

Sharon,

Thank you for taking the time to meet today and giving Teach for America (TFA) an opportunity to comment on the pending teacher prep regulation.

I wanted to get back to you with an answer to your question about how TFA teachers' preparation programs are reported under Title II. As I mentioned, we currently have some regions that self-certify (at least 14). Under Title II, states are required to collect data from those regions about their preparation programs for Teach for America teachers. It is important to note that the way the law is currently written, our regions do not have to file a Title II report with the Department of Education since we do not receive Title IV funds and we are not an IHE. In addition, while states are required by law to collect the data from our self-certifying regions, in some states they fail to do so, and our programs are not required to report proactively to the states.

In our other regions, where TFA partners with an IHE or other certification program partner for their certification education requirements, the IHE or program would be required to include TFA students in the data that they report. The data would be reported by the program – and not broken out by TFA teachers or other students.

Based on a review of Title II reports, there are other non-IHE based alternative certification programs, for example, TNTP-TN.

In addition, you had asked about how “high-need subject areas” would be determined if there was a reporting requirement about teachers who teach in high-need subject areas. These should be state determined, as the needs would likely vary by state.

Please let me know if that answers your questions or if you would like more detailed information.

Thank you,

Amanda Miller
VP, Government Affairs
Teach for America