

North Carolina Social Studies Standards: Grassroots Information Packet

The state of North Carolina regularly revises its statewide social studies standards every five to seven years. These standards govern social studies instruction in all North Carolina public schools. The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) selects North Carolina educators and stakeholders to serve on social studies standards writing and review teams; members are chosen from a pool of applicants who submit their interest through a publicly distributed NCDPI survey. The writing and review teams are responsible for writing recommendations for existing social studies standards and then presenting them to the State Board for final 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 by reviewing drafts of proposed revisions to social studies standards in NCDPI conducted public review and feedback cycles.

Below we explain and list in sequential order:

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

1. Current North Carolina social studies standards and their current website location

a. Current K–12 Social Studies Standards by Grade Band [Approved February 4, 2021]

- i. [NC Kindergarten Social Studies Standards](#)
- ii. [NC Grade 1 Social Studies Standards](#)
- iii. [NC Grade 2 Social Studies Standards](#)
- iv. [NC Grade 3 Social Studies Standards](#)
- v. [NC Grade 4 Social Studies Standards](#)
- vi. [NC Grade 5 Social Studies Standards](#)
- vii. [NC Grade 6 Social Studies Standards](#)
- viii. [NC Grade 7 Social Studies Standards](#)
- ix. [NC Grade 8 Social Studies Standards](#)
- x. [NC Grade 9-12 American History Standards](#)
- xi. [NC Grade 9-12 World History Standards](#)
- xii. [NC Grade 9-12 Founding Principles of the US and NC: Civic Literacy Standards](#)
- xiii. [NC Grade 9-12 Economics and Personal Finance Standards](#)

b. Website Location

- i. [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction \(NCDPI\) Website](#)

c. North Carolina Social Studies Resources

- i. [NC K-12 Social Studies Crosswalk](#)

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

North Carolina Academic Standards Revision Schedule: North Carolina's content area standards are reviewed every five-to-seven years (NC SBE policy, [SCOS-012](#)).

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

a. North Carolina Legislation

- i. *See: [NAS Compilation of State Statutes concerning Social Studies Instruction for each US State](#)*
- ii. [N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-81.65](#) [*Financial literacy*]

b. North Carolina Administrative Code

- i. [16 NCAC 06D .0503](#) [*State Graduation Requirements*]

c. North Carolina State Board of Education Policy Manual

- i. [NC Policy CCRE-001](#) [*Course for Credit*]
- ii. [NC Policy GRAD-004](#) [*State Graduation Requirements*]

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

a. Which agency writes North Carolina’s social studies standards?

North Carolina social studies standards are written by writing and review teams consisting of educators and stakeholders. The members of these teams are selected by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction from a pool of applicants who submit their interest through a publicly distributed NCDPI survey requesting assessment and feedback on the current standards.

- i. See: [North Carolina Social Studies Standards Revision Process Information Page](#)

b. Which agency adopts North Carolina’s social studies standards?

The North Carolina Board of Education adopts statewide social studies standards ([N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-12](#)).

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

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

The Board of Education is composed of the North Carolina Lieutenant Governor and State Treasurer, as well as 11 members appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the General Assembly ([N.C. Gen. Stat. §115C-10](#)).

b. How is the North Carolina State Superintendent of Public Instruction appointed?

The North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction is elected every 4 years ([N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-18](#)).

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

a. Where does public input occur during the revision process?

North Carolina educators and stakeholders have the opportunity to fill out a publicly distributed NCDPI survey expressing interest in membership on the standards' writing and review teams.

If applicants fill out this survey but are not selected, they, along with any other member of the public, can still be involved in North Carolina's revision process through the public review and feedback cycles for each draft of the documents. The Department of Education will post a minimum of three drafts for the public to evaluate; drafts are made available for view and comment on this [web page](#).

- i. See: [North Carolina Social Studies Standards Revision Process Information Page](#)