

# Oregon Social Studies Standards: Grassroots Information Packet

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The state of Oregon regularly revises its statewide social studies standards. These standards govern social studies instruction in all Oregon public schools. Oregon’s statewide social studies standards are developed by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). The Department appoints advisory panels of professional K-12 educators, administrators, and higher education representatives; members are selected by the Department through an application process. Advisory panels are responsible for reviewing and providing suggestions for revision to Oregon’s social studies standards to the Department. After revised standards are completed, the Department sends them to the Oregon State Board of Education to review and consider for adoption. Before final adoption of standards takes place, the general public has the opportunity to review and comment on proposed revisions to existing social studies standards through State Board public hearings and public comment periods on drafts of proposed revisions to social studies standards.

Below we explain and list in sequential order:

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

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

[Oregon 2018 K-12 Social Studies Standards](#) [Adopted May 17, 2018]

[Oregon 2021 Optional Social Studies Standards \(integrated with Ethnic Studies\)](#) [Adopted February 2021, current from 2026-2027]

**a. Website Location**

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

**b. Oregon Miscellaneous Social Studies Resources**

- i. [Oregon Social Studies Crosswalks](#)
- ii. [Oregon Social Studies Standards Resources Information Page](#)
- iii. [Oregon Social Studies Instruction Information Page](#)

**c. Oregon (Supplemental) Common Core State Standards for Literacy in History/Social Sciences**

- i. [Oregon Grade 6-8 CC Literacy in Social Studies Standards](#)
- ii. [Oregon Grade 9-10 CC Literacy in Social Studies Standards](#)
- iii. [Oregon Grade 11-12 CC Literacy in Social Studies Standards](#)

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

Oregon Social Studies Standards Revision Schedule: Oregon does not have a specified schedule requiring the state revise its content standards every certain number of years; the Oregon State Board of Education (SBE) is only required to "regularly and periodically" review and revise statewide content standards ([ORS 329.045](#)). In practice, standards for each subject are revised every seven years. The next revision of the social science standards is scheduled to go before the State Board of Education for their consideration of adoption in 2026.

- a. Any questions can be directed to:

[Amit Kobrowski](#),

Social Science Specialist,

Office of Teaching, Learning and Assessment,

Oregon Department of Education

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

### a. Oregon Legislation

- i. See: [NAS Compilation of State Statutes concerning Social Studies Instruction for each US State](#)
- ii. [ORS 337.260](#) [*Textbooks on American history and government*]
- iii. [ORS 336.510](#) [*Legislative findings*]
- iv. [ORS 336.505](#) [*"Community school program" defined*]
- v. [ORS 336.520](#) [*Community school program to provide for advisory involvement*]
- vi. [ORS 336.525](#) [*(Community School) Program to be operated by district providing elementary or secondary education*]

**b. ODE Administrative Regulations**

- i. [Or. Admin. R. 581-022-2000](#) [*Diploma Requirements*]
- ii. [Or. Admin. R. 581-022-2030](#) [*District Curriculum*]
- iii. [Or. Admin. R. 581-022-2115](#) [*Assessment of Essential Skills*]
- iv. [Or. Admin. R. 581-018-0500](#) [*Definitions: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Practices Grant*]
- v. [Or. Admin. R. 581-018-0503](#) [*Establishment: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Practices Grant*]
- vi. [Or. Admin. R. 581-018-0520](#) [*Definitions: American Indian/Alaskan Native Culturally Relevant Teaching, Learning, and Pedagogy Grant Program*]
- vii. [Or. Admin. R. 581-018-0523](#) [*Establishment: American Indian/Alaskan Native Culturally Relevant Teaching, Learning, and Pedagogy Grant Program*]

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

**a. Which agency writes Oregon’s social studies standards?**

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is charged with developing Oregon’s statewide content standards ([ORS 329.075](#)); during a revision cycle, the Department assembles advisory panels of professional K-12 educators, administrators, and higher education representatives to review and provide suggestions for revision to Oregon’s social studies standards.

- i. See: [Oregon DOE Social Science Content & Assessment Panel Information Page](#)

Members of these panels are selected through an application process. Applications are reviewed by the ODE Standards and Instructional Support Team based on their experience with the grade level and subject area. In selecting the content panel, consideration is given to creating a panel reflective of the diversity of the students in Oregon’s classrooms, composed of educators from multiple grade levels with diverse professional/personal expertise, and representative of the geographic areas delineated by Education Service Districts.

- ii. Any questions can be directed to:

[Amit Kobrowski](#),  
Social Science Specialist,  
Office of Teaching, Learning and Assessment,  
Oregon Department of Education

In 2021, the Oregon Department of Education added ethnic studies to Oregon’s mandatory statewide social studies standards; [ORS 336.113](#) (2017 Oregon HB2845) calls for the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint an advisory group consisting of representatives from community organizations representing the communities identified in ethnic studies to create recommendations specifically for the new ethnic studies standards.

- iii. See: [Oregon DOE Ethnic Studies Questions & Answers \(pdf\)](#)

**b. Which agency adopts Oregon’s social studies standards?**

The Oregon State Board of Education adopts statewide social studies standards ([ORS 326.051](#)).

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

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

The Oregon State Board of Education consists of the State Treasurer, the Secretary of State (or either of these two Secretaries' designees), and seven additional members, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate ([ORS 326.021](#)).

***b. How are the Oregon Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent of Education appointed?***

The Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction is the governor of Oregon ([ORS 326.300](#)). The Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction is appointed by the governor ([ORS 326.300](#)) and performs any functions designated to the Superintendent by the State Board of Education ([Or. Admin. R. 581-001-0016](#)).

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

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

During Oregon's social studies standards revision process, drafts of proposed revisions to existing statewide social studies standards are posted and made available for public review and comment and the Oregon State Board of Education holds public hearings.

[Boardbook](#) is the platform used for all public hearings and materials that go before the Oregon State Board of Education during a standards revision cycle. All Oregon State Board of Education notices for, dates of, and archived recordings of public meetings can be located at the [Oregon State Board of Education Meetings Information Page](#).

In addition, opportunities for public review and input are located on the [Oregon Department of Education social science website](#), with additional communication going out via the ODE social science newsletter and ODE communication team.

- i. Any questions can be directed to:

[Amit Kobrowski](#),

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