ACTFL Standards for P-12 Foreign Language Teacher Education
2013

1 = Unacceptable  2 = Acceptable  3=Target

**Standard 1: Language Proficiency:** Candidates in foreign language teacher preparation programs possess a high level of proficiency in the target languages they will teach. They are able to communicate effectively in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational contexts. Candidates speak in the interpersonal mode at a minimum level of "Advanced Low" (French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish) or "Intermediate High" (Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean) on the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). They comprehend and interpret oral, printed, and videotexts by identifying the main idea(s) and supporting details, inferring and interpreting the author's intent and cultural perspectives, and offering a personal interpretation of the text. Candidates present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers with language proficiency characteristic of a minimum level of "Advanced Low" or "Intermediate High" according to the target language, as described above.

1a) Speak in the interpersonal mode of communication at a minimum level of "Advanced Low" or "Intermediate High" (for Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Korean) on the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) according to the target language being taught.

1.a.1. Interpersonal Communication: Speaking

1 = Candidates speak at the Intermediate High level on the ACTFL proficiency scale except for Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, who speak at the Intermediate-Mid level. Intermediate-High speakers handle a number of tasks of the Advanced level, but they are unable to sustain performance of these tasks, resulting in one or more features of linguistic breakdown, such as the inability to narrate and describe fully in a time frame or to maintain paragraph-length discourse.

2 = Candidates speak at the Advanced Low level on the ACTFL proficiency scale except for candidates in Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, who speak at the Intermediate High level. Advanced-Low speakers narrate and describe in the major times frames in paragraph-length discourse with some control of aspect. They handle appropriately the linguistic challenges presented by a complication or unexpected turn of events within the context of a situation.

3 = Candidates speak at the Advanced Mid level (or higher) on the ACTFL proficiency scale except for candidates in Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, who speak at the Advanced Low level. Advanced-Mid speakers narrate and describe in the major times frames and provide a full account of events, with good control of aspect. They handle successfully and with ease the linguistic challenges presented by a complication or unexpected turn of events within the context of a situation.

1b) Interpret oral, printed, and videotexts by demonstrating both literal and figurative or symbolic comprehension.

1.b.1. Interpretive Communication: Listening and Reading

1 = As listeners, candidates at the Intermediate High level are able to understand, with ease and confidence, simple sentence-length speech in basic personal and social contexts. They can derive substantial meaning from some connected texts although there often will be gaps in understanding due to a limited knowledge of the vocabulary and structures of the spoken language. For readers of target languages that use a Roman alphabet, including classical languages, candidates read at the Intermediate High level; they understand fully and with ease short, non-complex texts that convey basic information and deal with personal and social topics to which the reader brings personal interest or knowledge. For readers of target languages that use a non-Roman alphabet or characters, candidates read at the Intermediate Mid level; they understand short, non-complex texts that convey basic information and deal with basic personal and social topics to which the reader brings personal interest or knowledge, although some misunderstandings may occur.
2 = As listeners, candidates at the Advanced Low level are able to understand short conventional narrative and descriptive texts with a clear underlying structure though their comprehension may be uneven. The listener understands the main facts and some supporting details. For readers of target languages that use a Roman alphabet, including classical languages, candidates read at the Advanced Low level; they understand conventional narrative and descriptive texts with a clear underlying structure though their comprehension may be uneven. For readers of target languages that use a non-Roman alphabet or characters, candidates read at the Intermediate High level; they understand fully and with ease short, non-complex texts that convey basic information and deal with personal and social topics to which the reader brings personal interest or knowledge.

3 = As listeners, candidates at the Advanced Mid level are able to understand conventional narrative and descriptive texts, such as expanded descriptions of persons, places, and things, and narrations about past, present, and future events. For readers of target languages that use a Roman alphabet, including classical languages, candidates read at the Advanced Mid level; they understand conventional narrative and descriptive texts, such as expanded descriptions of persons, places, and things and narrations about past, present, and future events. For readers of target languages that use a non-Roman alphabet or characters, candidates read at the Advanced Low level; they understand conventional narrative and descriptive texts with a clear underlying structure though their comprehension may be uneven.

