

Common Core State Standards and Gifted Education

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are K-12 content standards, developed in Mathematics and English Language Arts, to illustrate the curriculum emphases needed for students to develop the skills and concepts required for the 21st century. Adopted by 45 states to date, the CCSS are organized into key content strands and articulated across all years of schooling and in most cases replace the existing state content standards. Science standards are nearing release as well. The initiative has been state-based and coordinated by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). Designed by teachers, administrators, and content experts, the CCSS are intended to prepare K-12 students for college and the workplace.

The new CCSS are evidence-based, aligned with expectations for success in college and the work place, and informed by the successes and failures of the current standards and international competition demands. The new standards stress rigor, depth, clarity, and coherence, drawing from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Frameworks in Reading and Writing and the Trends in International and Science Study (TIMSS) report in Mathematics. They provide a framework for curriculum development work, which remains to be done although many states are already engaged in the process. States like Indiana, Minnesota, Illinois, and Maine are working within and across local districts to design relevant curriculum and to align current practice to the new standards.

NAGC has developed handbooks that include examples of differentiated assignments in each standard area. Visit the [NAGC bookstore](#) for more information, or click on the links to the right.

To read the full article:

<http://www.nagc.org/CommonCoreStateStandards.aspx>