

Maryland Social Studies Standards: Grassroots Information Packet

Maryland state law dictates that Maryland revise its statewide social studies standards at least once every eight years. These standards govern social studies instruction in all Alabama public schools. The revision of statewide standards is a process directed and completed by the Maryland Department of Education (MSDE). The Department appoints social studies standards review panels from Maryland; these panels are responsible for providing recommendations to the revised standards drafted by the Department. The Maryland State Board of Education is responsible for considering revised social studies standards for adoption. Before adoption takes place, however, the general public has the opportunity to review and comment on proposed revisions to existing social studies standards through multiple public comment periods conducted by the Department and State Board of Education.

Below we explain and list in sequential order:

1. Current Maryland social studies standards and their current website location
2. How often Maryland is required to review and revise its social studies standards
3. State laws and administrative codes governing social studies instruction in Maryland 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 Maryland
6. What opportunity Maryland community members and educators have to offer feedback and comment during a standards' revision cycle

1. Current Maryland social studies standards and their current website location

a. Current Maryland K-12 Social Studies Standards [Adopted September 2020]

- i. [Maryland Pre Kindergarten Social Studies Standards](#)
- ii. [Maryland Kindergarten Social Studies Standards](#)
- iii. [Maryland Grade 1 Social Studies Standards](#)
- iv. [Maryland Grade 2 Social Studies Standards](#)
- v. [Maryland Grade 3 Social Studies Standards](#)
- vi. [Maryland Grade 4 Social Studies Standards](#)
- vii. [Maryland Grade 5 Social Studies Standards](#)
- viii. [Maryland Grades 6-7 Social Studies Standards](#)
- ix. [Maryland Grade 8 US History Standards](#)
- x. [Maryland Grades 9-12 US History Standards](#)
- xi. [Maryland Grades 9-12 American Government Standards](#)
- xii. [Maryland Grades 9-12 Modern World History Standards](#)

b. Website Location

- i. [Maryland State Department of Education \(MSDOE\) Website](#)

c. Maryland Social Studies Resources

- i. [Maryland Social Studies Information Page](#)

- ii. [Maryland College and Career Readiness History-Social Studies Literacy Standards](#)
 - 1. Maryland Social Studies Reading Standards
 - a. [Maryland Grade 6-8 Social Studies Reading Standards](#)
 - b. [Maryland Grade 9-12 Social Studies Reading Standards](#)

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

Maryland Academic Standard Revision Schedule: Maryland standards are reviewed at least every eight years with and are adopted by the State Board of Education in COMAR in accordance with [The Regulatory Review and Evaluation Act, State Government Article §§ 10-130-10-139 Annotated Code of Maryland](#).

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

a. Maryland Legislation

- i. See: [NAS Compilation of State Statutes concerning Social Studies Instruction for each US State](#)

b. Maryland Education Code

- i. [MD Educ Code § 7-104](#) [*Meditation or religious observances*]
- ii. [MD Educ Code § 7-106](#) [*Curriculum materials*]

c. Maryland Code of Regulations

- i. [Md. Code Regs. 13A.04.04.01](#) [*Religious Education Not the Province of Public Schools*]
- ii. [Md. Code Regs. 13A.04.06.01](#) [*Requirements - Personal Financial Literacy Instructional Programs for Elementary, Middle, and High School Students*]

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

a. Which agency writes Maryland’s social studies standards?

The Maryland Department of Education is responsible for writing and updating social studies standards, “in consultation with experienced and highly effective teachers, including teachers on the career ladder under [\[MD Educ Code Title 6, Subtitle 10\]](#).” ([MD Educ Code § 7-202.1](#)).

As part of the Maryland Protocol for Developing and Revising Standards, the Department assembles a social studies standards review panel which reviews and makes recommendations to proposed standards drafted by the Department; members are PreK- 12 educators, curriculum coordinators/specialists, and other stakeholders key to social studies.

- i. See: [2019 MSDE Revision of Maryland’s Environmental Literacy Standards](#) (file page 32; Attachment III: Protocol for Developing and Revising Standards)

b. Which agency adopts Maryland’s social studies standards?

The Maryland State Board of Education adopts statewide social studies standards ([MD Educ Code § 7-202.1](#)).

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

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

All 14 members of the Maryland State Board of Education are appointed by the Governor of Maryland with the consent of the senate. 13 of the 14 members serve 4 year terms; the remaining member will be a student representative annually appointed by the Governor ([MD Educ Code § 2-202](#)).

b. How is the Maryland State Superintendent of Schools appointed?

Maryland's State Superintendent of Schools is appointed by the State Board of Education to serve a 4 year term ([MD Educ Code § 2-302](#)).

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

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

The MSDE Standards Review Process is made up of three stages in which public input is sought:

Review: The Maryland Department of Education creates and disseminates a public survey to collect feedback on the proposed standards. The Maryland social studies standards review panel makes initial recommendations for edits to the proposed or existing standards document. The draft standards document is then presented to the State Board of Education for review.

Revise: The MSDE drafts edits to the revised standards based on panel recommendations, public input from the aforementioned survey and State Board of Education input. The edited proposed draft is then shared regionally for public feedback and is presented at content briefings for additional input. The Department makes any edits in response to panel, stakeholder and content advisor feedback.

Adopt: The draft revised standards are then presented to the State Board of Education for approval, following the same procedures that are used for regulations. The proposed standards are set forth as proposed regulations and are sent to the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR). If the AELR Committee does not hold up the proposed regulations for further review, they are published in the Maryland Register for a 30-day public comment period. At the end of the comment period, Department of Education staff review and summarize the public comments.

1. See: See: [2019 MSDE Revision of Maryland's Environmental Literacy Standards](#) (file page 32; Attachment III: Protocol for Developing and Revising Standards)