1c) Present oral and written information to audiences of listeners or readers, using language at a minimum level of "Advanced Low" or "Intermediate High" according to the target language being taught.

1.c.1. Presentational Communication: Speaking

1 = Candidates deliver oral pre-planned presentations dealing with familiar topics. They speak using notes, and the often read verbatim. They may speak in strings of sentences using basic vocabulary. They often focus more on the content of the presentation rather than considering the audience.

2 = Candidates deliver oral presentations extemporaneously, without reading notes verbatim. Presentations consist of familiar literary and cultural topics and those of personal interest. They speak in connected discourse using a variety of time frames and vocabulary appropriate to the topic. They use extralinguistic support as needed to facilitate audience comprehension.

3 = Candidates deliver oral presentations on a wide variety of topics, including those of personal interest. They speak in extended discourse and use specialized vocabulary. They use a variety of strategies to tailor the presentation to the needs of their audience.

1.c.2. Interpersonal and Presentational Communication: Writing

1 = For target languages that use the Roman alphabet, candidates write at the Intermediate High level on the ACTFL proficiency scale: they meet practical writing needs (uncomplicated letters, simple summaries, compositions related to work and/or school experiences); they can narrate and describe in different time frames when writing about everyday events and situations.

2 = For target languages that use the Roman alphabet, candidates write at the Advanced Low level on the ACTFL proficiency scale: they narrate and describe in all major time frames with some control of aspect. They compose simple summaries on familiar topics.

3 = For target languages that use the Roman alphabet, candidates write at the Advanced Mid level on the ACTFL proficiency scale (or higher): they narrate and describe in all major time frames with good control of aspect. They write straightforward summaries on topics of general interest.

ACTFL STANDARD 2: Cultures, Linguistics, Literatures, and Concepts from Other Disciplines Candidates demonstrate understanding of the multiple content areas that comprise the field of foreign language studies. They demonstrate understanding of the interrelatedness of perspectives, products, and practices in the target cultures. Candidates know the linguistic elements of the target language system, and they recognize the changing nature of
language. Candidates identify distinctive viewpoints in the literary texts, films, art works, and documents from a range of disciplines accessible to them only through the target language.

2a) Demonstrate target cultural understandings and compare cultures through perspectives, products, and practices of those cultures.

2.a.1. Cultural knowledge

1 = Candidates cite examples of cultural practices, products, and perspectives that reflect a developing knowledge base. Candidates chart or list similarities and differences between the target culture and their own. They tend to cite products or practices but are limited in connecting these with perspectives.

2 = Candidates cite key perspectives of the target culture and connect them to cultural products and practices. Candidates use the cultural framework of Standards for Foreign Language Learning or another cross-cultural model that connects perspectives to the products and practices as a way to compare the target culture to their own or to compare a series of cultures.

3 = Candidates view and can explain the target culture as a system in which cultural perspectives are reflected through products and practices. They distinguish between general patterns and more limited contexts, between tradition and contemporary practice; they account for the dynamic nature of culture and hypothesize about cultural phenomena that are unclear. Candidates describe how various cultures are similar and different.

2.a.2. Cultural experience

1 = Candidates’ experience with the target culture has been limited to travel/tourism or instruction.

2 = Candidates gain personal experience to support academic language study by spending planned time in a target culture or community.

3 = Candidates interpret information and observations from cultural informants about experiences in studying, living, working in the target culture. They also collect their own cultural observations from planned time in the target culture, or in the case of native speakers, from their personal experiences growing up in a target culture. They analyze and reflect upon this data in terms of perspectives.

2b) Demonstrate understanding of linguistics and the changing nature of language, and compare language systems

2.b.1. Language system: Phonology (P), Morphology (M), Syntax (SN), Semantics (SM)

1 = P: Candidates recognize phonemes and allophones of the target language and show how some sounds are articulated. M: Candidates recognize that languages have different ways of putting morphemes together to form words. SN: Candidates recognize that specific syntactic patterns may be similar or different between target and native languages. They view discourse as a string of sentences with some use of conjunctions, adverbs, etc. SM: Candidates understand the literal meaning of words and sentences and often apply semantic categories of their native language to the target one.

