

Standard I

Engaging and supporting all students in learning

Teachers build on students' prior knowledge, life experience, and interests to achieve learning goals for all students. Teachers use a variety of instructional strategies and resources that respond to students' diverse needs. Teachers facilitate challenging learning experiences for all students in environments that promote autonomy, interaction and choice. Teachers actively engage all students in problem solving and critical thinking within and across subject matter areas. Concepts and skills are taught in ways that encourage students to apply them in real-life contexts that make subject matter meaningful. Teachers assist all students to become self-directed learners who are able to demonstrate, articulate and evaluate what they learn.

Element	Unsatisfactory	Needs Improvement	Meets or Exceeds Standards
<p><u>Element 1</u> Connecting students' prior knowledge, life experience and interests with learning goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Connection between what students already know and the new materials are not made or are limited. X Instruction is not connected to life experiences, linguistic skills and cultural understandings. X Lesson plan or units are not designed to capture student attention and interest. X Teaching is not modified and adjusted based on students' interests and questions or developmental levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Some help is given to students to see the connections between what students already know and the new materials. X Some attempts are made to connect instruction to life experiences, linguistic skills and cultural understandings. X Lesson plan or units are designed on occasion to capture student attention and interest. X Limited modifications and adjustments to teaching based on students' interests, questions, and learning goals and developmental levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Helps students to see the connections between what they already know and the new material. X Helps students to connect instruction to life experiences, linguistic skills and cultural understandings. X Plans lessons or units to capture student attention and interest. X Modifies and adjusts teaching based on students' interests, questions, transition goals and/or IEP goals, or developmental levels.
<p><u>Element 2</u> Using a variety of instructional strategies and resources to respond to students' diverse needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X All students are not engaged in a variety of learning experiences that accommodate the different ways that they learn. X A variety of strategies are not used to introduce, explain and restate subject matter concepts and process so that all students understand and are actively engaged. X Strategies are not chosen that make the complexity and depth of subject matter understandable to all students. X Materials and resources are not modified to support each student's fullest participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Some students are engaged in a variety of learning experiences that accommodate the different ways that they learn. X A few strategies are used to introduce, explain and restate subject matter concepts and process so that all students understand and are actively engaged. X May choose strategies that make the complexity and depth of subject matter understandable to all students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Engages all students in a variety of learning experiences that accommodate the different ways they learn. X Uses a variety of strategies to introduce, explain and restate subject matter concepts and process so that all students understand and are actively engaged. X Chooses strategies that make the complexity and depth of subject matter understandable to all students. X Modifies materials and resources to support each student's fullest participation.
<p><u>Element 3</u> Facilitating learning experiences that promote autonomy, interaction and choice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Instructional environment is not used to provide opportunities for independent and collaborative learning. X Participation in and promotion of positive interactions between all students is limited. X Student decisions about managing learning, time and materials are not supported and monitored. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Some use of the instructional environment to provide opportunities for independent and collaborative learning. X Some participation in and promotion of positive interactions between all students. X Inconsistent support on a monitoring of student decisions about managing learning, time and materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Uses the instructional environment to provide opportunities for independent and collaborative learning. X Participants in and promotes positive interactions between all students. X Supports and monitors student decisions about managing learning, time and materials.
<p><u>Element 4</u> Engaging students in problem solving, critical thinking and other activities that make subject matter meaningful.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X All students are not engaged in problem solving and are not encouraged to use multiple approaches and solutions. X All students are not encouraged to ask critical questions or to consider diverse perspectives about subject matter. X All students are not given help to analyze and draw valid conclusions about content being learned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Minimally engages all students in problem solving activities and encourages some approaches and solutions. X Some encouragement of students to ask critical questions and to occasionally consider diverse perspectives about subject matter, as appropriate to student ability level. X At times helps students to analyze and draw valid conclusions about content being learned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Engages all students in problem solving activities and encourages multiple approaches and solutions. X Encourages all students to ask critical questions and consider diverse perspectives about subject matter, as appropriate to student's ability level. X Helps all students to analyze and draw valid conclusions about content being learned.
<p><u>Element 5</u> Promoting self-directed, reflective learning for all students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X All students are not motivated to initiate their own learning or to strive for challenging learning goals. X All students are not engaged in opportunities to examine, reflect on and evaluate their own work and to learn from the work of their peers. X Little help is given to all students to develop and progress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Minimally motivates students to initiate their own learning or to strive for challenging learning goals. X Generally engages students in opportunities to examine, reflect on and evaluate their own work and to learn from the work of their peers. X Some help is given to most students to develop and progress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Motivates all students to initiate their own learning and strive for challenging learning goals. X Engages all students in opportunities to examine, reflect on and evaluate their own work and to learn from the work of their peers. X Helps all students develop and progress.