



Common Core State Standards: Implementation Tools and Resources

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
About the Standards.....	3
Communicating About the Common Core	4
State-Specific Resources.....	4
Information for Higher Education	5
Information for Parents	6
Information for Business.....	7
Reviewing Instructional Materials.....	7
Instructional Supports	9
Teaching Videos on the Common Core.....	10
Implementation Planning.....	12
State Education Agency (SEA) Planning	12
Principal Supports.....	13
Mathematics Common Core Resources.....	15
English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy Common Core Resources.....	18
Connecting Career and Technical Education to the Common Core.....	20
Connecting English Language Learners to the Common Core	21
Connecting Students with Disabilities to the Common Core	23
Defining College and Career Readiness	24
Assessment Consortia Information.....	25

Introduction

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO or the Council) developed this list of free tools and resources to support state education agencies, districts, and educators during the process of implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). This document primarily lists resources developed by CCSSO and other leading organizations and is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all available resources. CCSSO does not endorse any for-profit products.

This is the fifth edition of this document and was released on October 2, 2013. Future updates to the document will continue to be hosted in the same location on CCSSO's website. To view this resource guide online, please visit: http://www.ccsso.org/Documents/2012/Common_Core_Resources.pdf
The resources are grouped into the categories stated in the Table of Contents.

About the Standards

[Corestandards.org](http://corestandards.org)

Creators: CCSSO and the National Governors Association (NGA)

Contact: [CCSSO](http://www.ccsso.org)

Corestandards.org is the official website of the Common Core State Standards Initiative. This website hosts the official version of the standards, including a downloadable web version (XML format), a set of frequently asked questions, and related resources.

[Common Core Implementation Video Series](#)

Creators: CCSSO, in partnership with the James B. Hunt Institute

Contact: [CCSSO](http://www.ccsso.org)

These professional quality modular videos describe important aspects of the ELA/literacy and mathematics standards, and are designed to share with educators, either sequentially or on an individual basis. The videos feature lead standards authors David Coleman, Sue Pimentel, Bill McCallum and Jasonimba.

[Achievethecore.org](http://achievethecore.org)

Student Achievement Partners (SAP) launched the upgraded website in May 2013 that includes resources, materials, tools, and modules designed to help parents, students, educators and administrators implement and succeed with the Common Core State Standards. The website now includes the following resources:

- [Common Core aligned materials and resources for struggling students](#). The Common Core sets high standards for all students, but realizes that some students will require different supports in order to meet these standards.
- [The Standards: Understanding the CCSS](#) provides essential information for school and district leaders to ensure all students succeed under the Common Core.
- [Professional Development Modules](#) are continuously added to this site.
- [CCSS Instructional Practice Guides](#) provide specific guidance for what the CCSS for ELA/literacy and mathematics look like in planning and practice

[Videos: Southeast Comprehensive Center](#)

The Southeast Comprehensive Center developed Common Core State Standards videos to support states, schools, and teachers in the implementation of the CCSS. The videos were created in collaboration with the states in the Southeast Comprehensive Center region based on their need for professional development support. Each video is an audiovisual resource that focuses on one or more specific standard and usually includes examples and illustrations geared to enhancing understanding of the standards.

[Spotlight on Promising Practices](#)

America Achieves identified examples of teachers who have made the transition to the Common Core and highlights the dramatic changes that take place in the classroom. The videos show five teachers implementing the Common Core and highlight how enthusiastically their students respond. From the videos, it is clear that the standards can empower and guide educators to work much more deeply with students to help improve their critical-thinking and real-world problem-solving skills while mastering core content.

[The Common Core Standards from Origin to Execution](#)

Creators: NASBE

The September 2012 issue of the State Education Standard, a quarterly publication of the National Association of State Boards of Education, examines the history of the CCSS from their creation and adoption to implementation, and the current development of standards-aligned assessments. Articles highlight key shifts in instruction, opportunities for students with disabilities, the “15 percent” rule, as well as different perspectives from educators and policymakers.

