

school of continuing education miami dade college Ebook

Introduction to the School of Continuing Education at Miami Dade College

School of Continuing Education Miami Dade College stands as a vital pillar in the landscape of adult education and workforce development in South Florida. As one of the most comprehensive and accessible continuing education programs in the region, it serves thousands of students annually, providing opportunities for personal growth, career advancement, and skill acquisition. Whether individuals are seeking to enhance their existing skills, explore new career paths, or pursue personal interests, the school offers a diverse array of programs tailored to meet the evolving needs of the community.

Overview of Miami Dade College

Institutional Background

Miami Dade College (MDC), established in 1960, is the largest institution of higher education in the United States with multiple campuses across Miami-Dade County. Known for its diverse student body and commitment to inclusive education, MDC plays a crucial role in fostering economic development and social mobility in the region.

Mission and Vision

The college's mission emphasizes providing accessible, high-quality education that empowers students to succeed academically, professionally, and personally. Its vision is to be a leader in innovative education and community engagement.

The Role of the School of Continuing Education

Purpose and Objectives

The School of Continuing Education (SCE) aims to bridge the gap between traditional academic programs and the immediate needs of the workforce. Its primary objectives include:

- Providing flexible learning options for adult learners

- Offering career-oriented training programs
- Supporting lifelong learning and personal development
- Partnering with local industries and organizations to meet workforce demands

Target Audience

The programs target a broad demographic, including:

- Working professionals seeking skill upgrades
- Individuals looking to change careers or re-enter the workforce
- High school graduates pursuing alternative pathways
- Community members interested in personal enrichment

Programs and Courses Offered

Academic and Vocational Programs

The SCE provides a wide range of programs designed to meet diverse educational and career goals. These include:

- Professional certifications in areas such as healthcare, technology, and business
- Adult basic education, including GED preparation and ESL courses
- Short-term training programs focused on high-demand skills
- Continuing education courses in arts, languages, and personal development

Flexible Learning Formats

To accommodate various schedules, the school offers:

- In-person classes at multiple campuses
- Online courses accessible from anywhere
- Hybrid models combining face-to-face and virtual instruction
- Night and weekend classes for working adults

Partnerships and Industry Collaboration

Industry-Relevant Training

The SCE maintains strong ties with local industries to ensure that programs align with current workforce needs. This includes:

- Collaborating with employers to develop tailored training modules
- Offering internships and practical experience opportunities
- Adapting curricula based on labor market trends

Community Engagement

Beyond industry partnerships, the school engages with community organizations to promote lifelong learning and support economic development initiatives. These collaborations facilitate:

- Workforce readiness programs
- Community outreach and educational workshops
- Support services for underserved populations

Enrollment Process and Admission Requirements

How to Enroll

Prospective students can enroll in courses through a straightforward process:

- Visit the Miami Dade College website or campus registration centers
- Complete an application form online or in person
- Submit necessary documentation, such as identification or transcripts (if applicable)
- Pay registration fees (if applicable) and select courses

Eligibility Criteria

Most programs cater to adult learners without strict prerequisites, but specific courses may require:

- High school diploma or GED
- Proof of English proficiency (for ESL courses)
- Relevant experience or certifications (for advanced programs)

Support Services for Students

Academic Support

- Advising and counseling services to guide course selection and career planning
- Tutoring and study workshops to enhance learning outcomes
- Access to learning resources such as libraries and online portals

Career Services

- Job placement assistance and resume workshops
- Career fairs and employer networking events
- Skill assessments and personalized career coaching

Additional Support

- Financial aid advising for eligible students
- Accessibility services for students with disabilities
- Language support programs for ESL learners

Success Stories and Community Impact

Student Achievements

Many students have leveraged programs from the SCE to achieve significant milestones, such as obtaining certifications, transitioning into new careers, or starting their own businesses. Testimonials highlight the school's role in empowering individuals to realize their potential.

Community Development

The School of Continuing Education contributes to the broader community by:

- Reducing unemployment through targeted training
- Fostering a skilled workforce that attracts business investments
- Promoting social equity by offering accessible education options

Future Initiatives and Innovations

Expanding Program Offerings

The school continuously updates its curriculum to reflect emerging industries such as cybersecurity, renewable energy, and health informatics. Plans include launching new certificate programs and advanced training modules.

