



SELF-ASSESSMENT

How to Use the Self-Assessment

1. Rate your level of mastery on a scale of 1 to 3, with 1=limited, 2=moderate and 3=strong.
2. Add notes under "Candidate Response" about evidence you have to demonstrate each competency. You may note the name of a document that you will upload to your portfolio or a link to another resource.
3. Review the self-assessment (with your advisor) and develop a professional development program to address weaknesses identified. Within the next year, you must provide documentation of competencies for all listed below.

Theme 1: Environmental Literacy

Competency 1.1: Questioning and Analysis Skills

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
1.1a - A certified environmental educator will compare and contrast three different investigative approaches/methods/modes and apply at least one of them to an environmental topic.		Investigative methods/modes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • observation • data collection • descriptive science • problem monitoring • stakeholder assessments • issue investigation • cultural ways of knowing 	
1.1b - A certified environmental educator will describe two scenarios in which local or regional environmental knowledge is incomplete. Explain how environmental knowledge continues to change as discoveries are made.			

1.1c - A certified environmental educator will critically analyze two sources of information for accuracy and reliability.		Consider source, date, author, alternate points of view, and compare to other sources of information. May incorporate topics or scenarios from 1.1a and 1.1b.	
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Theme 1: Environmental Literacy

Competency 1.2: Knowledge of Environmental Processes and Systems

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
1.2a – A certified environmental educator will demonstrate knowledge of the five major bioregions and your local life zones of New Mexico’s natural and cultural histories.		Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a list • food web • concept map • diagram 	

Theme 1: Environmental Literacy

Competency 1.3: Skills for Understanding and Addressing Environmental Issues

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
1.3a - A certified environmental educator will understand the anthropogenic causes and effects of climate change and have familiarity with mitigation and adaptation efforts.		List three causes and three mitigation or adaptation measures.	
1.3b - A certified environmental educator will describe one issue and then identify an event and a problem related to that issue.			
1.3b - A certified environmental educator will, for the above issue, design a plan to: investigate, analyze, and evaluate its scope, causes, consequences, and investigate and evaluate alternative solutions.			

Theme 1: Environmental Literacy

Competency 1.4: Personal and Civic Responsibility

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
1.4a - A certified environmental educator will describe a local environmental issue and various societal values that play a role in it.		This may be the same example or a different one from 1.3 above.	
1.4b - A certified environmental educator will articulate citizen rights and responsibilities, as well as his/her position, with respect to that issue.			
1.4c - A certified environmental educator will propose and justify a course of action.			
1.4d - A certified environmental educator will design a plan to carry out that action.			
1.4e - A certified environmental educator will critique that plan, to include probable outcomes and consequences.			

Theme 2: Foundations of Environmental Education

Competency 2.1: Fundamental Characteristics & Goals of Environmental Education

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
2.1 - A certified environmental educator will be able to describe the goals, objectives and characteristics of environmental education that contribute to making it a distinct field.			

Theme 2: Foundations of Environmental Education

Competency 2.2: How Environmental Education is Implemented

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
2.2a - A certified environmental educator will have personal experience with two major national and two regional or state EE providers and the resources they offer.		Workshop providers, educational outreach, programs and resources.	
2.2b – A certified environmental educator will have visited and be knowledgeable about at least two national and two regional environmental education facilities.		Nature centers, national or state parks, visitor centers, zoos, etc.	

Theme 2: Foundations of Environmental Education

Competency 2.3: The Evolution of the Field

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
2.3a - A certified environmental educator will be able to explain the evolution of the field of environmental education, by citing and describing the significance or impact of two historical documents, three movements (historical and emerging), two policies, and three individuals in making the field what it is today.		Documents and sources will be made available to candidates.	
2.3b – A certified environmental educator will be able to discuss how at least one current policy impacts his or her day-to-day work.		Candidate may use a national, state, or local policy, as well as an institutional policy.	

Theme 3: Professional Responsibilities

Competency 3.1: Exemplary Environmental Education Practice

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
3.1a - A certified environmental educator will model responsible, respectful and reasoned behavior during two presentations and an interaction (e.g., committee meetings, activities, communications) with a local community.		See Ethics Policy . Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • letters from colleagues • evaluations • minutes 	
3.1b - A certified environmental educator will correlate two inquiry-based lessons to Common Core, Next Generation Science Standards, and State academic standards.			
3.1c – A certified environmental educator will have 10 hours experience with outdoor, instructor-led trainings that affect the learner vividly and demand use of the senses.		See Self-Assessment Resources .	