Communicating About the Common Core

State-Specific Resources

[Spaces Online Community](#)

Creator: CCSSO

State education agency staff may log on to CCSSO’s state collaborative site, Spaces.ccsso.org, for communications resources, including the CCSS toolkit and customizable, audience-specific brochures. States are also encouraged to partner with parent, community, and business groups to increase awareness about the standards. State education agency staff may also email Ashley Cheung, ashley.cheung@ccsso.org for state-specific support on communicating about the Common Core.

[Common Core State Standards Brief for Legislators](#)

Creators: Achieve, Education First, the Aspen Institute, and the Insight Education Group

The Common Core State Standards are a state led initiative, but and it is important to continue to share information about the standards with state and national legislators. The paper includes background, issues, and questions relating to the Common Core State Standards and provides

detailed guidance on the impact state legislators can have on implementation. The tool discusses how state legislators can impact issues of curriculum, assessment, teacher professional learning, teacher preparation, and teacher and principal effectiveness by exercising their oversight, authorization, and appropriation powers.

State education agency staff may also log on to CCSSO's state collaborative site, Spaces.ccsso.org, for communications resources, including the CCSS toolkit and customizable, audience-specific brochures.

[Common Core Communications Toolkit](#)

Creator: Foundation for Excellence in Education

This toolkit includes communications checklists, information on common misperceptions about the standards, sample questions and answers, examples of how the standards raise the bar for public education, sample letters to parents and educators, and an archive of selected opinion pieces about the Common Core.

[Communicating Common Core to Parents](#)

Creator: National PTA

The National PTA has compiled dozens of excellent resources designed to help communicate the Common Core to parents. Present in nearly every state, engaging with PTA representatives and leaders as well as utilizing these great resources can go a long way toward explaining and gaining support from the community for Common Core. Included on its website are state specific advocacy tools and downloadable FAQs about the Common Core.

[Military Child Education Coalition Q&A Pamphlet](#)

Creator: Military Child Education Coalition

Contact: [Stayce Parry](#)

This pamphlet provides background on the standards, explains why the Common Core is important to military-connected students, and discusses the new assessments that will accompany the new standards. It also includes four perspectives on the value of the Common Core – a student, a parent, an administrator, and a teacher.

[Communicating Test Scores](#)

Creator: MetaMetrics

MetaMetrics released a series of briefs entitled "Looking Worse Before We Look Better: Student Performance in a Common Core World." The briefs discuss how to communicate the expected drop in student test scores that coincide with the more difficult Common Core State Standards.

Information for Higher Education

Several national organizations have developed resources focused on the role of the higher education community in CCSS implementation.

[Implementing the Common Core State Standards: An Action Agenda for Higher Education](#)

Creators: Achieve

The issue brief, published in January 2011 by Achieve, Inc., the American Council on Education (ACE), and State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO), calls on the higher education community to actively participate as new state standards are implemented for English language arts/literacy and mathematics for grades K-12. It provides a concise overview of the Common Core initiative and summarizes key areas in which higher education should engage as the standards are implemented, including: defining college readiness and aligning key policies for the school-to-college transition; developing K-12 assessments and aligning college placement policies with them; aligning K-12 and higher education curricula, and providing teacher preparation and in-service professional development.

[The Common Core State Standards and Teacher Preparation: The Role of Higher Education](#)

Creator: The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities

This discussion paper, published by the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, lays out an action agenda for higher education institutions in Common Core implementation in four areas: aligning higher education curriculum with K-12 curriculum; teacher preparation; conducting relevant Common Core research; and developing partnerships.

Information for Parents

Several national organizations developed helpful brochures to explain the Common Core State Standards to parents.

[PTA Parents' Guide](#)

Creator: National PTA and the Common Core State Standards Writers

The grade by grade parents' guide explain what students will be learning in each grade in ELA and math under the Common Core State Standards, and how parents can support their students' learning. Eleven guides were created for grades K-12, and all are available in English and Spanish. State education agencies, school districts, state boards of education, and state/local PTAs may contact the National PTA to co-brand the *Parents' Guides to Student Success*.