Technology Integration

Investments in online learning platforms and virtual labs aim to enhance accessibility and engagement. The school also explores the use of artificial intelligence for personalized learning experiences.

Community-Centric Projects

Future initiatives emphasize community-driven projects, including apprenticeships, entrepreneurship support, and collaboration with local government agencies.

Conclusion

The **School of Continuing Education Miami Dade College** plays a crucial role in shaping a resilient, skilled, and adaptable workforce in South Florida. Its commitment to accessible, flexible, and industry-relevant education ensures that learners from diverse backgrounds can achieve their goals. As the region's economic landscape continues to evolve, the school remains a vital resource for fostering lifelong learning and community development, making it an essential component of Miami Dade College's broader mission to serve and uplift the community.

School of Continuing Education Miami Dade College: Empowering Lifelong Learners and Workforce Development

Introduction

In an era characterized by rapid technological change and evolving job markets, the importance of accessible, flexible, and high-quality education cannot be overstated. The School of Continuing Education Miami Dade College (MDC) stands as a pivotal institution dedicated to serving diverse learners seeking to upgrade skills, pursue new careers, or engage in personal development. Established as part of Miami Dade College—the largest institution of higher education in Florida—the School of Continuing Education offers a comprehensive array of programs designed to meet the needs of individuals across all stages of life. This article provides an in-depth review of the school's offerings, history, strategic initiatives, and its role in regional economic development.

Overview of Miami Dade College and its Continuing Education Division

The Foundation: Miami Dade College

Miami Dade College, founded in 1960, has grown into a multifaceted institution with a mission to provide inclusive access to quality education. It boasts multiple campuses throughout Miami-Dade County, serving over 165,000 students annually. While traditional academic programs attract a significant portion of students, the College's commitment to community engagement and workforce development is exemplified through its School of Continuing Education.

The School of Continuing Education: Mission and Vision

The School of Continuing Education (SCE) is dedicated to offering flexible, affordable, and relevant programs that facilitate lifelong learning. Its mission centers on empowering individuals through education that enhances employability, supports entrepreneurship, and fosters personal growth. The vision emphasizes responsiveness to regional economic needs and ensuring that programs align with current industry standards.

Core Principles:

- Accessibility for diverse populations
- Industry-aligned curriculum
- Flexible delivery formats
- Community engagement and partnerships

Historical Development

Origins and Evolution

The origins of the School of Continuing Education trace back to Miami Dade College's early efforts to extend educational opportunities beyond traditional degree programs. Over the decades, the SCE has expanded its scope from basic adult education and GED preparation to include professional certifications, technical training, language courses, and online learning.

Key Milestones

- 1980s: Launch of non-credit courses in response to workforce needs
- 2000s: Integration of online and hybrid courses
- 2010s: Introduction of industry-recognized certification programs
- 2020s: Expansion of digital platforms and partnerships with industry leaders

Programs Offered and Academic Focus

Certificate and Technical Programs

The SCE offers a wide range of certificate programs aimed at quick skill acquisition for employment or advancement. These include areas such as:

- Healthcare: Phlebotomy, Medical Assistant, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Information Technology: Network Security, Cisco Networking, Programming
- Business: Project Management, Customer Service, Office Administration
- Skilled Trades: Welding, Electrical Technology, HVAC

Continuing Education and Personal Development

Beyond technical training, the school provides courses designed for personal growth and lifelong learning, including:

- Languages (Spanish, English as a Second Language)
- Digital literacy and computer skills
- Creative arts and hobbies
- Professional development workshops

Online and Hybrid Learning Options

Recognizing the importance of flexibility, SCE has heavily invested in online platforms, offering:

- Fully online courses accessible anytime
- Hybrid models combining in-person and virtual instruction
- Virtual labs and simulations for practical skills

These modalities enable learners balancing work, family, and education to participate fully.

Target Demographics and Community Engagement

Diverse Learner Base

The School of Continuing Education predominantly serves:

- Adult learners seeking career transitions or skill updates

- Working professionals aiming for certification or advancement
- Immigrants and non-native English speakers improving language proficiency
- High school graduates pursuing vocational training

Outreach and Partnerships

To maximize its impact, the SCE actively collaborates with:

- Local businesses and industry associations
- Workforce development boards
- Nonprofit organizations
- Educational institutions (for articulation agreements)

Such partnerships facilitate real-world training opportunities, apprenticeships, and job placement assistance, ensuring that programs remain aligned with regional economic needs.

