

Nevada Social Studies Standards: Grassroots Information Packet

The state of Nevada regularly revises its statewide social studies standards. These standards govern social studies instruction in all Nevada public schools. The revision of statewide standards is directed by the Nevada Council to Establish Academic Standards. The Council is composed of Nevada parents of public school students, licensed educators, representatives of private businesses or industries, and members of the House of the Legislature. During a standards' revision cycle, the Nevada Department of Education establishes writing teams; the majority of team members are experts in social studies, while the rest are content leads in social studies as well as community members, parents, and administrators from around the state of Nevada. The writing teams are responsible for reviewing and revising Nevada's social studies standards. Once standards' revisions are complete, the Nevada State Board considers whether or not to adopt revised standards. Before this final adoption takes place, the general public has the opportunity to review and comment on proposed revisions to existing social studies standards through multiple public comment periods, a public Council to Establish Academic Standards meeting, and public State Board of Education meetings

Below we explain and list in sequential order:

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

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

[Nevada K-12 Social Studies Standards](#) [Adopted September 2018]

a. Website Location

- i. [State of Nevada Department of Education \(NDE\) Website](#)

b. Nevada DOE Social Studies Resources

- i. [Nevada Miscellaneous Social Studies Resources](#)

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

Nevada Academic Standards Revision Schedule: Nevada does not have a legally mandated academic standards revision schedule which requires the state to revise standards every certain number of years. Standards are revised according to a revision schedule which the Nevada Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools is required to develop ([NV Rev Stat § 389.520](#)) or when the Nevada Legislature calls for a standards revision; typically, Nevada’s standards are reviewed and revised occurs on a 7 – 10 year cycle.

- a. Any questions can be directed to:

[David J. Brancamp](#),

Director,

Nevada Department of Education,

Office of Standards and Instructional Support

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

a. Nevada Legislation

- i. See: [NAS Compilation of State Statutes concerning Social Studies Instruction for each US State](#)
- ii. [NV Rev Stat §389.061](#) [*Instruction in history and contributions of certain groups of persons*]
- iii. [NV Rev Stat §389.850](#) [*Final selection by State Board; exception for charter schools; accurate portrayal of cultural and racial diversity of society and of history and contributions of certain groups of persons*]
- iv. [NV Rev Stat §389.074](#) [*Instruction in financial literacy*]

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

a. *What agency writes Nevada’s social studies standards?*

The periodic review and revision of Nevada’s statewide social studies standards is directed by the Nevada Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools ([NV Rev Stat § 389.520](#)).

Once existing social studies standards are brought forth for revision or rewriting, the Nevada Department of Education establishes writing teams through an application process; members of these teams are content leads in social studies as well as community members, parents, and administrators from around the state of Nevada. The majority of the committee members are experts in social studies.

- i. Any questions can be directed to:

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Director,

Nevada Department of Education,

Office of Standards and Instructional Support

b. What agency adopts Nevada’s social studies standards?

The Nevada State Board of Education adopts statewide academic standards including in social studies ([NV Rev Stat § 389.520](#)).

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

a. How are the members of Nevada’s social studies writing teams appointed?

The Department of Education makes the final selection of the members on every social studies standards writing team. This is done through an application and review for experience, demographics of the state and representation from throughout the state. The State Superintendent does a final review of the potential members.

- i. Any questions can be directed to:

[David J. Brancamp](#),

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Nevada Department of Education,

Office of Standards and Instructional Support

b. How are the members of the Nevada Council to Establish Academic Standards appointed?

The eight members of the Council consist of Nevada parents of public school students, licensed educators, representatives of private businesses or industries that may be affected by the Council's actions, and members of the House of the Legislature; members are appointed by the governor, Majority Leader of the Senate, Speaker of the Assembly in accordance with [NV Rev Stat § 389.510](#).

c. How are the members of the Nevada State Board of Education appointed?

The Board consists of eleven members; four are elected from Nevada's four congressional districts while seven members are appointed by the governor ([NV Rev Stat §385.021](#)).

d. How is the Nevada State Superintendent of Public Instruction appointed?

- e. The Superintendent is appointed by the governor from a list of three candidates submitted by the State Board and serves at the governor's pleasure ([NV Rev Stat §385.150](#)).

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

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

Once a set of academic standards undergo a revision cycle, the new standards are released to the public for a 30 day period for public comment prior to them being sent to the Academic Standards Council and then to the State Board of Education for adoption.

After this comment period is completed, the Council to Establish Academic Standards meeting holds a public hearing followed by public State Board of Education meeting and additional Board public comment periods; members of the public can receive public notices about upcoming Council meetings and meeting agendas on the [Nevada Department of Education Website](#) and the [Nevada DOE Council to Establish Academic Standards Web Page](#).

The public can also view notices for upcoming Board meetings and their respective agendas on the [Nevada State Board of Education Public Hearings Information Page](#).

- i. Any questions can be directed to:

[David J. Brancamp](#),

Director,

Nevada Department of Education,

Office of Standards and Instructional Support