[Parent Roadmaps to the Common Core State Standards – English Language Arts](#)

Creator: The Council of Great City Schools

The Council of Great City Schools has developed *Parent Roadmaps* for understanding the Common Core State Standards for English language arts/literacy and mathematics in kindergarten through twelfth grade. For each grade and subject, the roadmaps explain to parents what their child will be learning and how parents can support learning outside of the classroom. They are currently available in English and Spanish, and plans are underway to publish them in additional languages.

[Video: Public Service Announcement](#)

Creator: The Council of Great City Schools

The Council of Great City Schools developed two videos that tell the story of the Common Core State Standards to the public. The PSAs are available in both English and Spanish. The

organization also developed two three-minute videos, in both English and Spanish, explaining the Common Core in more detail.

[Flyer: Introducing the Common Core to Parents](#)

Creators: The Aspen Institute

The Aspen Institute developed a flyer that can be given to parents to help them understand the Common Core State Standards. Available in English and Spanish, the flyer makes the Common Core accessible to families and other stakeholders by explaining what the standards are and why they are important.

[Polling on Public Awareness and Support](#)

Creator: Achieve

In June 2012, Achieve released the results of a national Common Core awareness poll that built on the results of a similar August 2011 poll. The results, outlined in a report titled “Growing Awareness, Growing Support: Teacher and Voter Understanding of the Common Core State Standards and Assessments” showed teachers are increasingly knowledgeable about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and that they like what they see. The voting public continues to give high marks to the idea of having common standards and assessments. When given additional information about the CCSS and the related assessment, support remains high.

Information for Business

[UpGrade America Toolkit](#)

Creator: Business Coalition for Student Achievement’s (BCSA)

In many communities, business leaders are stepping forward and showing their support for the Common Core. BCSA’s [UpGrade America Toolkit](#) helps business leaders make the economic case for the need for meaningful education reform, including the implementation of college- and career-ready standards. This toolkit includes template materials, talking points by audience, and supporting facts for business leaders to use. Consider sharing this with key business leaders in your state who are looking to engage on education reforms.

Reviewing Instructional Materials

[Toolkit for Evaluating Alignment of Instructional and Assessment Materials](#)

Creator: CCSSO, Achieve, Student Achievement Partners

In joint partnership, CCSSO, Achieve, and Student Achievement Partners have developed a *Toolkit for Evaluating the Alignment of Instructional and Assessment Materials to the Common Core State Standards*. The Toolkit is a set of interrelated, freely available instruments for evaluating alignment to the CCSS; each tool in the Toolkit supports the expectations in the CCSS and derives from the Publishers’ Criteria for the Common Core State Standards. This Toolkit would be beneficial to staff at state education agencies, district administrators, and school-based educators working to implement the Common Core.

[ELA SCASS Text Complexity Resources for Educators](#)

Creator: CCSSO

Navigating Text Complexity is a resource developed by educators in over 10 states to help their colleagues understand what makes a text complex, how complex texts prepare students for college and career, and how to use tools to select rich, worthy texts for instruction in the classroom. The website was assembled by CCSSO's ELA State Collaborative on Assessment and Student Standards (SCASS).

[Publisher's Criteria for the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts/Literacy](#)

Creator: Student Achievement Partners, endorsed by CCSSO, NGA, the National Association of State Boards of Education, the Council of Great City Schools, Achieve

The Publishers' Criteria for English Language Arts and Literacy were developed by the lead authors of the CCSS to guide publishers and curriculum developers as they work to develop reading materials aligned with the Common Core State Standards for grades K-2 and grades 3-12. The criteria encourage developers and publishers to be strategic about what to include and what to exclude in instructional materials. By underscoring the most significant elements of the literacy standards, the criteria illustrate what shifts must take place in the next generation of curricula, including paring away elements that distract from, or are at odds with the CCSS. These guidelines are not intended to dictate classroom practice, but rather are meant to ensure publishers and curriculum developers provide teachers with effective tools.

