

NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF STATE SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS COALITIONS  
News Brief #3246 Category: Education Study Report  
TITLE: "Commission Urges Comprehensive Induction Programs for Teachers"

The National Commission on Teaching and America's Future is calling for widespread implementation of comprehensive, long-term teacher induction programs for new teachers.

The organization's policy paper defines induction as both a period of time and "a network of relationships and supports with well-defined roles, activities and outcomes."

Induction programs ought to last up to three years, the report says, and include such key elements as opportunities to observe and be observed by other teachers, common planning time, and participation in a network of teachers.

Between 80 percent and 90 percent of teachers who go through such induction programs stay in the field for at least five years, according to Tom Carroll, the commission's president. However, about half of all new teachers do not receive an induction.

"They're handed the keys to their rooms, and people wish them a good year," Carroll said.

The report, "Induction into Learning Communities, is available at <http://www.nctaf.org/home.php>.

SOURCE: Education Week, 31 August 2005 (p. 18)

WEBSITE: <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2005/08/31/01nctaf.h25.html>

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