2 = P: Candidates identify phonemes and allophones of the target language, cite rules of the sound system, and diagnose their own pronunciation difficulties. M: Candidates describe how morphemes in the target language are put together to form words, and they derive meaning from new words through morphological clues (e.g., word families). SN: Candidates identify syntactic patterns of the target language, such as simple, compound, and some complex sentences, and questions and contrast them with their native languages. They recognize key cohesive devices used in connected discourse such as adverbial expressions and conjunctions. SM: Candidates understand the inferred words and sentences as well as high-frequency idiomatic expressions, and they identify semantic differences between their native languages and the target language.

3 = P: Candidates demonstrate the differences between phonological systems of the target and their native languages, explain rules of the sound system, and remediate their pronunciation difficulties. M: Candidates
strategically use new words in the target language by recombining morphemes. **SN:** Candidates describe ways in which syntactic patterns in the target language reflect nuances. They create connected discourse in the target language using these patterns. **SM:** Candidates understand the cultural variations of a wide range of words, sentences, and idiomatic expressions, and they describe the differences between the semantic systems of their native languages and the target language.

### 2.b.2. Rules for sentence formation, discourse, sociolinguistic and pragmatic knowledge

1 = Candidates identify key rules for word and sentence formation as well as regularities characteristic of the verbal system, agreement, use of pronouns, etc. They are aware of pragmatic and sociolinguistic features (e.g., politeness, formal/informal address) of the target discourse.

2 = Candidates explain rules for word and sentence formation (e.g., verbal system, agreement, use of pronouns) and provide examples. They identify pragmatic and sociolinguistic features (e.g., politeness, formal/informal address) of the target discourse and identify features for creating coherence and discourse in extended spoken and written texts.

3 = Candidates describe in detail rules for word and sentence formation, compare rules across languages, and explain how nuances are achieved. They explain pragmatic and sociolinguistic features (e.g., politeness, formal/informal address) of the target discourse, how discourse features convey contextual and cultural meaning, and how they vary based on setting, communicative goal, and participants. They explain how coherence is achieved in spoken and written discourse.

### 2.b.3. Changing nature of language

1 = Candidates recognize that language changes over time. They rely on instructional materials for examples.

2 = Candidates identify key changes in the target language over time (e.g., writing system, new words, spelling conventions, grammatical elements). They identify discrepancies between language in instructional materials and contemporary usage.

3 = Candidates describe changes over time in the target language. They are familiar with contemporary usage as a result of interacting with native speakers and exploring authentic materials.

### 2c) Demonstrate understanding of texts on literary and cultural themes as well as interdisciplinary topics.

#### 2.c.1. Knowledge of literary and cultural texts

1 = Candidates are aware of major literary texts and can identify main ideas of works read such as excerpts, abridgements, or reviews of key works and authors.

2 = Candidates interpret literary texts that represent defining works in the target cultures. They identify themes, authors, historical style, and text types in a variety of media that the cultures deem important to understanding their traditions.

3 = Candidates interpret and synthesize ideas and critical issues from literary and other cultural texts that represent historical and contemporary works of a wide range of writers in a wide range of forms and media. They interpret from multiple viewpoints and approaches.

#### 2.c.2. Content from across the disciplines

1 = Candidates identify key ideas from materials on topics from other disciplines when they have studied these or when there is instructional explanation.

2 = Candidates derive general meaning and some details from materials with topics from a number of disciplines (e.g., ecology, health). They comprehend more from materials on topics with which they have some familiarity and can determine the meaning of words from context.
ACTFL STANDARD 3: Language Acquisition Theories and Knowledge of Students and Their Needs
Candidates demonstrate an understanding of the principles of language acquisition and use this knowledge to create linguistically and culturally rich learning environments. Candidates demonstrate an understanding of child and adolescent development, the context of instruction, and their students’ backgrounds, skills, and learning profiles in order to create a supportive learning environment that meets individual students’ needs.

3a) Demonstrate an understanding of key principles of language acquisition and create linguistically and culturally rich learning environments.

3.a.1. Language Acquisition Theories

1 = Candidates exhibit an awareness of the key concepts of language acquisition theories as they relate to K-12 learners at various developmental levels. They illustrate an ability to connect theory with practice. They show a growing awareness of the connection between student learning and the use of instructional strategies.

