

Student Learning Context Profile

(From OSPI's 2007-2008 on-line handbook page 2-14)

http://www.k12.wa.us/certification/ProfEd/Handbook/2_EnrolledinProCert.doc#Portfolio

The Student Learning Context Profile should be 1-3 pages. The profile paints a picture of the teaching context and sets the stage for your Entries. Because all your professional decisions are situated in your work context, the profile provides critical information that the assessor (college/university) will use in determining whether you meet the 12 Professional Certification Criteria.

The Student Learning Context Profile can be written as a narrative description or as a fact sheet, but it will give accurate details not only about the general characteristics of your professional context, but also of important exceptions to those generalities. For instance, it might be generally true that your students come from stable homes, but your professional decision making might also be influenced by the fact that there are a small number who do not.

Describe your student and classroom characteristics.

Describe the students in the classroom, including the number of students and their age and ability ranges. Also discuss the mix of abilities, gender, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, language(s), English proficiency, and special needs. You should specifically note the Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or other individualized student plans your teaching must address.

Also describe the classroom rules and routines, physical arrangements, and grouping patterns that affect learning and teaching and how that setup is connected to the needs of your students.

Describe the relevant characteristics of your school and district.

Describe the aspects of your school and district influence or impact your students and their learning. These aspects might include the curriculum, national reform models (Padeia, Coalition of Essential Schools), size of the school or district, free and reduced lunch rate, etc. They also include the professional community in which you work, the colleagues and supervisors who influence your thinking and performance and the professional culture in your district and school.

Describe the relevant characteristics of your community.

Describe the aspects of your community that influence or impact your students and their learning. These aspects might include the nature of the community (rural, urban, suburban) setting, socio-economic setting, degree of support for schools, etc.

Woodring editorial note: Refer to the Student Learning Context Profile Rubric for guidance in the development of this document. The Student Learning Context Profile must be placed in the front of your portfolio so the reviewers can develop an understanding of your teaching environment and any special challenges present there.