Impact on Workforce Development and Regional Economy

Supporting Local Industries

Miami-Dade County's economy relies heavily on tourism, healthcare, logistics, and technology sectors. The SCE plays a crucial role in supplying a skilled workforce through:

- Customized corporate training programs
- Short-term certifications tailored to industry demands
- Upskilling initiatives for existing employees

Addressing Skills Gaps

Data indicates persistent skills shortages in areas like healthcare, IT, and skilled trades. The SCE's agile curriculum development allows for rapid response to these gaps, providing targeted training that directly feeds into employment pipelines.

Economic Inclusion and Social Equity

By offering affordable courses and financial aid options, the SCE promotes economic mobility among underserved populations, including minorities, immigrants, and economically disadvantaged residents. This inclusivity helps foster a more equitable regional economy.

Innovative Initiatives and Future Directions

Technology Integration and Digital Transformation

The SCE continuously updates its infrastructure to incorporate emerging technologies such as virtual reality (VR), artificial intelligence (AI), and learning analytics. These innovations enhance engagement and personalize learning experiences.

Expansion of Industry Partnerships

Future plans include stronger collaborations with:

- Healthcare institutions (hospitals, clinics)
- Tech companies (software developers, cybersecurity firms)
- Manufacturing and construction firms

These partnerships aim to co-develop curricula, sponsor internships, and create job pipelines.

Sustainability and Community Resilience

The school is also investing in green technologies and sustainability-focused programs to prepare students for careers in renewable energy and environmental management, aligning with Miami Dade County's resilience initiatives.

Conclusion

The School of Continuing Education Miami Dade College exemplifies a forward-thinking, community-centric approach to lifelong learning and workforce development. Its extensive program offerings, strategic partnerships, and dedication to accessibility make it a vital resource for individuals seeking to enhance their skills and for regional industries striving for a competitive edge. As the economic landscape evolves, the SCE's ability to adapt and innovate will determine its continued success in empowering learners and strengthening the fabric of Miami-Dade County's economy. With its focus on inclusivity, industry relevance, and technological advancement, the school remains a beacon of opportunity for diverse populations seeking personal and professional growth.

Question What programs are offered at the School of Continuing Education at Miami Dade College? **Answer** Miami Dade College's School of Continuing Education offers a wide range of programs including professional development courses, certificate programs, language classes, and industry-specific training in areas such as healthcare, technology, business, and hospitality. How

can I enroll in courses at Miami Dade College's School of Continuing Education? Prospective students can enroll online through the Miami Dade College Continuing Education website, by visiting the campus, or calling the college's admissions office. Many courses also offer flexible schedules to accommodate working professionals. Are there financial aid options available for continuing education courses at Miami Dade College? Yes, Miami Dade College offers various financial aid options, including scholarships, grants, payment plans, and employer reimbursement programs to help students afford their continuing education courses. What are the benefits of taking courses at the Miami Dade College School of Continuing Education? Students benefit from flexible scheduling, industry-relevant training, expert instructors, and the opportunity to earn certificates that can enhance their career prospects. The programs are designed to meet community and industry needs. How has the School of Continuing Education at Miami Dade College adapted to online learning? The school has expanded its online course offerings, utilizing virtual classrooms and digital resources to ensure students can continue their education remotely, especially in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing flexibility and accessibility.

Related keywords: continuing education, miami dade college, adult education, professional development, evening classes, certificate programs, non-credit courses, lifelong learning, community education, miami college programs

department of education

Department of Education plays a vital role in shaping the educational landscape of a country. As the government entity responsible for overseeing public education systems, the Department of Education (DOE) ensures that students have access to quality education, equitable opportunities, and supportive learning environments. From setting educational policies to funding schools, the department's influence extends across all levels of education?from early childhood programs to higher education institutions. Understanding the functions, structure, and initiatives of the Department of Education is essential for educators, students, parents, and policymakers committed to fostering educational excellence and innovation.

