

Competency 8, Level III

If you received a notice that Strand C of your dossier needs improvement in Competency 8, 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 C related to Competency 8, you may introduce new problems related to Competency 9. So before you resubmit, take the time to go through all the instructions for Strand C again, ensuring that you have thoroughly responded to the prompts and adequately demonstrated your willingness to examine and implement change as well as evidence of working productively with colleagues, parents, and/or community members.

First, review the Criteria for Success for Strand C on page 28 of the **Requirements & Guidelines for the Preparation of the New Mexico Professional Development Dossier (PDD) for Teachers**. There you will see Competency 8—The teacher demonstrates a willingness to examine and implement change, as appropriate.

Then, look at the Strand C Criteria for Success for Advancement to Level II (also on page 28 of the Requirements and Guidelines document). The first three bullets elaborate on how Competency 8 is assessed in Strand C.

- 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 24-27. 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 explanation of an area you investigated for improvement and the results of that pursuit?
- The second bullet states: ***You identify and investigate an area for improvement.*** Have you clearly identified one area in which you wished to improve your practice? Be sure you clearly state what that area is and how you pursued improvement in that area.
- The third bullet states: ***You consult resources on methodology, research and current trends in education. You apply what you are learning to your practice, and reflect on the successes and failures of what you are trying out.*** Have you listed the resources you consulted? In Section I.B, is your explanation of what you learned from resources specific? Be sure to provide evidence of how you applied what you are learning to your teaching practice. How did your practice change as a result? Reflect on what worked and what didn't work in your pursuit of change. Will a reviewer be able to easily understand what you learned from trying new ideas in your classroom?

In addition, advancement to level III requires that you go beyond the level II criteria in the following ways.

- The first bullet states: ***You demonstrate improvement in your practice and clearly delineate how your experiences evoked that change.*** Have you clearly shown how your teaching practice

has changed as a result of the investigation you have conducted? Have you demonstrated the relationship between your learning and the change? If you claim that students have improved as a result of your learning, have you provided data to support those claims?

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 C 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 C related to Competency 8 and introduce new problems related to Competency 9. So when you resubmit, you need to go through all the instructions for Strand C again, ensuring that you have thoroughly responded to the prompts and adequately demonstrated your willingness to examine and implement change, and to work productively with colleagues, parents, and/or community members.