

Understanding and Using the Standards

The Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession define the expectations for Ohio's teachers based on what is known about the traits and skills of effective teachers. The big ideas emphasized in the standards are:

Standard 1 – Students: Effective teachers understand student learning and development, and respect the diverse students that they teach.

Standard 2 – Content: Effective teachers have a deep understanding of the content they teach.

Standard 3 – Assessment: Effective teachers understand and use varied assessments to evaluate student learning and inform instruction.

Standard 4 – Instruction: Effective teachers plan and deliver instruction that is tailored to the needs of each student.

Standard 5 – Learning Environment: Effective teachers create safe, supportive and respectful learning environments.

Standard 6 – Collaboration and Communication: Effective teachers collaborate and communicate with students, parents, other educators, administrators and community members to support student learning.

Standard 7 – Professional Responsibility and Growth: Effective teachers understand that professional development is a continuous process for which they are responsible.

How These Standards Affect Teachers

The Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession have not immediately changed the process of licensure; that process remains the same. The standards, however, inform initial licensure as institutions of higher education realign their programs and requirements to the standards, and entry year programs are analyzed to ensure that they adequately reflect the rigor of the standards. The Teacher Education and Licensure Standards reference the Ohio Standards for the Teaching Profession for more detailed descriptions of performance indicators in performance-based licensure for teachers and principals.

The Local Professional Development Committees (LPDCs) across the state continue to make decisions about licensure renewal. Teachers will continue to determine and set their own professional goals, using the process outlined in this document as guidance. *The Standards for Ohio Educators and Organizing for High Quality Professional Development* serve as guides for teachers in considering their professional growth across a developmental continuum from Proficient to Accomplished to Distinguished.