

Wyoming

School Management	D	
Finance	B	
Staffing: Hiring & Evaluation	D	
Staffing: Removing Ineffective Teachers	B	
Data	A	
Pipeline to Postsecondary	C	
Technology	B	
State Reform Environment	?	
Gold Stars		

School Management. Wyoming does a below-average job managing its schools in a way that encourages thoughtful innovation. The state has very poor academic standards, and 93% of teachers report that routine duties and paperwork interfere with teaching.

Finance. Overall, Wyoming earns an above-average grade in this category. While the state receives a very low score for the online accessibility of its financial data, Wyoming gets a particularly high mark for the simplicity of its state funding mechanism. Additionally, 97% of principals report a major amount of control of the school budget.

Staffing: Hiring & Evaluation. Wyoming receives a below-average mark for its teacher hiring and evaluation system. Five percent of teachers enter the profession through an alternative certification program, compared with the national average of 13%. Also, Wyoming does not require incoming teachers to pass basic skills and subject-knowledge tests.

Staffing: Removing Ineffective Teachers. Wyoming receives an above-average score on the ability to remove poor-performing teachers from the classroom. Fifty-six percent of principals say that teacher unions or associations are a barrier to the removal of ineffective teachers, which is 5 percentage points below the national average of 61%. In addition, 76% of principals report that tenure is a barrier to removing poor-performing teachers.

Data. Wyoming gets an excellent mark for its state data system. The state publicly reports college remediation data and has a teacher-identifier system with the ability to match teachers with students.

Pipeline to Postsecondary. Wyoming receives a mediocre mark for its efforts to improve college and career readiness. Eighty-one percent of its schools report offering dual-enrollment programs, which allow students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously. That is 16 percentage points above the national average of 65%. However, the state does not have high school exams that gauge college and career readiness.

Technology. Wyoming receives an above-average grade in this category. The state offers a computer-based assessment, but it has not established a virtual school. Still, Wyoming needs to significantly improve how it evaluates its return on investments in technology.

State Reform Environment. There are few reliable state-by-state data on local education advocacy and research efforts—a reflection of the lack of overall commitment to this issue. As a result, we are unable to issue a meaningful grade. However, Wyoming supports common academic standards.