Overview of the Department of Education

The Department of Education serves as the central authority that formulates and implements policies related to education at the national or regional level. Its primary mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by providing high-quality education, ensuring access and equity, and fostering lifelong learning.

Core Responsibilities of the Department of Education

- **Policy Development:** Creating educational policies that guide curriculum standards, assessment methods, and teacher qualifications.
- **Funding and Budget Allocation:** Distributing funds to schools, districts, and programs to support educational initiatives and infrastructure.
- **Curriculum Standards and Assessment:** Establishing uniform standards and testing procedures to measure student performance.
- **Teacher Certification and Professional Development:** Ensuring that educators meet certification requirements and have access to ongoing training.
- **School Accreditation and Compliance:** Monitoring schools to ensure they meet regulatory standards and adhere to policies.
- **Research and Data Collection:** Gathering data on student achievement, school performance, and educational trends to inform policy decisions.

Structure and Organizational Units of the Department of Education

The Department of Education is typically organized into various divisions and offices, each specializing in different aspects of education management.

Key Divisions within the Department of Education

- **Office of Elementary and Secondary Education:** Focuses on K-12 education policies, funding, and program implementation.
- **Office of Postsecondary Education:** Oversees higher education institutions, financial aid programs, and college readiness initiatives.
- **Office of Special Education:** Ensures that students with disabilities receive appropriate support and services.
- **Office of Educational Research and Improvement:** Handles research, data analysis, and policy evaluation.
- **Office of Human Resources:** Manages staff recruitment, training, and employee welfare.

This organizational structure allows the Department of Education to address the diverse needs of learners and educational institutions across the country effectively.

Major Initiatives and Programs Managed by the Department of Education

The Department of Education spearheads numerous initiatives aimed at improving educational quality, promoting inclusivity, and preparing students for the workforce.

Key Programs and Initiatives

- **Title I Funding:** Provides financial assistance to schools serving low-income students to bridge achievement gaps.
- **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA):** A comprehensive policy framework that emphasizes accountability, school improvement, and student success.
- **Federal Student Aid Programs:** Offers financial support through grants, loans, and work-study opportunities for higher education students.
- **Special Education Services:** Implements programs like Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) to support students with disabilities.
- **Career and Technical Education (CTE):** Promotes skill development aligned with workforce needs through vocational training and internships.
- **Digital Learning Initiatives:** Incorporates technology into classrooms, providing access to online resources and distance learning options.

These programs are designed to ensure that all students have access to quality education and are prepared for future challenges.

Role of the Department of Education in Promoting Equity and Inclusion

Ensuring equitable access to education regardless of socioeconomic status, race, gender, or abilities is a cornerstone of the Department of Education's mission.

Strategies to Promote Equity

- **Funding Disparity Reduction:** Allocating resources to underprivileged schools to address disparities in facilities and programs.
- **Inclusive Curriculum Development:** Developing content that reflects diverse cultures, histories, and perspectives.
- **Supporting Students with Special Needs:** Providing specialized services and accommodations to ensure full participation in learning.
- **Teacher Diversity Initiatives:** Encouraging recruitment of educators from diverse backgrounds to better serve diverse student populations.
- **Community Engagement:** Partnering with local organizations and families to create supportive learning communities.

By implementing these strategies, the Department of Education aims to eliminate achievement gaps and foster an inclusive environment where every student can succeed.

Challenges Faced by the Department of Education

Despite its vital role, the Department of Education faces several ongoing challenges that impact its ability to fulfill its mission.

Common Challenges

- **Funding Limitations:** Budget constraints can restrict program expansion and infrastructure development.
- **Educational Inequities:** Persistent disparities among different student populations require targeted interventions.
- **Rapid Technological Change:** Keeping curricula and teaching methods current with technological advancements.
- **Teacher Shortages:** Recruiting and retaining qualified teachers, particularly in STEM and special education fields.
- **Policy Implementation Gaps:** Ensuring that policies are effectively translated into classroom practices.
- **Addressing Mental Health and Well-being:** Providing adequate support for student mental health and social-emotional learning.

Addressing these challenges requires innovative solutions, collaborative efforts, and sustained commitment from all stakeholders.

The Future of the Department of Education

Looking ahead, the Department of Education is poised to embrace new opportunities and adapt to emerging educational needs.

