

WACOSA's Cultural Competence Training

Cultural Competence is the ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures.

4 Components of Cultural Competence:

1. **Awareness:** of our own cultural worldview, and of our reactions to people who are different.
2. **Attitude:** our attitude toward cultural differences. This reflects a willingness to honestly understand our beliefs and values about cultural differences.
3. **Skills:** this component addresses the importance of practicing cultural competence, including nonverbal communication, to become effective cross-culturally.
4. **Development:** although some people are naturally culturally competent, most of us have to put effort into developing this skill.

The Key to Cross-Cultural Success is **awareness.**

- How culture influences your interpretation of others, your own behavior and how people of other cultures may see you
- Understanding why we do things certain ways
- How we see the world
- Why we react the way we do

The WACOSA WAY is based on these principles and continues to guide our organizational practices.