[K-8 and High School Publishers' Criteria for Common Core State Standards for Mathematics](#)

Creator: Student Achievement Partners, endorsed by CCSSO, NGA, the National Association of State Boards of Education, the Council of Great City Schools, Achieve

The Publishers' Criteria for Common Core State Standards for Mathematics were developed by the lead authors of the standards to guide publishers and curriculum developers as they work to develop mathematics materials aligned with the Common Core State Standards for grades K-8 and High School. The criteria encourage developers and publishers to be strategic about what to include and what to exclude in instructional materials. By underscoring the most significant elements of the mathematics standards, the criteria illustrate what shifts must take place in the next generation of curricula, including paring away elements that distract from, or are at odds with the CCSS. These guidelines are not intended to dictate classroom practice, but rather are meant to ensure publishers and curriculum developers provide teachers with effective tools.

[Tri-State Quality Review Rubric and Rating Process](#)

Creator: Achieve in collaboration with Rhode Island, New York, Massachusetts

Achieve is currently facilitating a collaborative initiative titled Educators Evaluating Quality Instructional Products (EQuIP) to evaluate and develop instructional units and tasks aligned to the CCSS. EQuIP builds on the efforts of the Tri-State Collaborative, including rubrics and processes developed by Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island to determine the quality and alignment of instructional lessons and units to the CCSS.

[Guide for Developing Digital Resources to Support Common Core](#)

Creator: Student Achievement Partners

Student Achievement Partners compiled a guide for developing digital resources that support Common Core State Standard implementation. The guide supports content developers in understanding the structure of the standards and the major shifts they represent. The document is a primer on responsible interpretation of the Common Core State Standards for those creating digital programs and resources to support implementation.

[Open Educational Resources \(OER\) Rubrics and Evaluation Tool](#)

Creator: Achieve

Achieve developed eight rubrics in collaboration with leaders from the OER community, to help states, districts, teachers, and other users determine the degree of alignment of OERs to the Common Core State Standards, and to determine aspects of quality of OERs. Achieve has also partnered with OER Commons, an online repository for open educational resources, to help users apply these rubrics and evaluate the quality of instructional resources.

Instructional Supports

[iTunes University Courses](#)

Creator: CCSSO

The Council of Chief State School Officers has launched an iTunes U page that includes courses designed to help states and districts implement the Common Core. iTunes U is a section of the iTunes Store where users can download free educational course content from universities, non-profit education institutions, state education agencies, and K-12 organizations. In addition, Student Achievement Partners has developed several iTunes U courses intended to assist educators develop a strong understanding of the Common Core and the shifts the standards require to prepare students for college and careers.

[Student Achievement Partners' Professional Development Modules](#)

Creator: Student Achievement Partners'

SAP has created professional development modules designed to support district and school leadership in their transition to the Common Core. SAP has released a total of nine modules as of May 2013

- [Introducing the Common Core to Parents and Community Members](#): A toolkit for informing parents and community members about the Common Core. (New)
- [Using the ELA/Literacy Publishers' Criteria to Better Understand the Standards](#): A deeper understanding of the standards and their implication for instructional resources. (New)
- [Why the Common Core? How these Standards are Different](#): An overview of the background information necessary to understand why the Common Core State Standards were developed and how they are different from previous standards we have seen.
- [Introduction to the ELA/Literacy Shifts](#): An introduction to the key shifts required by the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy.

- [Introduction to the Literacy Shifts in the Content Areas](#): An introduction to the key shifts required by the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy, specifically in the content areas (social studies, science, arts, etc.).
- [Understanding Text Dependent Questions](#): A resource for strengthening educators' understanding of how text-dependent questions support the key shifts called for by the Common Core State Standards for ELA/Literacy.
- [Introduction to the Math Shifts](#): An introduction to the key shifts required by the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.
- [Deep Dive into the Math Shifts](#): A deeper dive into the Math shifts for those familiar with the shifts required by the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.
- [Instructional Leadership and the Common Core](#): A guide for school-level instructional leaders for starting the work of implementing the Common Core in their school.

