

Missouri Social Studies Standards: Grassroots Information Packet

The state of Missouri regularly revises its statewide learning standards in social studies. These standards govern social studies instruction in all Missouri public schools. The revision of statewide standards is directed by the Missouri State Board of Education. The Board convenes standards' writing work groups composed of Missouri public school parents and educational professionals; these groups are responsible for writing recommendations for social studies standards and then presenting them to the State Board for final adoption. Members of Missouri's standards writing work groups are selected respectively by the State Board of Education, Commissioner of Higher Education, lieutenant governor, governor, speaker of the house, senate president, and association of Missouri school boards. Before the final adoption of standards takes place, the general public in Missouri has the opportunity to review and comment on proposed revisions to existing social studies standards through three public hearings convened by the State Board of Education.

Below we explain and list in sequential order:

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

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

a. Website Location

- i. [Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education \(MODESE\) Website](#)

b. Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Social Studies Resources

- i. [Missouri Social Studies Standards Information Page](#)
- ii. Missouri Social Studies Crosswalks (Comparisons between Missouri's current, 2016 social studies standards and previous, 2010 social studies standards):
 1. [Missouri K-5 Social Studies Crosswalk](#)
 2. [Missouri MS American History Crosswalk](#)
 3. [Missouri MS World Geography Crosswalk](#)
 4. [Missouri MS World History Crosswalk](#)
 5. [Missouri HS American Government Crosswalk](#)
 6. [Missouri HS American History Crosswalk](#)
 7. [Missouri HS World History Crosswalk](#)
 8. [Missouri Social Studies Glossary Crosswalk](#)
- iii. [Finding Missouri: Our History and Heritage](#)

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

Missouri Learning Standards Revision Schedule: Missouri does not have a mandated standards review and adoption cycle which requires the state to revise its statewide learning standards every certain number of years; learning standards were last revised in Missouri in 2014 by legislative mandate ([House Bill 1490](#)).

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

a. Missouri Legislation

- i. See: [NAS Compilation of State Statutes concerning Social Studies Instruction for each US State](#)
- ii. [RSMo 170.049](#) [*Veterans Day observance in schools*]
- iii. [RSMo 170.340](#) [*Books of religious nature may be used, when*]

b. Missouri DESE Code of Regulations

- i. [Mo. Code Regs. tit. 5 §20-200.200](#) [*Flag Etiquette*]
- ii. [Mo. Code Regs. tit. 5 §20-100.190](#) [*Graduation Requirements for Students in Public High Schools*]

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

a. Which agency writes Missouri's social studies standards?

b. The Missouri State Board of Education oversees and directs the standards revision and development process. In accordance with [RSMo 160.514](#), whenever the Board develops, evaluates, modifies, or revises academic learning standards, it must convene standards work groups consisting of education professionals. These groups are responsible for developing and recommending revisions to existing academic learning standards.

- i. [RSMo 160.514](#) requires that there be two separate work groups: one for grades K-5 and the other for grades 6-12; in addition to educational professionals, these groups must include four parents of children currently enrolled in K-12 ([RSMo 160.514](#)).

c. Which agency adopts Missouri's social studies standards?

The Missouri State Board of Education adopts Missouri's statewide social studies standards ([RSMo 160.514](#)).

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

a. How are the members of the Missouri social studies standards work groups appointed?

Members of the standards' writing work groups are selected respectively by the State Board of Education, Commissioner of Higher Education, lieutenant governor, governor, speaker of the house, senate president, and association of Missouri school boards in accordance with [RSMo 160.514](#).

b. How are the members of the Missouri State Board of Education appointed?

The Missouri State Board of Education consists of eight members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate ([RSMo 161.022](#)).

c. How is the Missouri State Commissioner of Education appointed?

The Commissioner is appointed by the State Board of Education and serves at its pleasure ([RSMo 161.112](#)).

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

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

The State Board of Education is required to hold at least three public hearings whenever it develops, evaluates, modifies, or revises academic learning standards.

The Board holds the first hearing within thirty days of the work groups being convened. The second hearing occurs approximately six months after the first.

The State Board of Education holds the third hearing when the standards' writing work groups submits the academic performance standards it has developed to the Board ([RSMo 160.514](#)).