



LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS

2003-2004 INSTITUTIONAL REPORT FOR THE PREPARATION OF TEACHERS

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Message from the Commissioner:

The following institutional report represents a critical component of the education community's effort to improve our state's teacher education programs at both public and private universities. This annual report is intended to keep Louisiana's citizens informed about the quality of our teacher preparation. In 2002, the first factor used in our accountability program was released – student passage rates on the teacher certification examination (PRAXIS). Last year, the formula was expanded to make the scores an even more meaningful catalyst for continued reform. As was the case last year, the scores have been calculated using a weighted formula that takes into account each institution's regular and alternate certification completer rate (with extra points for completers who meet definitions for identified shortage areas), the PRAXIS examination passage rate, and the score on a survey measuring completer satisfaction. Teacher preparation accountability is just one of the many benefits Louisiana is reaping from partnerships that have been created between universities and school districts to recruit, prepare, and retain teachers. Our goal is to provide every child in Louisiana caring and qualified teachers in every class every year – to ensure that truly no child is left behind.

E. Joseph Savoie
Commissioner of Higher Education

Mission of University

Northwestern State University is a responsive institution committed to excellence in academic and professional programs that provide students with universally applicable knowledge and skills. It emphasizes adaptability to change; lifelong willingness to learn; and professional, personal, and social relationships to enhance the quality of life. Essential to this vision is a learner-centered environment that facilitates acquisition of knowledge and skills necessary to adapt to changing ideas, trends, and technology; that develops programs that earn national recognition for excellence and innovation; that attracts and develops exceptional students and faculty, supporting them with technical and personal resources needed to promote optimal learning of analytical thinking skills, advanced knowledge in fields of specialization, and beneficial personal and social interactions; and that forms partnerships with business, industry, and the professions that provide opportunities for hands-one experiences in which knowledge and skills are augmented and applied.

Student Characteristics of University

During Fall 2002, the university had a total enrollment of 9087 undergraduate and 1072 graduate students. A total of 3515 students were males and 6644 were females. The majority of the students were from Louisiana with a total of 9565 in-state students, 557 out-of-state students, and 37 foreign students. Among students enrolled in the undergraduate program, 2679 were black, 5545 were white, and 863 were other races. Among students enrolled in the graduate program, 242 were black, 777 were white, and 53 were other races.

Accreditation and Approval of Teacher Preparation Program

The university is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). In addition, the university is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). All of the university's teacher preparation programs are approved by the Board of Regents and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Notable Features and Accomplishments of Teacher Preparation Program

- Founded in 1884 as a teacher-training institution, Northwestern State University (NSU) has for 120 years prepared teachers with curriculum knowledge, classroom savvy, and advanced technology skills.
- NSU furnishes a significant number of the state's certified teachers: 45% of all certified teachers in the service area and 7.74% of all certified teachers in Louisiana.
- NSU graduates tend to stay in the profession and in the state: NSU has the lowest departure rate (8%) of teachers leaving the profession after one year and one of the highest rates of retention of teachers in the state.
- The College of Education is designated as an Area of Excellence in the field of Educational Technology.
- By producing 20% of the states electronic distance learning courses and 27% of internet courses, NSU is the state leader in technology in education.

Notable Features and Accomplishments of Teacher Preparation Program (Cont'd)

- In collaboration with Natchitoches Parish Schools, NSU continues to work with two Professional Development Schools. North Natchitoches Elementary and Natchitoches Junior High provide valuable and intensive field experiences for teacher education majors and on-site support for practitioners and early childhood, elementary, and middle school students.
- In collaboration with Region VI Educational Service Center, the College of Education served as a regional support site for National Board Certification candidates; 60+ candidates participated in ten support meetings. In conjunction, a website has been developed at NSU to provide local, state, and national information about National Board Certification. (<http://www.education.nsula.edu/nbpts/index.html>)
- Over the last two years, Entergy Louisiana provided more than \$70,000 for a collaborative project which annually funded \$2,000 of the NBPTS registration fee for each of ten parish-nominated candidates; five mentors were funded each year to provide support for the candidates.
- NSU was one of the first Louisiana universities to pilot the Practitioner Teacher Program (PREP), beginning 2001-02. In 2002-03, 39 students enrolled in the program, with 35 completing alternate certification requirements and becoming eligible for teaching positions in Louisiana. Each PREP cohort (2001-02; 2002-03) remained intact by communicating electronically on a regular basis.
- NSU applied to participate in The New Teacher Project, a grant for recruiting students into the Practitioner Teacher Program.

Teacher Preparation Program Data

The following data have been provided about the teacher preparation program.

