provide students with academic support, enrichment, and school engagement. They complement students' regular academic program. |

¹ This definition is taken from "Future Ready Learning: Reimagining the Role of Technology in Education." U.S. Department of Education, 2016, 7. Retrieved from <http://tech.ed.gov/NETP/>.



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| <u>Rights of Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students</u> | By July 1, 2018, each Local Education Agency had to adopt a policy addressing the rights of transgender and gender non-conforming students to a safe, supportive, and non-discriminatory safe environment that is consistent with state and national best practices, guidance, and model policies. In June 2016, RIDE released <u>Guidance for Rhode Island Schools on Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students</u> . |
| 1.4 Data Driven Instruction and 2.2 Impact on Student Learning | |
| <u>Comprehensive Assessment System</u> | The Comprehensive Assessment System initiative is a coordinated plan for monitoring the academic achievement of students from PK-12. Initiatives embedded with this system include interim assessments, formative assessment PD modules, Data Use PD, and performance assessments. |
| <u>Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS)</u> | RICAS is the state assessment system for students in grades 3 through 8 in mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy. High school students do not take RICAS. |
| <u>PSAT 10</u> | All Rhode Island public school students may take the PSAT10 for free during the school day in grade 10. The RIDE website includes provides additional information, including links to free resources. |
| <u>SAT</u> | All Rhode Island public school students may take the SAT for free during the school day in grade 11. The RIDE website includes provides additional information, including links to free resources. |
| 1.5 Technology | |
| <u>ISTE Standards</u> | The standards provide a comprehensive framework for digital age learning, teaching, and school leadership. |
| <u>Virtual & Digital Learning</u> | This page provides information about several virtual and digital learning initiatives aimed to support student-centered learning in Rhode Island. |
| 1.6 Equity | |
| <u>Multi-Tiered System of Support including RTI</u> | Multi-tiered System of Support is a framework to increase student achievement and social and emotional competencies through prevention and intervention in general education. Response to Intervention (RTI) is the academic portion of MTSS. |



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| <u>Special Population Initiatives</u> | These initiatives include interventions and support processes to ensure students with exceptionalities achieve high expectations including the Rhode Island IEP process. |
| <u>Employment First</u> | It is the policy of the RI Department of Education to support and promote practices in local education agencies and with partner agencies that support students with intellectual/developmental disabilities in exiting the public education system to post-secondary education, training and /or work in integrated settings. |
| <u>WIDA English Language Development Standards</u> | The World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) English Language Development standards outline the latest developments in both English language development research and states' content standards for college and career readiness. The standards identify the components that language learners must acquire and negotiate to participate successfully in school. The ACCESS test aligns to the WIDA standards and measures students' ability to read, write, speak, and listen in English. |
| <u>English Learner Programs</u> | These programs include interventions and support processes to ensure English Learners achieve high expectations. |

2.1 Clinical Preparation

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| <u>Rhode Island Educational Data</u> | Development of robust data systems has been a focus at RIDE to support making decisions based upon timely and accurate data. Districts commonly use the following data systems, which can also help programs and candidates understand and respond to the needs of local districts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• InfoWorks: InfoWorks is a statewide data system that provides school, district, or state level data on student achievement, teaching, students and families, safe and supportive schools, and funding and resources.• Survey Works: Educators, preparation candidates, and the public can access family, student, and teacher and staff survey results at the school, district, and state levels. The survey covers a variety of topics related to teaching and learning conditions.• RIDEmap: RIDEmap is a portal designed to facilitate easy access to all education applications for educators at the State of Rhode Island. Logging into the RIDEmap portal gives educators, access to numerous applications without having to log in multiple times. |
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| 3.1 Diversity of Candidates | |
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| <u>InfoWorks</u> | The Student Characteristics tab includes PK-12 demographics. Providers and programs can use these data as a comparison point for racial, ethnic, and economic diversity information against candidates/completers. |
| 3.2 Response to Employment Needs | |
| <u>RI Educator Preparation Index</u> | The index includes information regarding completer employment and retention for all educator preparation programs and each individual educator preparation program. |
| <u>Educator Certification Reports</u> | The Emergency Certificates Annual Report summarizes data on the issuance and renewal of emergency certificates for the past three school years. The Newly Certified Educators Report includes information about pathways to certification, popular certificate areas, and the RI employment status of those individuals newly certified in Rhode Island. |



Additional Key Rhode Island Initiatives for Specific Programs:

The following outlines additional RI Initiatives for particular programs. Please note that these are in addition to all initiatives noted above.

