4.10 World Languages (Grades K-12)

To be endorsed in a world language, an applicant shall hold an earned bachelor's or higher degree from an accepted institution of higher education; have completed an approved teacher preparation program including prescribed field experience and student teaching requirements; have completed an approved program for the preparation of world language teachers; be knowledgeable about the Colorado Academic Standards for world languages; and have demonstrated the competencies specified below:

4.10(1) Language proficiency: A competent world languages teacher is proficient in the language(s) taught, according to the proficiency guidelines outlined by the American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Languages; is able to communicate effectively in interpersonal, interpretive and presentational contexts at a minimum proficiency level, equivalent to the advanced low level defined by the council’s proficiency guidelines; and is able to:

4.10(1)(a) speak in the interpersonal mode of communication (except classical languages such as Greek and Latin, as there is no requirement for them to be spoken in interpersonal mode).

4.10(1)(b) interpret oral, printed and video texts and visual images by demonstrating both literal and figurative or symbolic comprehension.

4.10(1)(c) present oral and written information to audiences of listeners or readers.

4.10(2) Cultures, linguistics, literatures and concepts from other disciplines: A competent world languages teacher demonstrates understanding of the multiple content areas that comprise the field of world language learning, recognizes the changing nature of language and is able to:

4.10(2)(a) demonstrate understanding of the interrelatedness of perspectives, products and practices in the target cultures.

4.10(2)(b) demonstrate target cultural understandings and compare cultures through perspectives, products and practices of those cultures.

4.10(2)(c) identify the linguistic elements of the target language system needed to communicate in a variety of settings.

4.10(2)(d) demonstrate an understanding of linguistics and the changing nature of language, and compare language systems.

4.10(2)(e) identify distinctive viewpoints in the literary texts, films, art works and documents from a range of disciplines available only through the target language.

4.10(2)(f) demonstrate an understanding of texts on literary and cultural themes as well as interdisciplinary topics.

4.10(3) Language acquisition: A competent world languages teacher understands second language acquisition theories and their applications to teaching methodologies, and is able to:

4.10(3)(a) apply second language acquisition theories which can be used to help students develop proficiency, increase knowledge and strengthen cognitive skills.

4.10(3)(b) articulate curriculum and instruction to ensure a sequence of age-appropriate learning experiences, progressing from a simple to a more advanced use of the language.
4.10(3)(c) understand the proficiency range levels as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

4.10(4) Diversity of learners: A competent world languages teacher understands how learners differ in their knowledge, experiences, abilities and approaches to language learning; creates interactive, engaging and supportive learning environments that encourage student self-motivation and promote their language learning and understanding; and is able to:

4.10(4)(a) demonstrate an understanding of child and adolescent development to create a supportive learning environment for each student.

4.10(4)(b) create an inclusive, caring, challenging and stimulating differentiated classroom environment in which meaningful communication in the target language occurs and in which all students learn through active participation.

4.10(4)(c) promote a learning environment that encourages lifelong learning and that goes beyond the classroom to include families and communities.

4.10(4)(d) provide learning experiences that reflect learner diversity.

4.10(4)(e) use a variety of language-appropriate resources, available technologies and current state world language standards which meet the instructional and linguistic needs of all students and foster critical and creative thinking.

4.10(5) Colorado Academic Standards in world languages in planning and instruction: A competent world languages teacher understands and uses the current Colorado Academic Standards in world languages to make instructional decisions and integrate them into curricular planning, and is able to:

4.10(5)(a) demonstrate an understanding of the Colorado Academic Standards in world languages and use them as a basis for instructional planning.

4.10(5)(b) align K-12 world language curriculum and instruction with the Colorado Academic Standards in world languages and local school district policies.

4.10(5)(c) integrate the Colorado Academic Standards in world languages into their classroom practice.

4.10(5)(d) use the Colorado Academic Standards in world languages to select and integrate texts including authentic texts, use technology, and adapt and create instructional materials for use in communication.

4.10(6) Assessment of languages and cultures and impact on student learning: A competent world languages teacher designs ongoing assessments using a variety of assessment models to show evidence of K-12 students’ ability to communicate in the instructed language in interpersonal, interpretive and presentational modes; expresses understanding of cultural and literary products, practices and perspectives of the instructed language; and is able to:

4.10(6)(a) design ongoing, authentic performance assessments using a variety of assessment models for all learners.

4.10(6)(b) reflect on and analyze the results of student assessments and adjust instruction accordingly.

4.10(6)(c) use data to inform and strengthen instruction.
4.10(6)(d) interpret the results of student performances to all stakeholders in the community.

4.10(6)(e) build student responsibility for his/her own learning.

4.10(7) Professional learning and reflection: A competent teacher of world languages engages in ongoing professional learning opportunities to strengthen personal linguistic, cultural and pedagogical competence and promote reflection on practice, and in so doing is able to:

4.10(7)(a) demonstrate an understanding of the value of professional learning and reflection on instructional practice and professional growth.

4.10(7)(b) continually evaluate the effects of personal choices and their impact on student learning.

4.10(7)(c) reflectively evaluate the effect and impact of professional learning choices on instructional practice and student achievement.

4.10(7)(d) demonstrate an understanding of their professional responsibility to keep current with events relevant to the cultures of the target language.

4.10(7)(e) demonstrate an understanding of professional growth opportunities such as membership in professional organizations, accessing professional journals, attending conferences and study and/or travel abroad.

4.10(8) Advocacy: A competent teacher of world languages articulates the role and value of languages and cultures to interact successfully in the global community and is able to:

4.10(8)(a) articulate the role and value of languages and cultures in preparing students to interact in the global community.

4.10(8)(b) foster relationships with school colleagues, families and agencies in the larger community to support students’ language learning and student achievement.

4.10(9) American Sign Language (ASL). To be endorsed in American Sign Language, an applicant shall hold an earned bachelor’s or higher degree from an accepted institution of higher education; have completed an approved teacher preparation program; have completed an approved program for the preparation of American Sign Language teachers including prescribe field experience and student teaching requirements; and have demonstrated the competencies for American Sign Language.

4.10(10) The world language educator shall self-assess the effectiveness of instruction based on the achievement of students and pursue continuous professional development through appropriate activities, coursework and participation in relevant professional organizations.