1. Total number of students formally admitted to the regular teacher preparation program and enrolled in one or more courses during academic year 2002-03 including all areas of teaching specialization.	221
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Teacher Preparation Program Data (Cont'd)

2. Total number of students enrolled in the regular teacher preparation program and alternate certification program, including all areas of teaching specialization, who participated in programs of supervised student teaching or supervised internships during Summer 2002, Fall 2002, and/or Spring 2003.	206
3. Supervising faculty for supervised student teaching and internship experiences.	
a. Number of appointed full time faculty in professional education .	13
b. Number of appointed part-time faculty in professional education who supervised student teaching/internship experiences during Summer 2002, Fall 2002, and Spring 2003.	0
c. Number of appointed part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution, who supervised student teaching/internship experiences during Summer 2002, Fall 2002, and Spring 2003.	10
d. Total number of supervising faculty for the teacher preparation program during 2002-2003.	23
4. Student/faculty ratio for student teaching and internship experiences.	9:1
5. Student participation in student teaching.	
a. Average number of hours per week required of student participation in supervised student teaching during academic year 2002-2003.	12.85
b. Total number of weeks per semester of supervised student teaching required for student teaching during academic year 2002-2003.	14
c. Total number of hours required during academic year 2002-2003 for student teaching.	180

LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS
2003-2004 TEACHER PREPARATION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

In compliance with the Higher Education Act of 1998, Louisiana created a Teacher Preparation Accountability System to assess the performance of teacher preparation programs within the State. During the first phase (2001-2002) of the accountability system, the performance of the regular and alternate certification students on the state teachers' examination (PRAXIS) was assessed. During the second phase (which began in 2002), the quantity of program completers at each institution and the performance of each institution (e.g., performance of regular and alternate certification students on the state teachers' examination (PRAXIS) and ratings by teachers of their satisfaction with their teacher preparation programs) are being assessed. In the future, additional factors will be assessed to examine such areas as: ratings of programs by first year teachers' mentors; retention of teachers after three years of teaching; and university-district partnerships. The purpose of this accountability system is to clearly demonstrate to the public that all universities and colleges in the State are working diligently to produce quality teachers who work effectively with PK-12 students.

I. INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX

**A. Grade Performance of 2002-2003 Regular and Alternate Certification Program Completers on Certification Index
(Percentage of students who passed the PRAXIS examination)**

Grade: A+

PRAXIS Passage Rate: 100%

Scaled Score: 136

This is a difference of 0.9% when compared to the 99.1% passage rate of 2001-2002 regular and alternate certification program completers on the PRAXIS examinations.

The following scale was used to determine passage rate grades:

A+ = 98%-100% Passage Rate

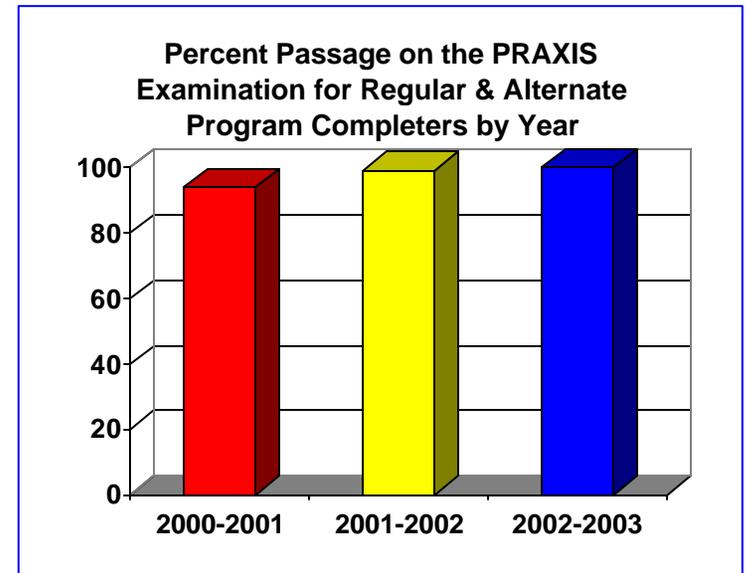
A = 92%-97% Passage Rate

B = 86%-91% Passage Rate

C = 80%-85% Passage Rate

below C = below 80% Passage Rate

See Appendix A for a breakdown of scores.



