

# Hawaii Social Studies Standards: Grassroots Information Packet

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The state of Hawaii periodically revises its statewide social studies standards. These standards govern social studies instruction in all Hawaii public schools. The revision of statewide standards is directed by the Hawaii Department of Education. The Department's Curriculum and Instruction Office appoints and convenes standards' writing teams; Hawaii social studies educators from elementary, middle, and high school serve as writers and Hawaii college and university faculty serve as content advisors. These writing teams are responsible for reviewing and revising Hawaii's social studies standards. The Hawaii State Board of Education is responsible for considering revised standards for adoption. Before the final adoption of standards takes place, however, the general public has the opportunity to review and comment on proposed revisions to existing social studies standards when the Department of Education posts drafts of proposed revisions and during public Board of Education meetings concerning standards' revision.

Below we explain and list in sequential order:

1. Current Hawaii social studies standards and their current website location
2. How often Hawaii is required to review and revise its social studies standards
3. State laws and administrative codes governing social studies instruction in Hawaii public schools
4. Which state agencies and groups are responsible for writing and adopting social studies standards
5. The electoral or bureaucratic relationships these agencies have with the general public in Hawaii
6. What opportunity Hawaii community members and educators have to offer feedback and comment during a standards' revision cycle

**1. Current Hawaii social studies standards and their current website location**

**a. Current Hawaii K-12 Social Studies Standards [Adopted October 2018]**

- i. [Hawaii Social Studies Standards](#)
- ii. [Hawaii Social Studies Standards Introduction](#)
- iii. [K-8 Standards](#)
  1. [Hawaii Kindergarten Social Studies Standards](#)
  2. [Hawaii Grade 1 Social Studies Standards](#)
  3. [Hawaii Grade 2 Social Studies Standards](#)
  4. [Hawaii Grade 3 Social Studies Standards](#)
  5. [Hawaii Grade 4 Social Studies Standards](#)
  6. [Hawaii Grade 5 Social Studies Standards](#)
  7. [Hawaii Grade 6 World History Standards](#)
  8. [Hawaii Grade 8 US History Standards](#)
  9. [Hawaii Grade 6-8 History of the Hawaiian Kingdom Standards](#)
  10. [Hawaii Grade 6-8 Pacific Island Studies Standards](#)
- iv. [9-12 Standards](#)
  1. [Hawaii High School Modern History of Hawaii Standards](#)
  2. [Hawaii High School Participation in Democracy Standards](#)
  3. [Hawaii High School US History and Government Standards](#)
  4. [Hawaii High School World History and Culture Standards](#)

**b. Website Location**

- i. [Hawaii Department of Education \(HIDOE\) Website](#)

**c. Hawaii DOE Social Studies Resources**

- i. [Hawaiian Education Resources](#)

**2. How often Hawaii is required to review and revise its social studies standards**

Hawaii Academic Standard Revision Schedule: Hawaii does not have a mandated revision or adoption cycle for its academic content standards which requires the state to revise its standards every certain number of years; the Hawaii Department of Education chooses to review content standards after completing an internal review process.

- a.** Any questions can be directed to:

[Dan Miyamoto,](#)

Director TA of Curriculum Innovation Branch at Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design,  
Hawaii Department of Education

**3. State laws and administrative codes governing social studies instruction in Hawaii public schools**

**a. Hawaii Legislation**

- i. *See:* [NAS Compilation of State Statutes concerning Social Studies Instruction for each US State](#)
- ii. [Hawaii Rev. Code §302A-1139](#) [*Religious education*]
- iii. [Hawaii Rev. Code §302A-432](#) [*Adult and community education authorized*]

- iv. [Hawaii Rev. Code §302A-433](#) [*Scope of adult and community education programs offered*]

**b. Hawaii Administrative Rules**

- i. [Hawaii Admin. Rules §8-49-4](#) [*Youth political clubs*]
- ii. [Hawaii Admin. Code §8-49-6](#) [*Rewarding students for supporting a single candidate or party; prohibition and penalties*]

**c. Hawaii Board of Education Policies**

- i. [Hawaii SBE Policy 105-7](#) [*Hawaiian Education*]
- ii. [Hawaii SBE Policy 105-8](#) [*Ka Papahana Kaiapuni*]
- iii. [Hawaii SBE Policy 102-15](#) [*High School Graduation Requirements And Commencement*]

**4. Which state agencies and groups are responsible for writing and adopting social studies standards**

**a. Which agency writes Hawaii's social studies standards?**

The Hawaii Department of Education is responsible for evaluating, reviewing, and re-writing content standards; Hawaii's most recent (2018) social studies standards were written by teams convened by the Department's Curriculum and Instruction Office. Hawaii social studies educators from elementary, middle, and high school served as writers and Hawaii college and university faculty served as content advisors.

- i. See: [2018 Hawaii Social Studies Standards Introduction](#) (pp. 7-9)

***b. Which agency adopts Hawaii’s social studies standards?***

The Hawaii Board of Education adopts Hawaii’s Social Studies standards ([Hawaii Rev. Code §302A-201](#)).

**5. The electoral or bureaucratic relationships these agencies have with the general public in Hawaii**

***a. How are the members of the Hawaii State Board of Education appointed?***

The nine members of the board of education are appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate ([Hawaii Rev. Code §302A-121](#)).

***b. How is the Hawaii State Superintendent of Education appointed?***

The Superintendent of Education is appointed by the State Board of Education to serve a 4 year term ([Hawaii Rev. Code §302A-1101](#)).

**6. What opportunity Hawaii community members and educators have to offer feedback and comment during a standards' revision cycle**

***a. Where does public input occur during Hawaii's standards revision process?***

There is not a requirement by state law, Hawaii Board of Education policy, or internal Department guidelines which states that the Department must publicly post draft standards; neither is there a state law, or internal policy which requires public comment.

Nonetheless, the Department may choose to post drafts for review and input on the Hawaii DE website as it did during the 2018 social studies standards revision cycle.

Further, all Hawaii Board of Education meetings are open to the public ([Hawaii SBE Policy 400-5](#)). The Board is required by law to publicly post its agenda and meeting attachments one week before a meeting takes place ([Hawaii Rev. Code §302A-1106.5](#)). Thus, when the adoption of standards is announced on a Board of Education agenda, the public is notified of new standards and will have the opportunity to review proposed standards one week before the Board of Education meeting in which standards adoption will take place.

The public is permitted to submit feedback, whether written or in person testimony on any agenda item including standards adoption during Board meetings; all public feedback during a standards revision cycle is governed by [Diverse Stakeholder Policy](#) (Hawaii SBE Policy 102-4).

- i. Any questions can be directed to:

[Dan Miyamoto](#),

Director TA of Curriculum Innovation Branch at Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design,  
Hawaii Department of Education