

Professional Teaching Competencies

During the Level III Field Experience, teacher candidates are responsible for addressing the following professional teaching competencies. The competencies should be considered as a whole and not in any particular sequence, rank, or order. The elements of each competency are interrelated and work together to provide a complete picture of effective teaching practice. (New Teacher Center, 2004)

Competency Area 1- Engaging and Supporting All Students in Learning

Indicators	Related RIPTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connecting students' prior knowledge, life experience, and interests with learning goals.	RIPTS 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using a variety of instructional strategies and resources to respond to students' diverse needs.	RIPTS 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitating learning experiences that promote autonomy, interaction, and choice.	RIPTS 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engaging students in problem solving, critical thinking, and other activities that make subject matter meaningful.	RIPTS 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting self-directed reflective learning for all students.	RIPTS 6

Competency Area 2 - Creating and Maintaining an Effective Environment for Student Learning

Indicators	Related RIPTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating a physical environment that engages the students.	RIPTS 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing a climate that promotes fairness and respect.	RIPTS 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting social development and group responsibility.	RIPTS 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing and maintaining standards for student behavior.	RIPTS 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and implementing classroom procedures and routines that support student learning.	RIPTS 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using instructional time effectively.	RIPTS 6

Competency Area 3 - Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning

Indicators	Related RIPTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrating knowledge of subject matter content and student development. 	RIPTS 1, 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing curriculum to support student understanding of subject matter. 	RIPTS 1, 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interrelating ideas and information within and across subject matter areas. 	RIPTS 1, 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing student understanding through instructional strategies that are appropriate to the subject matter. 	RIPTS 1, 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using materials, resources, and technologies to make subject matter accessible. 	RIPTS 1, 2

Competency Area 4 - Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for all Students

Indicators	Related RIPTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing on and valuing students' backgrounds, interests, and developmental learning needs. 	RIPTS 3, 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing and articulating goals for student teaching. 	RIPTS 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and sequencing instructional activities and materials for student learning. 	RIPTS 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing short-term and long-term plans to foster student learning. 	RIPTS 2, 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modifying instructional plans to adjust for student needs. 	RIPTS 4

Competency Area 5 - Assessing Student Learning

Indicators	Related RIPTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing and communicating learning goals for all students. 	RIPTS 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collecting and using multiple sources of information to assess student learning. 	RIPTS 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involving and guiding all students in assessing their own learning. 	RIPTS 6, 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using results of assessments to guide instruction. 	RIPTS 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating with students, families, and other audiences about student progress. 	RIPTS 7, 8, 9

Competency Area 6 - Developing as a Professional Educator

Indicators	Related RIPTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflecting on teaching practice and planning professional development.	RIPTS 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing professional goals and pursuing opportunities to grow professionally.	RIPTS 10, 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with communities to improve professional practice.	RIPTS 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with families to improve professional practice.	RIPTS 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with colleagues to improve professional practice.	RIPTS 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Balancing professional responsibilities and maintaining motivation.	RIPTS 10, 11

*Continuum of Teacher Development adapted from the New Teacher Center at the University of California, Santa Cruz (2004)

Each competency embodies several of the Rhode Island Professional Teaching Standards (see below) for which you are also responsible to address and demonstrate improvement.