

Kansas College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects Fact Sheet 2013-2014

General Information

- State-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).
- Developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts.
- Provide teachers and parents with a common understanding of what students are expected to learn.
- Consistency in standards provides appropriate benchmarks for all students regardless of where they live.
- Standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers to graduate from high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs.

Kansas Adoption

- The Kansas State Board of Education formally adopted the Kansas Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics on October 12, 2010.
- In the interest of uniformity across content areas, the Kansas State Board of Education voted to rename the standards “Kansas College and Career Ready Standards” in the Spring of 2013.

Format of the Standards

- Inclusion of the four strands of English Language Arts:
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Listening and speaking
 - Language
- The benefits of an integrated literacy approach – all Kansas educators have a *shared responsibility* for literacy instruction, regardless of discipline or content area.
- A focus on results rather than means – “the *Standards* leave room for teachers, curriculum developers, and states to determine how those goals should be reached and what additional topics should be addressed” (p. 4).
- Efficiencies of scale – common standards allow for greater collaboration among states in the areas of
 - Professional development
 - Resource development
 - Teaching tools

College and Career Ready Students

- Demonstrate independence in “the 4 C’s”
 - Comprehend complex text
 - Critique the craft used to create text
 - Construct rich understandings of content
 - Convey multifaceted meaning
- Build strong content knowledge through research and study
- Respond to varying demands of audience, purpose, task, and discipline in writing and speaking
 - Adjust purpose
 - Appreciate nuance
 - Provide evidence as appropriate to the discipline
- Use technology and digital media strategically and capably to deepen encounters with text and content and to present and share information
- Come to understand other perspectives and cultures

Key Advances

- Reading
 - Balance of literature and informational texts
 - Text complexity
- Writing
 - Emphasis on argument and informative/explanatory writing
 - Writing about sources
- Standards for reading and writing in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects
 - Complement rather than replace content standards in those subjects
 - Responsibility of teachers in those subjects

Standards and Supporting Materials

- Link to the KSDE KCCRS web pages:
<http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4605>
<http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4754>

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