Northwestern State University (Continued)

I. INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX (continued)

B. Grade for Ratings of 2002-2003 Program Completers on Graduate Satisfaction Survey

Grade: A

Mean Score of Survey Respondents: 116.9 over 1 year(s)

Total Number of Survey Respondents: 44

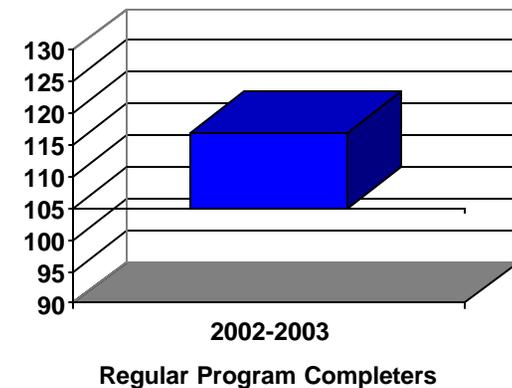
Respondents' Scaled Score: 102

The following scale was used to determine grades for mean responses on surveys:

A+	=	128 & above
A	=	117.0 – 127.9
B	=	107.0 – 116.9
C	=	93.0 – 106.9
below C	=	below 93.0

See Appendix B for a breakdown of scores. Scaled scores are not assigned for institutions with fewer than 10 survey respondents over 2 years.

New Teachers' Mean Scores on Satisfaction Surveys



II. QUANTITY INDEX

Grade for Quantity Score

Grade: A+

Quantity Score: 170

Baseline Score: 130

Percentage of Difference: 30.7%

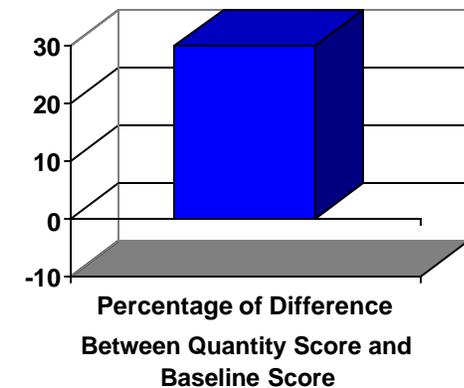
Scaled Score: 140

The following scale was used to determine quantity grades based upon percentage of difference between the 2002-2003 Quantity Score and Baseline Score:

A+	=	+15% and above
A	=	+5% to +14% difference
B	=	-3% to +4% difference
C	=	-4% to -15% difference
below C	=	-16% and greater difference

See Appendix C for a breakdown of scores.

Quantity of 2002-2003 Regular & Alternate Program Completers



Northwestern State University (Continued)

III. TEACHER PREPARATION PERFORMANCE SCORE AND LABEL

A. Teacher Preparation Performance Score	=	$(\text{Institutional Performance Index} + \text{Quantity Index}) \div 2$
	=	$\{([\text{Certification Scaled Score} \times .875] + [\text{Graduate Satisfaction Scaled Score} \times .125]) + \text{Quantity Scaled Score}\} \div 2$
	=	$\{([136 \times .875] + [102 \times .125]) + 140\} \div 2$
	=	$(131.8 + 140) \div 2$
	=	$271.8 \div 2$
	=	135.9

Note: The Graduate Satisfaction Survey has been given a weight of .125 instead of .25 due to the fact that only the regular program completers' data were used. Future accountability cycles will use surveys administered to both regular and alternate program completers.

Note: The Institutional Performance Index is computed using only PRAXIS passage rate data for institutions with fewer than 10 survey respondents over 2 years.

B. Teacher Preparation Performance Label	=	Exemplary
The following scale was used to assign the label:		
Exemplary Teacher Preparation Program	=	Teacher Preparation Performance Score of 125.0 and above
High Performing Teacher Preparation Program	=	Teacher Preparation Performance Score of 100.0 – 124.9
Satisfactory Teacher Preparation Program	=	Teacher Preparation Performance Score of 80.0 – 99.9
At-Risk Teacher Preparation Program	=	Teacher Preparation Performance Score of 50.0 – 79.9
Low Performing Teacher Preparation Program	=	Teacher Preparation Performance Score of 0 – 49.9

APPENDIX A

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

PRAXIS EXAMINATION

**PASSAGE RATE REPORTS FOR INDIVIDUAL SUBTESTS
2002-2003 PROGRAM COMPLETERS**

	NUMBER PASSED	TOTAL NUMBER	PERCENTAGE PASSED
2002-2003 Regular Program Completers	95	95	100%
2002-2003 Alternate Program Completers	46	46	100%
Total	141	141	100%



**HEA - Title II
2002-2003 Academic Year
Regular Program
Completers
Passage Rate Report**

Institution Name	NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Institution Code	6492
State	Louisiana
Number of Program Completers Submitted	95
Number of Program Completers found, matched, and used in passing rate Calculations¹	95

