

Competency 7, Level III

If you received a notice that Strand B of your dossier needs improvement in Competency 7, 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 7, you may introduce new problems related to Competencies 3, 4, and/or 6. 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 7—The teacher recognizes student diversity and creates an atmosphere conducive to the promotion of positive student involvement and self-concept,

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, third, and fifth bullets elaborate on how Competency 7 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, clearly see that you recognize diversity and promote positive student involvement in your classroom?
- The third bullet states: ***Your explanation highlights aspects of student work and analyzes those aspects in light of sound principles of student growth, development and learning.*** Have you analyzed the student work in terms of the student's physical, emotional, intellectual, and/or social development as appropriate? Have you discussed how Students X and Y are typical or atypical in terms of how they have developed the identified knowledge and skills?
- The fifth bullet states: ***Your instruction and resources are reasonable for each student's development and include necessary adaptations for students with IEPs and English language learners.*** Have you shown how the instruction and resources are appropriate for each student at this time? Have you included in your explanations all adaptations needed for the students' success?

For Level III, you must demonstrate the criteria for Level II on page 23 as well as the criteria for Level III. For advancement to Level III, you must go beyond Level II criteria in the following ways.

- The second bullet states: ***Your analysis provides an in-depth characterization of each student's learning and shows a clear relationship between the experiences encountered by the student***

and his/her learning. Have you highlighted differences in the two students' learning and illustrated how you have responded to their individual needs? If the two students are very different, are different strategies and assignments used, and/or do your explanations take into consideration their differences?

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 7 and introduce new problems related to Competencies 3, 4, and/or 6. 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.