

### Competency 5, Level III

If you received a notice that Strand A of your dossier needs improvement in Competency 5, there are some very important steps to take to analyze why you received this feedback and what you may need to do differently when you resubmit. Always keep in mind that the competencies are interrelated, and when you correct problems in Strand A related to Competency 5, you may introduce new problems related to Competencies 1 or 2. So before you resubmit, take the time to go through all the instructions for Strand A again, ensuring that you have thoroughly responded to the prompts and adequately demonstrated your knowledge of content and your students' opportunities to learn the content you identified as well as your use of a variety of teaching methods and effective assessment.

First, review the Criteria for Success for Strand A on page 13 of the **Requirements & Guidelines for the Preparation of the New Mexico Professional Development Dossier (PDD) for Teachers**. There you will see Competency 5—The teacher effectively utilizes student assessment techniques and procedures.

Then, look at the Strand A Criteria for Success for Advancement to Level II (also on page 13 of the Requirements and Guidelines document). For Level III, you must demonstrate the criteria for Level II on page 13 as well as the criteria for Level III on page 14. The first three bullets elaborate on how Competency 5 is assessed in Strand A.

- The first bullet states: ***The data and explanations must be complete, clear, and organized according to the PDD Guidelines.*** To check this point, review your submission in response to the directions on pages 7-13. Is your material easy to read and largely free of typos and misspellings? Did you follow instructions completely? Did you answer every question thoroughly? Is your material organized in the order of the directions? Can a reviewer who doesn't know you, but has experience teaching in your content area, clearly follow your evidence of the effective use of student assessment techniques and procedures?
- The fourth bullet states: ***Students must be assessed on what they have been taught or had the opportunity to learn. Students should be apprised of the criteria for their success prior to completion of their work. Criteria for differing levels of performance should be evident in the student work samples you provide.*** What evidence do you provide in Strand A that your students were assessed on the information they were taught? Have you included a rubric or other criteria for student success, along with discussion of when and how students were provided information on those criteria? In your discussion of student work samples, be sure that the criteria for high, middle, and low levels of achievement are clear, not only in the work presented, but in your discussion of those work samples.
- The fifth bullet of the Level III Criteria states: ***You help students and parents understand how and why the students are learning.*** Level III teachers must provide evidence that others are engaged in student learning in meaningful ways. Have you shown how parents are involved in meaningful ways in the learning you've described in Strand A? Have you gone beyond routine or required parental involvement? How have you engaged students in reflecting on their learning or engaging in self-management? Who else besides you is involved in supporting students?

If you are unclear about the answers to any of these questions, you may want to get another teacher who knows the content to review your Strand A for you. Keep in mind that the competencies where you are told to improve are suggestions only. Those suggestions do not mean that you “passed” the other competencies for the strand. When you resubmit, it is possible to correct problems in Strand A related to Competency 5 and introduce new problems related to Competencies 1 or 2. So when you resubmit, you need to go through all the instructions for Strand A again, ensuring that you have thoroughly responded to the prompts and adequately demonstrated your knowledge of content and your students’ opportunities to learn the content you identified as well as your use of a variety of teaching methods and effective assessment.