<i>Type of Assessment</i>	<i>Assessment Code Number</i>	<i>Number Taking Assessment</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment</i>	<i>Institutional Pass Rate</i>	Statewide		
					<i>Number Taking Assessment</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment</i>	<i>Statewide Pass Rate</i>
Basic Skills							
COMMUNICATION SKILLS	500	6			122	122	100%
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE	510	7			119	119	100%
PPST READING	710	7			209	209	100%
CBT READING	711	53	53	100%	1030	1030	100%
PPST WRITING	720	6			223	223	100%
CBT WRITING	721	54	54	100%	1006	1006	100%
PPST MATHEMATICS	730	6			209	209	100%
CBT MATHEMATICS	731	50	50	100%	1015	1015	100%
COMPUTERIZED PPST READING	5710	2			84	84	100%
COMPUTERIZED PPST WRITING	5720	2			94	94	100%
COMPUTERIZED PPST MATHEMATICS	5730	3			99	99	100%
Professional Knowledge							
PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE	520				12	12	100%
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING K-6	522	58	58	100%	1198	1195	99%
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING 5-9	523				1		
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING 7-12	524	37	37	100%	544	532	98%
FRENCH	170				4		



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<i>Type of Assessment</i>	<i>Assessment Code Number</i>	<i>Number Taking Assessment</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment</i>	<i>Institutional Pass Rate</i>	Statewide		
					<i>Number Taking Assessment</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment</i>	<i>Statewide Pass Rate</i>
Academic Content Areas							
ELEM ED CURR INSTRUC ASSESSMENT	011	21	21	100%	861	860	100%
ELEM ED CONTENT AREA EXERCISES	012	21	21	100%	861	861	100%
ELEMENTARY ED CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	014	30	30	100%	177	176	100%
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	020	7			96	96	100%
BIOLOGY AND GENERAL SCIENCE	030				37	36	97%
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE	040				1		
ENG LANG LIT COMP CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	041	3			76	74	97%
ENG LANG LIT COMP PEDAGOGY	043	3			76	76	100%
MATHEMATICS	060	2			55	52	95%
CHEM PHYSICS AND GENERAL SCIENCE	070				6		
SOCIAL STUDIES: CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	081	5			109	106	97%
SOCIAL STUDIES: INTERPRET MATERIALS	083	5			109	108	99%
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	090	8			133	133	100%
BUSINESS EDUCATION	100	1			15	15	100%
MUSIC EDUCATION	110	17	17	100%	87	84	97%
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES	120				5		
FRENCH	170				4		



**HEA - Title II
2002-2003 Academic Year
Regular Program
Completers
Passage Rate Report**

Institution Name	NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Institution Code	6492
State	Louisiana
Number of Program Completers Submitted	95
Number of Program Completers found, matched, and used in passing rate Calculations¹	95

				Statewide		
<i>Type of Assessment²</i>	<i>Number Taking Assessment³</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment⁴</i>	<i>Institutional Pass Rate</i>	<i>Number Taking Assessment³</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment⁴</i>	<i>Statewide Pass Rate</i>
Aggregate - Basic Skills	68	68	100%	1456	1456	100%
Aggregate - Professional Knowledge	95	95	100%	1755	1740	99%
Aggregate - Academic Content Areas (Math, English, Biology, etc.)	94	94	100%	1562	1549	99%
Aggregate - Other Content Areas (Career/Technical Education, Health Educations, etc.)						
Aggregate - Teaching Special Populations (Special Education, ELS, etc.)						
Aggregate - Performance Assessments						

Summary Totals and Pass Rates⁵	95	95	100%	1780	1752	98%
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- ¹The number of program completers found, matched and used in the passing rate calculation will not equal the sum of the column labeled "Number Taking Assessment" since a completer can take more than one assessment.
- ² Institutions and/or States did not require the assessments within an aggregate where data cells are blank.
- ³ Number of completers who took one or more tests in a category and within their area of specialization.
- ⁴ Number who passed all tests they took in a category and within their area of specialization.
- ⁵ Summary Totals and Pass Rate: Number of completers who successfully completed one or more tests across all categories used by the state for licensure and the total passrate.

