



**MARCH 2017 LEGISLATIVE BRIEF:
OKLAHOMA ACADEMIC STANDARDS (OAS)**

WHAT IS IT?

The Oklahoma Academic Standards (OAS) serve as expectations for what students should know and be able to do in a given subject area by the end of the school year. These standards are written by Oklahomans for Oklahoma. The development, review and revision process involves stakeholders throughout the state and is an ongoing and critical component to ensuring students in every classroom receive current and relevant learning experiences. The goal is for all students to be college and career ready upon graduation from high school.

HOW DID IT COME ABOUT?

House Bill 3399 (2014) required the Oklahoma State Board of Education (OSBE) to create new academic standards in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics (70 O.S. §11-103.6a). The State Regents for Higher Education certified the ELA and math standards as college and career ready in January 2016. HB 3399 also set up a new process for the revision of all standards (70 O.S. §11-103.6a-1). Each year as standards are adopted or updated for different subjects, they are subsequently submitted to the Legislature for review and approval. If the Legislature does not act to explicitly approve the standards, they are deemed to be approved. The Legislature approved the new ELA and math standards along with new health and physical education standards in 2016.

WHAT'S NEW?

Since adoption of the ELA and math standards, the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) has supported all teachers as they work to fully understand the standards and implement them with fidelity. In 2017, the OSDE will begin the review and development process for standards for Technology Education and Computer Science. These standards will be submitted to the Legislature for review and approval in the 2018 Legislative Session.

KEY IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR MATHEMATICS AND ELA STANDARDS

Crosswalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide correlation between old and new standards • Detail standards that have moved grade levels that create gaps in learning opportunities 	Complete
PD on your Plan Modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create virtual learning experiences for educators • Focus on the new standards to help cast a common vision for mathematics education in Oklahoma. 	Ongoing
Curriculum Frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze the standards, provides guidance for learning progressions, and supports selection of instructional tasks 	Phase 1 Complete Phase 2 Ongoing
Principal Leadership Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduces school principals to the new standards and best practices for teaching mathematics 	March 2017

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the difference between academic standards and curriculum?

Standards are statements about what students should know and be able to do, what they might be asked to do to give evidence of learning and how well they should be expected to know or do it. Curriculum is the program devised or selected by local school districts used to prepare students to meet standards. It consists of research-based activities and lessons at each grade level, instructional materials and various instructional techniques.

What resources were used to write the Oklahoma Academic Standards?

For both the mathematics and ELA standards, the PASS 2009/2010 standards were used as a starting point along with survey data gathered from stakeholders. Both subject-area standards writing teams reviewed model, non-Common Core standards from other states, examined reports of national significance and reviewed scholarly research to inform the development of the Oklahoma Academic Standards.

Who participated in the development of the Oklahoma Academic Standards?

Writing teams included representatives from higher education, classroom teachers, curriculum directors and instructional coaches. Team members were selected based on their understanding of what students should know and be able to do, as well as how to clearly define high-quality, rigorous standards that are user-friendly for teachers. The OSDE provided multiple opportunities for stakeholder feedback through town halls, focus groups, surveys, expert reviews, public drafts and content consortiums.

How do the OAS for mathematics and ELA support College and Career Readiness?

The standards identify skills and concepts students should understand and demonstrate as they progress toward post-secondary opportunities. Critical improvements to the standards include:

MATHEMATICS

- Improved grade-to-grade alignment of concepts within each of the four main content strands: Algebraic Reasoning and Algebra, Number and Operations, Geometry and Measurement and Data and Probability
- Explicit incorporation of the Mathematical Actions and Processes, which help to define the problem-solving, critical-thinking and reasoning skills that students must develop to create a more complete understanding of mathematical sciences and be prepared for the workforce.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- Improved grade-to-grade alignment of literacy skills within each of the four main strands of: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening to college and career readiness for all students
- Explicit incorporation of such employability skills as teamwork, problem-solving, working with technology, decision-making and adaptability
- Incorporation of reading and writing components in each PK-12 standard

What other Oklahoma Academic Standards exist?

Technology Education and Computer Science - to be updated 2017

Physical Education, Health* - approved 2016

World Languages* - approved 2015

Science, Fine Art and Music - approved 2014

Social Studies - approved 2012

Personal Financial Literacy - approved 2008

*approved under process defined by HB 3399

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

- Math and ELA Toolkits: <http://bit.ly/okmathtoolkit> and <http://bit.ly/elaoktoolkit>
- Curriculum Frameworks: OKMathFramework.pbworks.com and ELAOKTeachers.com/frameworks
- OAS (all subjects): <http://sde.ok.gov/sde/oklahoma-academic-standards>
- College and Career Readiness Certification: <http://sde.ok.gov/sde/sites/ok.gov.sde/files/documents/files/OK%20State%20Regents%20Letter.pdf>
- More information on Pre-K in Oklahoma: <http://sde.ok.gov/sde/four-year-old-program>