Theme 3: Professional Responsibilities of the Environmental Educator

Competency 3.2: Emphasis on Education, Not Advocacy

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
3.2a - A certified environmental educator will illustrate with two examples what the differences are between advocacy and education.			

<p>3.2b - A certified environmental educator will identify two instructional strategies and two curriculum materials/resources (e.g., CD-ROMs, videos, posters, books, websites) and explain how they can be used to encourage learners to gain/explore different perspectives, form their own opinions, and support their beliefs.</p>			
<p>3.2c - A certified environmental educator will implement one of the instructional strategies she or he identified and explained.</p>			

Theme 3: Professional Responsibilities of the Environmental Educator

Competency 3.3: Ongoing Learning and Professional Development

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
<p>3.3a - A certified environmental educator will identify 50 hours (within the past 5 years) of professional development activities.</p>		<p>See Self-Assessment Resources.</p> <p>Examples: Resume or list</p>	
<p>3.3b - A certified environmental educator will create a plan for his or her future professional development identifying specific gap(s) in his or her knowledge and skills.</p>		<p>Using this self-assessment, work with EE Certification Advisory Committee or program mentor to identify areas for additional learning.</p>	
<p>3.3c - A certified environmental educator will create a plan for his or her future professional development identifying three different methods to achieve improvement.</p>		<p>Create a professional development plan for the next year. Methods may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independent study • membership in professional associations • professional journals • mentoring • conferences • field experiences 	

Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.1: Knowledge of learners

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
<p>4.1 - A certified environmental educator will demonstrate and/or document appropriate instructional approaches that meet the needs of diverse learners, taking into account differences in:</p> <p>(a) Cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds; (b) Age and grade level; (c) Levels of knowledge and experience; (d) Special needs; and (e) Developmental abilities.</p>		<p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify an existing lesson for different learner groups. • Describe how you meet learner needs through modifications. • Tailor instructional approaches to respond to various cultural perspectives and use them as an educational resource. 	

Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.2: Knowledge of Instructional Methodologies

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
<p>4.2 - A certified environmental educator will demonstrate three distinct instructional methods that are particularly suited to environmental education.</p>		<p>Examples of instructional methods are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands-on observation and discovery in the environment • Inquiry • Cooperative learning • Community-based action research and problem solving • Investigating environmental issues • Service learning • Simulations and models • Case studies • Problem-based learning • Project-based learning <p>Candidate may consider the various</p>	

		learning objectives, learner characteristics, time requirements, involvement of community members, community dynamics and policies, available resources, and the informational setting.	
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Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.3: Planning for Instruction

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
4.3 - A certified environmental educator will articulate the scope of what constitutes environmental knowledge and skills as well as the sequence in which they should be learned, by aligning one program’s content to the <i>Guidelines for Learning (K-12)</i> . (Note: For adult programs refer to “Theme1: Environmental Literacy” of the <i>Guidelines for Initial Preparation of Environmental Educators</i> , as a framework.)		<p>Examples:</p> <p>Write audience-appropriate instructional goals supported by measurable objectives and include specific quantified actions.</p> <p>Show how environmental education can be used to promote integration across disciplines by correlating a lesson to at least two subject areas in New Mexico’s curriculum standards and the guidelines in <i>Excellence in Environmental Education--Guidelines for Learning (pre K-12)</i>.</p>	

Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.4 Community Partnership Project

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
4.4 - A certified environmental educator will take leadership in a partnership project with at least one community partner. The project engages members		See Self-Assessment Resources for explanation and examples.	

of the community and address a need of the community, while hitting one of the five main objectives of EE: awareness, knowledge, attitudes, skills, and participation.			
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Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.5: Knowledge of Environmental Education Materials and Resources

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
4.5a - A certified environmental educator will be able to list and critically evaluate two types of EE materials obtainable from community or corporate organizations, agencies, professional development training programs, and/or the Internet.		Evaluations should be based on <i>Environmental Education Materials: Guidelines for Excellence</i> .	
4.5b - A certified environmental educator will be able to critically evaluate one state or local EE program.		In addition, candidate may list ways in which the community can be a resource for EE. Evaluations should be based on <i>Nonformal Environmental Education Programs: Guidelines for Excellence</i> .	

Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.6: Technologies That Assist Learning

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
4.6 - A certified environmental educator will describe three types of instructional tools or technologies and give examples of their safe, effective, appropriate use in instructional settings.		Examples may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magnifying glasses, chemical tests, hygrometers, survey and interview techniques, traffic data • Identify and incorporate outside expertise into 	

		instruction	
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Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.7: Settings for Instruction

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
4.7a - A certified environmental educator will analyze one of his or her teaching environments citing three ways to address potential safety issues and three ways in which the teaching environment is appropriate for the subject matter he or she is teaching.		Settings may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the schoolyard • laboratory • field settings • community settings • museums • zoos • demonstration sites 	
4.7b - A certified environmental educator will describe three field experiences in which he or she has been able to link content to the learners' immediate environment.			

Theme 4: Planning and Implementing EE

Competency 4.8: Curriculum Planning

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
4.8a - A certified environmental educator will give two examples of how he or she has successfully integrated environmental education into curricula, programs or an organization’s mission.		Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using EE in a PE class • Developing a conservation activity to care for public lands • Using an outdoor field experience to teach science 	
4.8b – A certified environmental educator from the non-formal community will be able to demonstrate strategies for supporting and enhancing teachers’ efforts in environmental education at the preK-12 level.		Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a plan for integrating EE into formal school curriculum • Correlate EE with state or local standards 	

Theme 5: Fostering Learning

Competency 5.1: A Climate for Learning about and Exploring the Environment

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
5.1 – A certified environmental educator will demonstrate that he or she successfully stimulated learners’ interest in the environment.		May include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • student testimonials • video of instruction • curriculum • evaluations • anecdotal information 	

Theme 5: Fostering Learning

Competency 5.2: An Inclusive and Collaborative Learning Environment

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
5.2a - A certified environmental educator will demonstrate that he or she successfully engaged children/adults in their own learning and provided first-hand, inquiry-based, developmentally appropriate experiences, indicating ways in which they collaborated with the learners.		Examples may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teaching experiences • outreach efforts • situations • tools • curriculum to allow them to find their own answers 	
5.2b - A certified environmental educator will demonstrate that his or her lesson/presentation was relevant and interdisciplinary.		Describe who and what it was relevant to and which disciplines were addressed and how.	
5.2c - A certified environmental educator will cite two instances where he or she used the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of learners not just as context but also as an instructional resource.		Diverse background may include cultural, ethnicity, age, gender, skills, and background.	

Theme 5: Fostering Learning

Competency 5.3: Flexible and Responsive Instruction

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
5.3 - A certified environmental educator will demonstrate that he or she is able to take advantage of “teachable moments” by being flexible and open to student questions and ideas.		Give at least two examples.	

Theme 6: Assessment and Evaluation

Competency 6.1: Learner Outcomes

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
6.1 - A certified environmental educator will demonstrate the use of two assessment tools designed to measure cognitive, affective and/or psychomotor outcomes that align with instructional objectives. (NOTE: Instructional objectives should be drawn from state standards and/or EE goals and objectives.)		Choose tools and justify why it is the right assessment for the situation being assessed.	

Theme 6: Assessment and Evaluation

Competency 6.2: Assessment that is Part of Instruction

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
6.2a - A certified environmental educator will demonstrate the implementation of one strategy to engage learners in setting their own expectations for learning and evaluating their performances.			
6.2b – A certified environmental educator will demonstrate how one assessment strategy was used to shape instructional planning and/or delivery.			

Theme 6: Assessment and Evaluation

Competency 6.3: Improving Instruction

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
6.3 – A certified environmental educator will demonstrate one example of how assessment and/or evaluation data were used to improve instruction.			

Theme 6: Assessment and Evaluation

Competency 6.4: Evaluating Programs

Competency	Level of Mastery	Comments	Candidate Response
6.4a - A certified environmental educator will describe one way he or she used evaluation to design or develop an environmental education program. Example may be theoretically, if candidate does not have program development experience.		Needs assessment, evaluation from other sources	
6.4b - A certified environmental educator will describe one way he or she used evaluation during program implementation to improve an environmental education program.			
6.4c - A certified environmental educator will describe one way he or she used evaluation to determine the effect of an environmental education program.			
6.4d– A certified educator will display three data collection tools and the analysis he or she used to evaluate an EE program.		Online resources are MEERA and CISDE	

Advisor Signature: _____

Date: _____