

# Ohio Social Studies Standards: Grassroots Information Packet

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The state of Ohio regularly revises its statewide social studies standards, often every 5 years; these standards govern social studies instruction in all Ohio public schools. The process of revising statewide standards is directed by the The Office of Learning & Instructional Strategies in the Ohio Department of Education. The Department appoints advisory and working groups from Ohio educators, university faculty, as well as state level or professional educator organizations; these groups are responsible for writing recommendations for social studies standards and then presenting them to the Ohio State Board of Education 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 through public comment periods conducted by the Ohio Department of Education.

Below we explain and list in sequential order:

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

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

[Ohio K-12 Social Studies Standards](#) [Adopted February 2018]

**a. Website Location**

- i. [Ohio Department of Education \(ODE\) Website](#)

**b. Ohio Social Studies Resources**

- i. [Ohio Social Studies Model Curriculum](#) [Adopted June 2019]

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

Ohio Academic Standards Revision Schedule: Although [Ohio Rev. Code § 3301.079](#) only requires Ohio’s State Board of Education to “periodically” adopt statewide content standards, the Ohio State Board of Education typically revises and adopts standards every 5 years.

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

[Justin Leach](#),

Education Consultant,

Social Studies & Financial Literacy at the ODE Office of Learning and Instructional Strategies

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

**a. Ohio Legislation**

- i. See: [NAS Compilation of State Statutes concerning Social Studies Instruction for each US State](#)
- ii. [Ohio Revised Code Ann. §3301.079](#) [*Academic standards - model curriculum*]

- iii. [Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3301.0710](#) [*Ohio graduation tests*]
- iv. [Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3301.0712](#) [*College and work ready assessment system*]
- v. [Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3301.0721](#) [*Model curricula - college and career readiness, financial literacy; proper interactions with peace officers*]
- vi. [Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3313.6027](#) [*Financial literacy instruction*]
- vii. [Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3313.601](#) [*Moment of silence - free exercise or expression of religious beliefs*]
- viii. [Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3313.63](#) [*School holidays specified*]

**b. Ohio Education Administrative Code**

- i. [Ohio Admin. Code §3301-16-03](#) [Community service learning special certification]

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

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

The Office of Learning & Instructional Strategies in the Ohio Department of Education leads the [Ohio standards and model curriculum revision process](#). The Department appoints advisory and working groups from Ohio educators, university faculty, as well as state level or professional educator organizations, to develop, write, and revise standards during revision cycles ([Ohio Rev. Code §3301.13](#)).

***b. How are the members of the advisory and working groups appointed?***

- i. Advisory group membership is by invitation from the Ohio Department of Education which selects members of state level, professional educator organizations in Ohio.
- ii. Working group membership, however, is determined by nomination; the Department accepts nominations for expert Ohio K-12 and university educators to serve on working groups.

***c. Which agency adopts Ohio’s social studies standards?***

The Ohio State Board of Education adopts Ohio’s content standards ([Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3301.079](#)).

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

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

Ohio’s State Board of Education is composed of nineteen members; eleven are elected during all even numbered years from each of Ohio’s 11 education districts, while eight are appointed by the governor with the review and approval of the Senate ([Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3301.01](#); [Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3301.02](#)).

***b. How is the Ohio State Superintendent of Public Instruction appointed?***

The State Board of Education appoints the Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction ([Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3301.08](#)).

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

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

Through the Office of Learning & Instructional Strategies' [Ohio standards and model curriculum revision process](#), parents, educators, and community members are invited to serve on Advisory and Working Groups. There are multiple rounds of public comment and stakeholder feedback included in this process; the general public has the opportunity to specifically offer comments on two distinct occasions:

- i. Collection of Public Comments During Initial Development Process: During the development process, a single public comment period is conducted to collect feedback on the draft standards. The draft standards are revised based on comments received from the public and a review by the advisory group.
  
- ii. Collection of Public Comments During Review and Revision Process: To begin the periodic review and revision process, the Department creates an initial survey to collect public comments on the standards from educators, parents and community members. Once the standards are revised, the Department conducts a second survey of the proposed standards revisions. The feedback is reviewed by the advisory and/or working groups to incorporate suggested edits/changes.
  1. For more information, see: [Ohio Standards and Model Curriculum Revision Process](#)