



**FACTE Policy Agenda
November 14, 2007**

The Florida Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (FACTE) is committed to quality P-12 education in the State of Florida. We strongly believe that the single most important variable in ensuring quality education is having effective teachers at all levels in Florida's classrooms. We subscribe to the belief that teachers make the difference. Having a committed and productive P-12 instructional workforce requires educational policy that addresses the following elements:

- Assurance of effective teacher preparation and candidate qualifications and skills, regardless of routes taken to pursue State licensure.
- Incentives for prospective candidates to enter the teaching profession – including all routes to State licensure.
- Incentives and support for effective veteran teachers to mentor and support both pre-service and novice teachers.
- Effective school based and district based induction programs targeted to retain and support novice teachers.
- Support for underperforming schools.
- Support for effective and research based professional development for both novice and veteran teachers that promote concepts of continuous professional growth opportunities.
- Support for research and data systems targeted to address critical issues facing education in Florida. Such research should be used to inform State and local policy and educational decision making.
- Financial support for institutions of higher education and school districts that have State approved teacher preparation programs.

FACTE is committed to promoting these policy issues through legislative action and the promulgation of rules and regulations, as well as participating in the process as appropriate.