**Civic Indicators & Benchmarks**

Civic Dispositions are skills and knowledge to understand and act on issues of civic significance. Civically Engaged Individuals are life-long learners who understand issues of civic importance and have an appreciation for cultural differences, an ability to understand and consider multiple perspectives, use critical and comparative thinking skills as well as problem-solving abilities, and practice taking informed action to advocate for change.

To be successful in earning the State Seal of Civic Engagement, a set of civic skills will be needed, built, and refined.

**(I) Investigate the world beyond their immediate environment** which includes framing significant problems and conducting well-crafted and age-appropriate research.

**(R) Recognize perspectives, others’ and their own,** articulating and explaining such perspectives thoughtfully and respectfully.

**(C) Communicate ideas effectively with diverse audiences,** bridging geographic, linguistic, ideological, and cultural barriers.

**(CA) Take civic action to improve conditions,** viewing themselves as players in the world and participating reflectively.

The following are some of what may be experienced and practiced while working towards the SSCE.

**Directions**

Place yourself on the chart corresponding to how well you feel you have mastered the competencies listed.

Are you:

* **Developing**: beginning to recognize and think about civic engagement
* **Progressing**: starting to formulate action(s) and using skills lists
* **Practicing**: using this skill often and feel comfortable using them

Use this tool to guide your reflective thinking, submit with your reflection and give a copy to your mentor.

| **Competencies** |  | **Developing**  I am thinking about this | **Progressing**  I am formulating action | **Practicing**  I am doing on a continued basis |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Actively listen to others | C |  |  |  |
| Consider the audience and communicate appropriately; able to approach an audience | C |  |  |  |
| Differentiate between individualism and the common good | CA |  |  |  |
| Open to compromise to lead to a solution; negotiation | CA |  |  |  |
| Persist through challenges | CA |  |  |  |
| Sense of public duty, e.g. paying taxes, voting, obeying the law, jury duty, signing up for selective service | CA |  |  |  |
| Use influence to bring change | CA |  |  |  |
| Willing to grow from  experience(s). | CA |  |  |  |
| Advocating for others’ rights and needs | CA C  R |  |  |  |
| Pose critical thinking questions to better understand issues and perspectives | I |  |  |  |
| Able to gather, analyze and process information | I |  |  |  |
| Apply creative thinking and solve problems | I |  |  |  |
| Navigate the systems of power (local to global) | CA |  |  |  |
| Safely, responsibly and critically consume social and other forms of media. | I/C |  |  |  |
| Seek knowledge outside of own perspective | I/R |  |  |  |
| Engage with issues and ideas that are meaningful to you that have local to global significance | R |  |  |  |
| Identify my personal perspectives and influences | R |  |  |  |
| Examine the perspectives and influences of others | R |  |  |  |
| Draw on lived experience and background knowledge to know your role in community and inform your civic action | R |  |  |  |
| Able to reflect on preconceived notions or idea | R |  |  |  |