2 = Candidates exhibit an understanding of language acquisition theories, including the use of target language input, negotiation of meaning, interaction, and a supporting learning environment. They draw their knowledge of theories, as they apply to K-12 learners at various developmental levels, in designing teaching strategies that facilitate language acquisition.

3 = Candidates exhibit ease and flexibility in applying language acquisition theories to instructional practice. They use a wide variety of strategies to meet the linguistic needs of their K-12 students at various developmental levels. Candidates exhibit originality in the planning, creation, and implementation of instructional strategies that reflect language acquisition theories.

3.a.2. Target language input

1 = Candidates use the target language for specific parts of classroom lessons at all levels of instruction, but avoid spontaneous interaction with students in the target language. They use some strategies to help students understand oral and written input.

2 = Candidates use the target language to the maximum extent in classes at all levels of instruction. They designate certain times for spontaneous interaction with students in the target language. They tailor language use to students’ developing proficiency levels. They use a variety of strategies to help students understand oral and written input. They use the target language to design content-based language lessons.

3 = Candidates structure classes to maximize use of the target language at all levels of instruction. A key component of their classes is their spontaneous interaction with students in the target language. They assist students in developing a repertoire of strategies for understanding oral and written input. They use the target language to teach a variety of subject matter and cultural content.

3.a.3. Negotiation of Meaning

1 = Since most classroom interaction is planned, candidates do not regularly negotiate meaning with students. They teach students some expressions in the target language for negotiating meaning, such as “Could you repeat that, please?”

2 = Candidates negotiate meaning with students when spontaneous interaction occurs. They teach students a variety of ways to negotiate meaning with others and provide opportunities for them to do so in classroom activities.
3 = Negotiation of meaning is an integral part of classroom interaction. Candidates negotiate meaning regularly with students. They teach students to integrate negotiation of meaning strategies into their communication with others.

3.a.4. Meaningful Classroom Interaction

1 = Candidates use communicative activities as the basis for engaging students in meaningful classroom interaction. These activities and meaningful contexts are those that occur in instructional materials.

2 = Candidates design activities in which students will have opportunities to interact meaningfully with one another. The majority of activities and tasks is standards-based and has meaningful contexts that reflect curricular themes and students’ interests.

3 = Meaningful classroom interaction is at the heart of language instruction. Candidates engage students in communicative and interesting activities and tasks on a regular basis. All classroom interaction reflects engaging contexts that are personalized to the interests of students and reflect curricular goals.

3b) Demonstrate an understanding of child and adolescent development to create a supportive learning environment for each student.

3.b.1. Theories of learner development and instruction

1 = Candidates recognize that K-12 students have different physical, cognitive, emotional, and social developmental characteristics. Candidates recognize the need to tailor instruction to accommodate their students’ developmental needs. They are aware of but seldom make use of the many different instructional models and techniques that exist.

2 = Candidates describe the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social developmental characteristics of K-12 students. They implement a variety of instructional models and techniques to accommodate these differences.

3 = Candidates plan for instruction according to the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social developmental needs of their K-12 students. They implement a broad variety of instructional models and techniques to accommodate these differences and tailor instruction to meet the developmental needs of their students.

3.b.2. Understanding of relationship of articulated program models to language outcomes

1 = Candidates recognize that different foreign language program models (e.g., FLES, FLEX, immersion) exist and lead to different language outcomes.

2 = Candidates describe how foreign language program models (e.g., FLES, FLEX, immersion) lead to different language outcomes.

3 = Candidates design and/or implement specific foreign language program models that lead to different language outcomes.

3.b.3. Adapting instruction to address students’ language levels, language backgrounds, learning styles

1 = Candidates recognize that their students have a wide range of language levels, language backgrounds, and learning styles. They attempt to address these differences by using a limited variety of instructional strategies.

2 = Candidates seek out information regarding their students’ language levels, language backgrounds, and learning styles. They implement a variety of instructional models and techniques to address these student differences.