Future Trends and Focus Areas

- **Emphasis on STEM Education:** Strengthening science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs to prepare students for a tech-driven economy.
- **Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics:** Using technology to personalize learning and improve administrative efficiency.
- **Focus on Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** Promoting mental health and resilience among students.
- **Expanding Access to Higher Education:** Making college more affordable and accessible through innovative financial aid options.
- **Global Competitiveness:** Preparing students to thrive in a globalized world through international partnerships and language programs.
- **Sustainable and Green Education:** Incorporating environmental awareness and sustainability

into curricula and campus operations.

By continuously evolving its strategies and priorities, the Department of Education aims to foster a more equitable, innovative, and resilient educational system.

Conclusion

The **Department of Education** remains a cornerstone of national development, committed to providing quality education for all learners. Its multifaceted responsibilities—from policy formulation and funding to fostering inclusivity and innovation—are vital in shaping future generations. As educational landscapes evolve with technological advancements and societal changes, the department's ability to adapt and lead will determine the success of students and the broader community. Stakeholders must stay engaged, informed, and collaborative to support the department's mission of empowering learners, strengthening institutions, and building a brighter future through education.

Department of Education: An In-Depth Analysis of Its Role, Challenges, and Future Outlook

The Department of Education (DOE) stands as a pivotal institution within governments worldwide, tasked with shaping national policies on education, overseeing schools, and ensuring equitable access to quality learning opportunities. As societies evolve amid rapid technological advancements, demographic shifts, and economic transformations, the role of the DOE becomes increasingly complex and vital. This article offers a comprehensive examination of the department's functions, historical development, challenges faced, and prospects for the future, providing insight for policymakers, educators, and the general public.

Understanding the Role of the Department of Education

The primary mandate of the Department of Education is to formulate, implement, and monitor policies that promote effective education systems. While specific responsibilities vary across nations, core functions typically include curriculum development, teacher certification, funding allocation, assessment standards, and ensuring equal access to education.

Core Functions and Responsibilities

- Policy Formulation and Implementation: Establishing national education standards, frameworks, and strategic plans aligned with societal needs.

- Funding and Resource Management: Allocating budgetary resources to public schools, grants,

scholarships, and educational programs.

- Curriculum Development: Designing and updating curricula to reflect current knowledge, skills, and societal values.
- Teacher Training and Certification: Ensuring the quality of educators through rigorous training programs and certification processes.
- Assessment and Accountability: Developing standardized testing regimes and accountability measures to monitor school performance.
- Access and Equity: Promoting inclusivity by addressing disparities related to socioeconomic status, ethnicity, gender, and disability.

Structure and Organizational Framework

Most Departments of Education are organized into various divisions focusing on specific areas such as early childhood education, secondary education, higher education, special education, and vocational training. They often collaborate with regional or state education agencies to implement policies at local levels.

Historical Evolution of the Department of Education

Understanding the historical development of the Department of Education provides context for its current structure and challenges.

Origins and Early Development

Many national education departments emerged in the 19th and early 20th centuries, often driven by industrialization and the need to create a skilled workforce. For example, the U.S. Department of Education was established as a cabinet-level agency only in 1979, though federal involvement in education dates back to the 19th century.

Major Policy Shifts and Reforms

Over the decades, significant reforms have shaped the department's priorities:

- The GI Bill (1944) expanded access to higher education for returning veterans.
- The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (1965) aimed to close achievement gaps.
- The No Child Left Behind Act (2001) emphasized accountability and standardized testing.
- The Every Student Succeeds Act (2015) shifted towards more local control and flexibility.

Impact of Political and Economic Changes

Educational policies are often influenced by prevailing political ideologies and economic conditions, leading to shifts in funding priorities, curriculum focus, and assessment standards.

Challenges Facing the Department of Education

Despite its crucial role, the Department of Education faces numerous challenges that threaten to undermine its effectiveness and the quality of education systems worldwide.

Funding Constraints and Resource Allocation

- Insufficient Funding: Many education systems grapple with inadequate budgets, impacting infrastructure, teacher salaries, and learning materials.
- Inequity in Funding: Disparities in resource allocation often exacerbate inequalities, especially between urban and rural or affluent and impoverished districts.