***HEA - Title II
2002-2003 Academic Year
Alternate Certification Program Completers
Passage Rate Reports have not yet
been provided to states by
the Educational Testing Service.***

APPENDIX B

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY SURVEY 2002-2003 Data

total number of cases = 44

Mean Total Survey Score (out of 33 questions) = 110.18

Mean Total Survey Score (adjusted) = 116.86*

Item Scores by Question

	mean by item	number of responses			
		strongly disagree	disagree	agree	strongly agree
Planning					
1. Specify learning objectives in terms of clear, concise student outcomes.	3.41	0	1	24	19
2. Plan a series of activities that help my students achieve those objectives.	3.33	0	1	27	16
3. Successfully identify individual student differences in the context of a whole class.	3.20	0	5	25	14
4. Implement accommodations for individual student differences.	3.10	0	7	25	12
Instruction					
5. Consistently stimulate and encourage higher order thinking at the appropriate developmental levels.	3.39	0	1	25	18
6. Identify a variety of lesson materials, in addition to traditional classroom materials.	3.5	0	0	22	22
7. Integrate a variety of materials to achieve lesson objectives.	3.43	0	1	23	20
8. Change or adjust a lesson to respond to my students' outcomes.	3.30	0	2	27	15
9. Use both short-term and long-term evaluation methods to measure my student outcomes.	3.27	0	1	30	13

* As written, the survey contains 35 items. Technical difficulties with administration caused items 14 and 35 not to be administered. This score represents an adjustment to the 33-item mean to represent its equivalent out of 35 items. This was necessary in order to convert the survey scores to scaled scores for the accountability system.

10. Implement teacher-directed or student-centered activities that result in student learning.	3.39	0	1	25	18
11. Successfully plan for individual student differences in the context of a whole class.	3.23	0	4	26	14
12. Open, develop, and close a lesson effectively.	3.5	0	2	18	24
13. Integrate technology into my lessons.	3.27	0	6	20	18
14. Successfully present content at a developmentally appropriate level.	technical difficulties: data not collected				
15. Effectively use appropriate formal and informal assessment techniques.	3.41	0	1	24	19
16. Provide timely feedback to my students.	3.43	0	0	25	19
17. Produce evidence of student academic growth.	3.30	0	4	23	17
18. Employ effective teaching practices as modeled by faculty.	3.33	0	1	27	16
Instruction					
19. Relate examples, real-life situations, or current events to the content being taught.	3.39	0	2	23	19
20. Teach in one or more subject areas.	3.41	0	2	22	20
21. Communicate effectively with students.	3.43	0	0	25	19
22. Encourage participation from all students.	3.43	0	1	23	20
23. Monitor the ongoing performance of students.	3.30	0	3	25	16
Management					
24. Facilitate learning by organizing available space, materials, and equipment.	3.27	0	5	22	17
25. Maintain a positive learning environment.	3.48	0	1	21	22
26. Create a routine and manage transitions in a way that maximizes the time available for learning.	3.32	0	2	26	16
27. Manage and adjust my time to ensure that learning objectives are met.	3.33	0	2	25	17
28. Clearly communicate my expectations for appropriate behavior to my students.	3.43	0	2	21	21
29. Monitor and respond to appropriate student behavior in an effective way.	3.33	0	2	25	17
30. Monitor and respond to inappropriate student behavior in an effective way.	3.25	0	2	29	13

School Improvement					
31. Encourage parents/caregivers to become active partners in their children's education and become involved in school/classroom activities.	3.14	0	7	24	13
32. Provide clear and timely information to parents/caregivers regarding classroom expectations, student progress, and ways they can assist learning.	3.16	0	4	29	11
33. Collaboratively and effectively work with colleagues.	3.32	0	2	26	16
34. Understand the importance of and plan for professional development.	3.35	0	1	26	17
Overall		poor			Excellent
Overall, how would you rate the effectiveness of your teacher preparation program in preparing you to improve student learning?	technical difficulties: data not collected				

APPENDIX C

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

2003-2004 CALCULATION OF QUANTITY INDEX

BASELINE SCORE

A Baseline Score has been established for each individual teacher preparation program in Louisiana. The Baseline Score is the total number of regular and alternate program completers that completed teacher preparation programs between the dates of July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001.

QUANTITY SCORE

A. 2002-2003 PROGRAM COMPLETERS

One-point is assigned to every regular and alternate program completer that completed teacher preparation programs between the dates of July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003.

B. BONUS POINTS

In addition, one-half a point is assigned to every 2002-2003 regular and alternate program completer that met the criteria for each of the following teacher shortage areas.

Teacher Shortage Areas		# Regular Program Completers	# Alternate Program Completers
MINORITIES		12	6
MATHEMATICS		2	2
SCIENCE	General		7
	Biology		6
	Chemistry		2
	Physics		2
	Earth		
	Environmental		
MIDDLE SCHOOL			1
SPECIAL EDUCATION			9
MALE	Early Childhood		
	Elementary		
HIGH NEED PARISHES – TEACHER PLACEMENT (Parishes: Assumption, East Feliciana, Madison, St. Helena, & Red River)		5	4
TOTAL		19	39