

Learning Forward (Formerly National Staff Development Council)

Standards for Professional Learning (Learning Forward, 2011) is the third iteration of standards outlining the characteristics of professional learning that lead to effective teaching practices, supportive leadership, and improved student results. Learning Forward, with the contribution of 40 professional associations and education organizations, developed the Standards for Professional Learning. Members of the Standards Task Force and the list of professional organizations are available on the website:

<http://www.learningforward.org/standards/standardstaskforce&advisoryteam.cfm>

The standards make explicit that the purpose of professional learning is for educators to develop the knowledge, skills, practices, and dispositions they need to help students perform at higher levels. The standards are not a prescription for how education leaders and public officials should address all the challenges related to improving the performance of educators and their students. Instead, the standards focus on one critical issue -- professional learning.

<http://www.learningforward.org/standards/index.cfm>