Equity and Inclusion

- Addressing Socioeconomic Disparities: Students from marginalized backgrounds often lack access to quality education.
- Special Education Needs: Ensuring appropriate accommodations and support for students with disabilities.
- Cultural and Language Barriers: Providing inclusive curricula for diverse populations.

Curriculum and Pedagogical Challenges

- Outdated Curricula: Failing to keep pace with technological advancements and labor market needs.
- Teacher Training Gaps: Insufficient professional development opportunities for educators.
- Standardized Testing Criticism: Overemphasis on testing may hinder holistic learning and creativity.

Technological Integration and Digital Divide

- The rise of digital learning necessitates infrastructure upgrades, digital literacy training, and cybersecurity measures.
- The digital divide remains a barrier, especially in underserved communities lacking reliable internet or devices.

Political Interference and Policy Stability

- Frequent policy shifts driven by changing administrations can disrupt long-term educational initiatives.
- Political debates around curriculum content, such as history or social studies, can influence educational standards.

Case Studies: The Department of Education in Action

Examining specific national contexts reveals diverse approaches and challenges.

United States

- Federal influence is limited; states and local districts wield significant control.
- Major initiatives include the Common Core State Standards and efforts to close achievement gaps.
- Challenges include disparities in funding, racial inequities, and debates over standardized testing.

United Kingdom

- The Department for Education (DfE) oversees policies across England.
- Emphasis on school accountability, academization, and curriculum standards.
- Ongoing debates around curriculum content, funding cuts, and social mobility.

Developing Countries

- Often face severe resource shortages, high dropout rates, and gender disparities.
- International aid and partnerships play vital roles in expanding access.

- Innovations such as mobile learning and community-based programs are emerging solutions.

The Future of the Department of Education

Looking ahead, the Department of Education must adapt to an ever-changing global landscape.

Embracing Technology and Innovation

- Integrate artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and adaptive learning platforms.
- Promote digital literacy as a core competency.
- Develop infrastructure to bridge the digital divide.

Fostering Inclusive and Equitable Education

- Implement policies that address systemic inequalities.
- Expand scholarships and support programs for marginalized groups.
- Incorporate multicultural and multilingual curricula.

Enhancing Teacher Professional Development

- Invest in ongoing training to equip teachers with modern pedagogical skills.
- Promote collaborative learning communities and peer mentoring.

Policy and Governance Reforms

- Increase transparency and stakeholder engagement in policymaking.
- Foster stability through long-term strategic planning.
- Incorporate data-driven decision-making for continuous improvement.

Global Collaboration and Standards

- Participate in international assessments like PISA to benchmark progress.
- Share best practices and innovative models across borders.

Conclusion

The Department of Education remains a cornerstone of national development, tasked with cultivating human capital and fostering societal progress. While it faces numerous challenges?from funding and inequality to technological transformation?its capacity to adapt and innovate will determine future success. By prioritizing inclusivity, embracing technological advancements, and ensuring stable, evidence-based policies, the department can better serve its mission of providing quality education for all. As education continues to evolve as a driver of economic growth and social cohesion, the role of the Department of Education will undoubtedly remain central to shaping a brighter future.

QuestionAnswer What are the main responsibilities of the Department of Education? The Department of Education is responsible for overseeing and managing the country's education system, developing policies, setting curriculum standards, funding schools, and ensuring access to quality education for all students. How can students access scholarship programs through the Department of Education? Students can access scholarship programs by applying through official Department of Education portals, submitting necessary documentation, and meeting eligibility criteria outlined for each scholarship program. What initiatives has the Department of Education implemented to promote inclusive education? The Department of Education has introduced initiatives such as special education programs, anti-discrimination policies, and accessible learning materials to ensure inclusive education for students with disabilities and marginalized groups. How has the Department of Education adapted to online learning during the pandemic? The Department of Education developed online learning platforms, provided digital resources and training for teachers, and distributed devices to students to facilitate remote education during the COVID-19 pandemic. What are the recent reforms introduced by the Department of Education to improve teacher training? Recent reforms include updates to teacher certification standards, integration of new pedagogical methods, and increased professional development programs to enhance teaching quality and student outcomes.

Related keywords: education department, ministry of education, school administration, public education, educational policy, curriculum development, school district, education reform, teacher certification, student achievement

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