



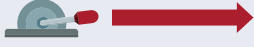
















Policies Seven States Enacted to Promote School Principal Effectiveness



In 2016, The Wallace Foundation launched the University Principal Preparation Initiative to help seven universities strengthen principal preparation and to help each state develop policies to improve principal effectiveness statewide. This chart summarizes which of seven policy levers were more often in place.

Policy Lever 	Key Policy Actions 	Prevalence of use among seven states in University Principal Preparation Initiative (UPPI)
Job standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt state standards for school principals • Promote use of state standards 	 All  All
Recruitment of aspiring leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish prerequisites for program participation • Encourage effective program recruitment practice • Subsidize participation in pre-service programs 	 All  Most  Few
Principal licensure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine licensure pathways • Determine licensure requirements • Determine types of providers that can offer programs 	 All  All  All
Preparation program approval & oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish criteria for program approval/renewal • Approve programs • Specify program content/structure 	 All  All  Most
Professional development (PD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support or offer principal PD • Establish requirements for principal PD 	 All  Most
Evaluation of principals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish content criteria • Establish process expectations • Establish reporting requirements 	 Few  Few  Few
Leader tracking systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support data systems for tracking aspiring and current principals 	 None

Few = 1-3 states; **Most** = 4-6 states

Recommendations for state policymakers

- Consider how these policies can complement each other.
- Think about how existing policies can be used or enhanced and how new initiatives can link to state education priorities.
- Build state-level engagement and expertise on principal quality.
- If you make policy changes, couple them with information, resources and support.
- Piggy-back a school leadership reform on an earlier K-12 reform, such as changing principal standards after changing teacher standards.

Source: [Using State-level Policy Levers to Promote Principal Quality: Lessons from Seven States Partnering with Principal Preparation Programs and Districts, RAND, 2020](#)