3 = Candidates consistently use information about their students’ language levels, language backgrounds, and learning styles to plan for and implement language instruction.
3.b.4. Adapting instruction to address students’ multiple ways of learning

1 = Candidates recognize that students approach language learning in a variety of ways. They identify how individual students learn.

2 = Candidates identify multiple ways in which students learn when engaged in language classroom activities.

3 = Candidates plan for and implement a variety of instructional models and strategies that accommodate different ways of learning.

3.b.5. Adapting instruction to meet students’ special needs

1 = Candidates identify special needs of their students, including cognitive, physical, linguistic, social, and emotional needs. They recognize that they may need to adapt instruction to meet these special needs.

2 = Candidates implement a variety of instructional models and techniques that address specific special needs of their students.

3 = Candidates anticipate their students’ special needs by planning for differentiated alternative classroom activities as necessary.

3.b.6. Critical thinking and problem solving

1 = Candidates implement activities that have a limited number of answers and allow little room for critical thinking and/or problem solving.

2 = Candidates implement activities that promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

3 = Candidates reward their students for engaging in critical thinking and problem solving.

3.b.7. Grouping

1 = Candidates teach primarily with large-group instruction. Pair- and small group activities generally consist of students grouped together but working individually.

2 = Candidates differentiate instruction by conducting activities in which students work collaboratively in pairs and small groups. They define and model the task, give a time limit and expectations for follow-up, group students, assign students roles, monitor the task, and conduct a follow up activity.

3 = Candidates differentiate instruction by providing regular opportunities for students to work collaboratively in pairs and small-groups. They teach their students strategies for assuming roles, monitoring their progress in the task, and evaluating their performance at the end of the task.

3.b.8. Use of questioning and tasks

1 = Candidates use short answer questioning as the primary strategy for eliciting language from students.

2 = Candidates recognize that questioning strategies and task-based activities serve different instructional objectives. They use tasks as they appear in their instructional materials.

3 = Candidates have an approach to planning and instruction that integrates the appropriate design and use of both questioning strategies and task-based activities, based on instructional objectives and the nature of language use that they want to elicit from students.
ACTFL Standard 4: Integration of Standards in Planning and Instruction. Candidates in foreign language teacher preparation programs understand and use the national Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century (2006) and their state standards to make instructional decisions. Candidates demonstrate an understanding of the standards and integrate them into their curricular planning. They design instructional practices and classroom experiences that address these standards. Candidates use the principles embedded in the standards to select and integrate authentic materials and technology, as well as to adapt and create materials, to support communication in their classrooms.

4a) Demonstrate an understanding of the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century and their state standards and use them as the basis for instructional planning.

4.a.1. Integration of Standards into planning

1 = Candidates apply SFLL and state standards to their planning to the extent that their instructional materials do so.

2 = Candidates create activities and/or adapt existing instructional materials and activities to address specific SFLL and state standards.

3 = Candidates use the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century (SFLL) and state standards as a starting point to design curriculum and unit/lesson plans.

4b) Integrate the goal areas of the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century and their state standards in their classroom practice.

4.b.1. Integration of Standards into instruction

1 = Candidates conduct activities that address specific SFLL and state standards to the extent that their instructional materials include a connection to standards.

2 = Candidates adapt activities as necessary to address SFLL and state standards.

3 = SFLL and state standards are the focus of classroom practice.

4.b.2. Integration of three modes of communication

1 = Candidates understand the connection among the three modes of communication and focus on one mode at a time in communicative activities.

2 = Candidates design opportunities for students to communicate by using the three modes of communication in an integrated manner.

3 = Candidates use the interpersonal-interpretive-presentational framework as the basis for engaging learners actively in communication.

4.b.3. Integration of cultural products, practices, perspectives

1 = Candidates understand the anthropological view of cultures in terms of the 3Ps framework and refer to one or more of these areas in their classroom practice and comparisons of cultures.

2 = Candidates design opportunities for students to explore the target language culture(s) by make cultural comparisons by means of the 3Ps framework.

3 = Candidates use the products-practices-perspectives framework as the basis for engaging learners in cultural exploration and comparisons.
4.b.4. Connections to other subject areas

1 = Candidates make connections to other subject areas whenever these connections occur in their existing instructional materials.

