

OKLAHOMA GENERAL COMPETENCIES FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION

[Adopted May 23, 1996, by the State Board of Education as required by Legislative House Bill 1549 for creation of a competency-based teacher preparation program to be implemented July 1, 1997.]

1. The teacher understands the central concepts and methods of inquiry of the subject matter discipline(s) he or she teaches and can create learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter meaningful for students.
2. The teacher understands how students learn and develop and can provide learning opportunities that support their intellectual, social and physical development at all grade levels including early childhood, elementary, middle level, and secondary.
3. The teacher understands that students vary in their approaches to learning and creates instructional opportunities that are adaptable to individual differences of learners.
4. The teacher understands curriculum integration processes and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage students' development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills and effective use of technology.
5. The teacher uses best practices related to motivation and behavior to create learning environments that encourage positive social interaction, self-motivation and active engagement in learning, thus, providing opportunities for success.
6. The teacher develops knowledge of and uses communication techniques to foster active inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in the classroom.
7. The teacher plans instruction based upon curriculum goals, knowledge of the teaching/learning process, subject matter, students' abilities and differences, and the community; and adapts instruction based upon assessment and reflection.
8. The teacher understands and uses a variety of assessment strategies to evaluate and modify the teaching/learning process ensuring the continuous intellectual, social and physical development of the learner.
9. The teacher evaluates the effects of his/her choices and actions on others (students, parents, and other professionals in the learning community), modifies those actions when needed, and actively seeks opportunities for continued professional growth.
10. The teacher fosters positive interaction with school colleagues, parents/families, and organizations in the community to actively engage them in support of students' learning and well-being.
11. The teacher shall have an understanding of the importance of assisting students with career awareness and the application of career concepts to the academic curriculum.
12. The teacher understands the process of continuous lifelong learning, the concept of making learning enjoyable, and the need for a willingness to change when the change leads to greater student learning and development.
13. The teacher understands the legal aspects of teaching including the rights of students and parents/families, as well as the legal rights and responsibilities of the teacher.
14. The teacher understands and is able to develop instructional strategies/plans based on the Oklahoma core curriculum.
15. The teacher understands the State teacher evaluation process, "Oklahoma Criteria for Effective Teaching Performance and how to incorporate these criteria in designing instructional strategies.

Note: The Oklahoma Criteria for Effective Teaching Performance is being replaced with one of the Teacher Leader Effectiveness Evaluations.