Why Common Core?
Adoption status
High-level implementation issues
ELA implementation
Math implementation
Timeline
Reasons for Action

- States have set their own expectations that are different from state to state
- International and state to state comparisons
- Financial crisis
- Equity across the system
- Clear connections to college and/or career training
Criteria for Standards Development

- Fewer, clearer, and higher
- Aligned with college and work expectations
- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards
- Internationally benchmarked
- Based on evidence and research
State-led and developed common core standards for K-12 in English/language arts and mathematics

Standards are essential, but insufficient
As of November 9th, 40 states and DC have adopted the Common Core State Standards:

- Arkansas
- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- New Mexico
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- North Carolina
- New York
- Nevada
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Vermont
- Washington (provisional)
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming
Macro-level Implementation Issues

- Time, money, and commitment to meaningful implementation
- Assessment consortia
- Accountability system shift
- Politics/Elections
State Implementation Issues

Educator development

- Change teacher practice to focus on depth of understanding and mastery
- Transform throughout continuum:
  - Pre-service
  - Licensure
  - Ongoing professional development
State Implementation Issues

• Assessment integration
  - State goes beyond summative, not necessarily for accountability purposes
  - Assessment literacy

• Curriculum and instructional materials alignment
  - State role in curriculum development varies

• State Education Agency role
  - Focus on supporting innovative methods of implementing standards- re-design of accountability
  - Way SEA’s support and interact with districts
ELA Key Advances = Issues for Implementation

Reading
- Balance of literature and informational texts
- Text complexity

Writing
- Emphasis on argument and informative/explanatory writing
- Writing about sources
ELA Key Advances = Issues for Implementation

Speaking and Listening
- Inclusion of formal and informal talk

Language
- Stress on general academic and domain-specific vocabulary

Standards for reading and writing in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects
- Responsibility of teachers in those subjects
Focus and coherence
- Focus on a few key topics at each grade level
- Coherent progressions across grade levels, which means some teachers will see the content they are used to teaching has been moved to another grade

Balance of concepts and skills
- Content standards require both conceptual understanding and procedural fluency

Mathematical practices
- Foster reasoning and sense-making in mathematics
Focus in early grades on number (arithmetic and operations) to build a solid foundation in math

Evened out pace across the grades

High school math focus on using math and solving complex problems, similar to what would see in the real world

Problem-solving and communication emphasized
Intentional Design Limitations & Implications for Implementation

What the Standards do NOT define:

- How teachers should teach
- All that can or should be taught
- The nature of advanced work beyond the core
- The interventions needed for students well below grade level
- The full range of support for English language learners and students with special needs
Timeline

- SY 2010-2011 for planning
- SY 2014-2015 common assessments operational
- Between now and then…
  - Transitions in assessment systems
  - Phase-in standards
    - Curriculum development and alignment
    - Professional development
CCSSO Implementation Efforts

- Six district pilot project
- Implementation for ELLs
- Parent guides
- Accountability Taskforce
- Future governance
Common Standards

Building on the excellent foundation of standards states have laid, the Common Core State Standards are the first step in providing our young people with a high-quality education. It should be clear to every student, parent, and teacher what the standards of success are in every school.

Learn more »

Mission Statement

The Common Core State Standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete successfully in the global economy.

Read the Common Core State Standards