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| Early Childhood Education Programs | <p>Workforce Knowledge and Competency Frameworks for Early Care and Education Professionals (WKC): The frameworks articulate the essential skills and knowledge that educators who work with young children in Rhode Island need to know, understand, and be able to do to promote young children's healthy development and learning. The WKC provide the foundation for a high quality professional development system and are based on research and theory.</p> <p>Rhode Island's Itinerant Early Childhood Special Education (IECSE): IECSE is a research-based service delivery model for providing special education services to young children with disabilities within general early childhood environments. It serves as an alternative to the provision of services within separate settings, classes or schools. The IECSE model allows young children with disabilities to actively participate in all classroom based activities by embedding the necessary supports, services and interventions.</p> <p>Rhode Island Kindergarten Curriculum Project – To date, 57 kindergarten classrooms across twelve school districts have been trained in Focus on K2, an interdisciplinary kindergarten curriculum developed by the Boston Public Schools.</p> |
| Middle Grades and Secondary Programs | <p>Multiple Pathways: This comprehensive system of pathways and other learning opportunities is designed to prepare all learners to be college and career ready. Several of these pathways include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Career and Technical Education (CTE) – CTE in Rhode Island is designed for individuals who are interested in entering the workforce and/or preparing for careers and who want to take advantage of post-secondary education and/or training opportunities.• PREPARE Rhode Island – PrepareRI is a statewide initiative that provides students with the academic, technical and professional skills they need for today's in-demand jobs. Pathway opportunities focus on career exploration, challenging coursework, and authentic and rigorous work-based learning experiences.• Advanced Course Network – The ACN provides middle and high school students the opportunity to take an exciting catalog of college and career preparatory courses at no cost to participating students. ACN courses are offered by Rhode Island colleges and universities, community based organizations and other school districts. |



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| | <p>The Rhode Island Diploma System: Rhode Island Secondary School Regulations guide the implementation of a recently-revised diploma system that includes content courses, the completion of at least one performance-based diploma assessment, and an option for students to earn Designations on their diploma. The new Rhode Island Diploma System impacts the graduating class of 2021 and beyond.</p> |
| | <p>Rhode Island Secondary School Regulations - The regulations apply to middle and high schools and aim to develop a system of opportunity by which every student is well-prepared for postsecondary education, work, and life. These regulations include policies on graduation by proficiency, personalization and multiple pathways.</p> |
| | <p>Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) – ILPs are a student-directed planning and monitoring tool that documents students' interests, needs, supports, course selection, and other learning experiences, while producing a thoughtful program of study for students. ILPs are required for all students in grades 6-12. RIDE has guidance available on the ILP framework, model ILP scope and sequence, and resources on state-approved ILP vendor options for schools and districts.</p> |
| <p>All Grades Health, Physical Education, and/or Adapted Physical Education Programs</p> | <p>Thrive: The Rhode Island Department of Education and RI Department of Health have coordinated to develop the Thrive website, which includes statutes, regulations, policy and program efforts, and resources to support coordinated school health programs. Two particular aspects of this collaboration include education materials regarding HIV/AIDS and sexuality with designated funding from the CDC.</p> <p>Rules and Regulations for School Health Programs: The rules and regulations include statutes related to health education, health services, and healthy school environments in Rhode Island schools. The Annual School Health Report documents district compliance with these statutes.</p> |
| <p>ESL and BDL Programs</p> | <p>English Learners: This RIDE web page includes important information, resources, and tools related to English learners and dual language education.</p> |
| <p>Special Education Programs</p> | <p>Alternate Assessment: A small number of students with significant cognitive disabilities are eligible to take alternate assessments. Beginning in 2018, RI will have new alternate assessments: Dynamic Learning Maps in science and Dynamic Learning Maps in English Language Arts and mathematics.</p> <p>State Systematic Improvement Plan (SSIP): This is a comprehensive, multi-year plan that focuses on improving results for children with disabilities.</p> |



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| <p>School Counselor, School Psychologist, and School Social Worker Programs</p> | <p>The Rhode Island School Counseling and Guidance Program: This is a framework that assists school counselors in analyzing their current practice, organizing and aligning their school counseling and guidance programs to the American School Counselor Association National Standards, develop curricula, and evaluate the success of their guidance program.</p> <p>Students Experiencing Homelessness: The federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires all school districts to ensure access to public education for children and youth experiencing homelessness and to ensure their success in school once enrolled.</p> |
| <p>Building and District Level Administrator Programs</p> <p>**Please note that all items listed above for specific programs are also applicable to this certificate area**</p> | <p>School and District Report Cards: RIDE issues annual report cards on all public schools, on all school districts, and on the state itself. These reports focus on whether schools have met their annual targets and school classifications within the RIDE accountability system.</p> <p>School Accountability: RIDE's new proposed accountability system categorizes schools from 1- to 5-stars. Additionally, RIDE also identifies schools with very low performance generally or within specific subgroups and requires these schools and their districts to engage in specific school improvement activities and initiatives. The Office of College and Career Readiness provides targeted resources, monitoring, and technical assistance to support schools classified with these needs.</p> <p>Uniform Chart of Accounts (UCOA): This data source provides transparent financial information about districts.</p> <p>State Systematic Improvement Plan (SSIP): This is a comprehensive, multi-year plan that focuses on improving results for children with disabilities.</p> |