2 = Candidates design opportunities for students to learn about other subject areas in the target language. They obtain information about other subject areas from colleagues who teach those subjects.

3 = Candidates design a content-based curriculum and collaborate with colleagues from other subject areas. They assist their students in acquiring new information from other disciplines in the target language.

4.b.5. Connections to target language communities

1 = Candidates introduce target language communities to the extent that they are presented in their existing instructional materials.

2 = Candidates provide opportunities for students to connect to target language communities through the Internet, email, social networking and other technologies.

3 = Candidates engage learners in interacting with members of the target language communities through a variety of means that include technology, as a key component of their classroom practice.

4c) Use the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century and their state standards to select and integrate authentic texts, use technology, and adapt and create instructional materials for use in communication.

4.c.1. Selection and integration of authentic materials and technology

1 = Candidates primarily use materials and technology created for classroom use or available as an ancillary to the textbook program, whether or not they are authentic or appropriate for standards-based practice.

2 = Candidates identify and integrate authentic materials and technology into support standards-based classroom practice. They help students to acquire strategies for understanding and interpreting authentic texts available through various media.

3 = Candidates use authentic materials and technology to drive standards-based classroom practice. They integrate multiple resources, including a variety of authentic materials and media, to engage students actively in their learning and enable them to acquire new information.

4.c.2. Adaptation and Creation of materials

1 = Candidates use instructional materials that have been developed commercially.

2 = Candidates adapt materials as necessary to reflect standards-based goals and instruction when materials fall short.

3 = An integral part of candidates' planning is to adapt materials to make standards-based learning more effective.

ACTFL STANDARD 5: Assessment of Languages and Cultures – Impact on Student Learning. Candidates in foreign language teacher preparation programs design ongoing assessments using a variety of assessment models to show evidence of P-12 students’ ability to communicate in the instructed language in interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational modes; and to express understanding of cultural and literary products, practices, and perspectives of the instructed language. Candidates reflect on results of assessments, adjust instruction, and communicate results to stakeholders.
5a) Design and use ongoing authentic performance assessments using a variety of assessment models for all learners, including diverse students.

5.a.1. Plan for assessment

1 = Candidates use assessments provided in their textbooks or other instructional materials without regard for student performance after instruction.

2 = Candidates design and use authentic performance assessments to demonstrate what students should know and be able to do following instruction.

3 = Candidates share their designed assessments and rubrics with students prior to beginning instruction.

5.a.2. Formative and summative assessment models

1 = Candidates recognize the purposes of formative and summative assessments as set forth in prepared testing materials.

2 = Candidates design and use formative assessments to measure achievement within a unit of instruction and summative assessments to measure achievement at the end of a unit or chapter.

3 = Candidates design a system of formative and summative assessments that measures overall development of proficiency in an ongoing manner and at culminating points in the total program, using technology where appropriate to develop and deliver assessments.

5.a.3. Interpretive communication

1 = Candidates use interpretive assessments found in instructional materials prepared by others. The reading/listening materials with which they work tend to be those prepared for pedagogical purposes.

2 = Candidates design and use authentic performance assessments that measure students’ abilities to comprehend and interpret authentic oral and written texts from the target cultures. These assessments encompass a variety of response types from forced choice to open-ended.

3 = Candidates design and use assessment procedures that encourage students to interpret oral and printed texts of their choice. Many of these involve students’ developing of self-assessment skills to encourage independent interpretation. Candidates incorporate technology-based delivery and analysis systems where available and appropriate.

5.a.4. Interpersonal communication

1 = Candidates use interpersonal assessment measures found in instructional materials prepared by others.

2 = Candidates design and use performance assessments that measure students’ abilities to negotiate meaning as listeners/speakers and as readers/writers in an interactive mode. Assessments focus on tasks at students’ levels of comfort but pose some challenges.

3 = Candidates have had training or experience conducting and rating interpersonal assessments that have been developed according to procedures that assure reliability such as the MOPI (Modified Oral Proficiency Interview) or state-designed instruments.

