

Competency 6, Level III

If you received a notice that Strand B of your dossier needs improvement in Competency 6, 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 B related to Competency 6, you may introduce new problems related to Competencies 3, 4, and/or 7. So before you resubmit, take the time to go through all the instructions for Strand B again, ensuring that you have thoroughly responded to the prompts and adequately demonstrated your communication with students; your comprehension and application of the principles of student growth, development and learning; management of the educational setting; and recognition of student diversity.

First, review the Criteria for Success for Strand B on page 23 of the **Requirements & Guidelines for the Preparation of the New Mexico Professional Development Dossier (PDD) for Teachers**. There you will see Competency 6—The teacher manages the educational setting in a manner that promotes positive student behavior and a safe and healthy environment.

Then, look at the Strand B Criteria for Success for Advancement to Level II (also on page 23 of the Requirements and Guidelines document). The first and fourth bullets elaborate on how Competency 6 is assessed in Strand B.

- 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 15-22. 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, see evidence of your management of the educational setting in ways that promote positive student behavior and a safe and healthy environment?
- The fourth bullet states: ***Your explanation of student progress communicates a positive attitude toward the student and reasonable expectations for growth.*** Look carefully over the strand and reflect on the language you use to describe your interactions with students and your explanations of their work. Does your language expose any subtle or direct negative feelings, or unreasonable expectations, for your students?

Advancement to Level III requires that you meet all the Level II criteria and go beyond in the following ways.

- The third bullet states: ***Your instruction and resources engage each student in reflecting on his/her own progress in light of learning goals and experiences.*** Level III teachers manage the learning environment in ways that promote student reflection and self-management. A critical part of that process includes reflecting on progress and setting new goals. Have you demonstrated how you encourage Students X and Y in reflecting on their own progress? Have you provided evidence that illustrates how students use reflection to further their learning?

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 B 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 B related to Competency 6 and introduce new problems related to Competencies 3, 4, and/or 7. So when you resubmit, you need to go through all the instructions for Strand B again, ensuring that you have thoroughly responded to the prompts and adequately demonstrated your communication with students; your comprehension and application of the principles of student growth, development and learning; management of the educational setting; and recognition of student diversity.