



# Missouri Learning Standards

*Preparing students for college and careers*

## Standards for Missouri Schools

The Missouri Constitution directs the State Board of Education to set high academic standards for education in the state. The Missouri Learning Standards define what students should know and be able to do for success in college, other postsecondary training and a career.

When students are college and career ready, they are less likely to need remedial classes to succeed at college-level work and are better prepared for the workplace.

## Common Core State Standards

The Missouri Learning Standards include the Common Core State Standards for English language arts and math.

Developed by educators across the country, including Missouri, the Common Core State Standards provide a clear, consistent road map for what students are expected to learn at every grade level. Learning outcomes improve when students, parents and teachers are on the same page, working toward shared goals.

The standards help ensure students learn basic and higher-order skills, including problem solving and critical thinking. The standards are relevant to the real world and reflect the knowledge and skills students need to know to achieve their goals.

The Common Core State Standards:

- Build upon the strengths of Missouri's existing state standards.
- Are research- and evidence-based.
- Are designed to prepare students to live and work in today's global society.

The standards do not require schools to use specific curriculum or teaching methods – those decisions will continue to be made at the local level by school boards, superintendents, principals and teachers.

Adopted by the Missouri State Board of Education in 2010, the standards will go into effect with the 2014-2015 school year.

## Higher Education

The Common Core State Standards align with Missouri's college-ready standards to ensure students graduate from high school prepared for credit-bearing college courses. The standards will help reduce remediation rates at the college level and contribute to higher rates of college completion.

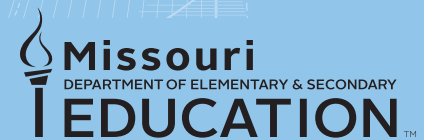
## Additional Standards

The Missouri Learning Standards will eventually include updated standards in other subject areas, including science, social studies and fine arts.



## Missouri Model Curriculum

- Missouri teachers and Department of Elementary and Secondary Education staff have developed Model Curriculum Units that meet the new Missouri Learning Standards.
- The model curriculum offers units for kindergarten through 12th grade. The units include teaching strategies and activities, supporting resources, and formative and summative assessments.
- Schools can adopt the model curriculum units, revise them to fit their needs or use them as an instructional resource.
- More information about the Model Curriculum can be found at [dese.mo.gov/ccr/modelcurriculum](http://dese.mo.gov/ccr/modelcurriculum).



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