5.a.5. Presentational communication

1 = Candidates use interpersonal assessment measures found in instructional materials prepared by others.
2 = Candidates design and use assessments that capture how well students speak and write in planned contexts. The assessments focus on the final products created after a drafting process and look at how meaning is conveyed in culturally appropriate ways. They create and use effective holistic and/or analytical scoring methods.

3 = Candidates create and use presentational tasks that develop students’ abilities to self-assess which includes self-correction and revision in terms of audience, style, and cultural context. They encourage students to write or to speak on topics of interest to the students.

5.a.6. Cultural perspectives

1 = Candidates assess isolated cultural facts.

2 = Candidates devise assessments that allow students to apply the cultural framework to authentic documents. Student tasks include identifying the products, practices, and perspectives embedded in those documents.

3 = Candidates design assessments of problem-solving tasks in content areas of interest to students and possibly on topics not familiar to the teacher.

5.a.7. Integrated communication assessments

1 = Candidates recognize that assessments can lead students from one mode of communication to another (e.g., a reading task to written letter to a discussion) but they tend to score the subsets of skills.

2 = Candidates use existing standards-based performance assessments (e.g., integrated performance assessments) that allow students to work through a series of communicative tasks on a particular theme (e.g., wellness, travel). They evaluate performance in a global manner.

3 = Candidates use existing standards-based performance assessments (e.g., integrated performance assessments) that allow students to work through a series of communicative tasks on a particular theme (e.g., wellness, travel). They evaluate performance in a global manner.

5b) Reflect on and analyze the results of student assessments, adjust instruction accordingly, and use data to inform and strengthen subsequent instruction.

5.b.1. Assessments reflect a variety of models designed to meet needs of diverse learners

1 = Candidates cite the role of performance assessment in the classroom and attempt to measure performances. They rely on discrete-point or right-answer assessments.

2 = Candidates assess what students know and are able to do by using and designing assessments that capture successful communication and cultural understandings. They commit the effort necessary to measure end performances.

3 = Candidates design assessments that allow all students to maximize their performance. Assessments drive planning and instruction by focusing on what students can do. Results are used to improve teaching and track student learning.

5.b.2. Reflect

1 = Candidates interpret assessments as correct/incorrect student response.

2 = Candidates observe and analyze the result of student performances to discern global success and underlying inaccuracies.

3 = Candidates teach students to reflect upon their performances in a global and an analytical fashion.
5.b.3. Adjust instruction

1 = Candidates use assessment results to conduct whole group remediation or review.

2 = Candidates use insights gained from assessing student performances to conduct whole group review and then to adapt, change, and reinforce instruction.

3 = Candidates use assessment results for whole group improvement and to help individual students identify the gaps in their knowledge and skills.

5.b.4. Incorporate results and reflect on instruction

1 = Candidates use assessments that can be scored quickly and mechanically, whether in person or with the use of technology. Assessment is viewed as an end in and of itself.

2 = Candidates incorporate what they have learned from assessments and show how they have adjusted instruction. The commitment to do this is established in their planning.

3 = Candidates design assessments and use results to improve teaching and student learning. They use technology where appropriate to collect data and report results and to enhance or extend instruction.

5c) Interpret and report the results of student performances to all stakeholders in the community, with particular emphasis on building student responsibility for their own learning.

5.c.1. Interpret and report progress to students

1 = Candidates report student progress in terms of grades, scores, and information on discrete aspects of language or cultural facts.

2 = Candidates interpret and report accurately the progress students are making in terms of language proficiency and cultural knowledge. They use performances to illustrate both what students can do and how they can advance.

3 = Candidates identify ways of involving students in understanding testing procedures and scoring mechanisms so that students gain confidence in self-assessment and in planning for personal growth.

5.c.2. Communicate with stakeholders

1 = Candidates identify the stakeholders and their roles and interests in assessment of student progress. Candidates find short-cut ways to report assessment results.

2 = Candidates report student progress to students and parents. They use appropriate terminology and share examples that illustrate student learning. Candidates report assessment results accurately and clearly.

3 = Candidates communicate to audiences in the schools and community how assessment reflects language proficiency and cultural experiences. Candidates report assessment results in a way that is tailored to particular groups of stakeholders.

ACTFL Standard 6: Professional Development, Advocacy, and Ethics. Candidates engage in ongoing professional development opportunities that strengthen their own linguistic, cultural, and pedagogical competence and promote reflection on practice. Candidates articulate the role and value of languages and cultures in preparing all students to interact successful in the global community of the 21st century. They understand the importance of collaboration to advocate for the learning of languages and cultures. Candidates understand and explain the opportunities and responsibilities inherent in being a professional language educator and are committed to equitable and ethical interactions with all stakeholders.
6a) Engage in ongoing professional development opportunities that strengthen their own linguistic, cultural and pedagogical competence and promote reflection on practice.

6.a.1. Awareness of professional learning communities

1 = Candidates are aware of professional organizations.

2 = Candidates identify and participate in at least one pertinent professional learning community.

3 = Candidates identify and participate in multiple professional learning communities.

6.a.2. Lifelong commitment to professional growth

1 = Candidates articulate the rationale for ongoing professional development.

2 = Candidates identify immediate professional development needs and pursue opportunities to meet them.

3 = Candidates identify long-term professional development goals and outline a process for pursuing them with potential providers (e.g., state professional organizations) to meet these needs.

6.a.3. Inquiry and reflection as a critical tool for professional growth

1 = Candidates recognize the potential of reflective practices as an essential tool to becoming an effective practitioner. They rely mostly on input from others to frame their reflection questions.

2 = Candidates frame their own reflection and research questions and show evidence of engaging in a process of inquiry to improve teaching and learning.

3 = Candidates systematically engage in a process of inquiry for analyzing student work and planning future instruction. They identify potential areas for classroom-based action research to inform practice.

6.a.4. Seeking professional growth opportunities

1 = Candidates consider suggestions that mentors make regarding candidate’s own professional growth.

2 = Candidates seek counsel regarding opportunities for professional growth and establish a plan to pursue them.

3 = Candidates develop a plan for their induction to the profession and identify multiple pathways for pursuing professional growth and development.

6b) Articulate the role and value of languages and cultures in preparing all students to interact in the global community of the 21st century through collaboration and advocacy with all stakeholders.

6.b.1. Develop an advocacy rationale for language learning

1 = Candidates realize the importance of developing a rationale for supporting language learning.

2 = Candidates develop a rationale for advocating the importance of language learning.

3 = Candidates develop and articulate a rationale for language learning that includes the cognitive, academic, affective and economic benefits to students in today’s global society.
6.b.2. Access, analyze and use data to support language learning

1 = Candidates identify the main sources (both print and online) for accessing language-specific data.

2 = Candidates select appropriate data sources to develop products in support of language learning for designated audiences.

3 = Candidates access multiple sources of data and synthesize findings to prepare a coherent rationale for language learning for multiple audiences.

6.b.3. Recognize the importance of collaboration and building alliances for advocacy that support increased P-12 student learning.

1 = Candidates understand the importance of professional and social networks and the role they play in advocacy efforts to increase P-12 student learning in languages and cultures.

2 = Candidates provide evidence of participating in at least one professional and/or social network designed to advocate for the increase of P-12 student learning in languages and cultures.

3 = Candidates demonstrate evidence that they have initiated efforts to collaborate with students, colleagues and other stakeholders to advocate for increased P-12 student learning in languages and cultures.

6c) Use inquiry and reflection to understand and explain the opportunities and responsibilities inherent in being a professional language educator and demonstrate a commitment to equitable and ethical interactions with all students, colleagues and other stakeholders

6.c.1. Become a member of the profession

1 = Candidates are aware of professional learning communities and the benefits that they offer along their career pathway.

2 = Candidates shadow officers and members in professional learning communities and avail themselves of programs sponsored by these organizations.

3 = Candidates accept invitations to professional learning communities (e.g., members of the language department, online learning communities, language-specific associations and special interest groups [SIGs]) and volunteer to assume different supporting roles in these organizations.

6.c.2. Successful interaction in professional settings

1 = Candidates demonstrate satisfactory conduct when interacting in predictable professional contexts.

2 = Candidates demonstrate appropriate conduct when interacting in various and more challenging professional contexts.

3 = Candidates assume leadership roles and demonstrate exemplary conduct in performing these in a variety of professional settings.