The modules are intended be shared widely for use by individual educators for self-study or presentation, in professional learning communities, or as a resource for preparing to lead the professional development in a school or district setting. The time required for each module can be customized by expanding the amount of time spent on the activities and in discussion. Each module contains a facilitator's guide, PowerPoint presentations with thorough notes, hands-on activities, related readings and research, recommended topics for discussion, and web and video resources. Refer to the Facilitator's Guide for specific instructions on how to use each part of the module.

[Videos: Professional Development on ELA/Literacy and Mathematics](#)

Creator: Council of the Great City Schools

The Council of the Great City Schools released a 45 minute professional development video for central office and school-based staff and teachers on the shifts in the Common Core in English language arts and literacy. The video provides background on the Common Core and the shifts inherent in the standards.

[Identifying Common Core-Aligned Instruction in the Classroom](#)

Creator: Student Achievement Partners

Student Achievement Partners created CCSS Evidence Guides to provide specific guidance for what the CCSS for ELA/literacy and math look like in classroom planning and practice. The guides are designed as developmental tools for teachers and those who support teachers. They are intended to be used for:

1. teacher self-reflection
2. peer-to-peer observation and feedback
3. instructional coaching

Teaching Videos on the Common Core

[Teaching Channel Common Core Lessons by Teachers](#)

Creator: The Teaching Channel

The Teaching Channel features over 100 free videos related to Common Core instruction. These independently-developed videos provide an overview of the ELA/literacy and mathematics standards, specific lesson ideas, and demonstrations of teaching practices. Videos vary in length from five to thirty minutes. While CCSSO does not officially certify the alignment of independently-developed resources to the Common Core, these videos are promising resources.

[America Achieves Video, Lesson Plans and Resources](#)

Creator: America Achieves

America Achieves' site features analysis videos to accompany their video lesson modules in which teachers discuss lessons, their practice, and Common Core implementation in their school. The site also features videos explaining the key instructional shifts associated with the CCSS; information and resources from the Educator Evaluating Quality Instructional Products (EQuIP) project; and an improved search function. America Achieves is in the process of filming more videos, and plans to have at least one math and one ELA video module per grade posted online for grades K-12 by fall 2013. Users need to sign up for a free account to access this free content.

[EduCore Digital Tool](#)

Creator: ASCD

ASCD created the EduCore Digital Tool as a repository of evidence-based strategies, videos, and supporting documents to help educators transition to the Common Core State Standards in both mathematics and English language arts and literacy for the secondary grades. EduCore is free and available to all educators.

[EduCore Mathematics Tool](#)

Creator: ASCD

This tool includes videos, PowerPoint presentations, CCSS math materials, and formative assessment lessons. The formative assessment lesson plans, titled "Classroom Challenges" and designed for grades 6–12, were developed by Mathematics Assessment Resource Services (MARS); the lessons feature problem-solving and content development formative assessments on many subjects (such as solving linear equations in two variables and applying angle theorems).

[EduCore Literacy Tool](#)

Creator: ASCD

This tool includes materials developed by the Literacy Design Collaborative, including three templates for teaching argumentation, informational writing and text, and narrative writing for middle and high school educators in all disciplines. Related resources include templates teachers can use to develop their own instructional modules and videos on how to create such templates.

[PARCC and Common Core Implementation Resources for Teachers](#)

Creator: PARCC and the National Math and Science Initiative

This source allows all teachers to have unlimited access to Common Core implementation resources by sharing them on the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and

Careers (PARCC) open-source website. The resources were developed for the PARCC Educator Leader Cadres (ELCs) and will help teachers prepare to implement the Common Core, be more equipped to provide students with the tools they need to be successful, and assist teachers in preparing students for the PARCC assessment. NMSI partnered with PARCC to launch the Educator Cadre Initiative, which helps states build and expand the number of educators who understand and support the Common Core State Standards and assessments.

Implementation Planning

[Common Core Survey Tool](#)

Creators: Achieve, Education First, US Delivery Institute (EDI)

Achieve, Education First, and US Delivery Institute released a survey tool to help state and district leaders track the quality of their standards implementation. The survey item bank includes survey questions tailored to teachers and school leaders. State leaders can use the item bank as a base for creating customized surveys. The survey tool includes a guidance document that explains the context of the tool, methods for customization and use, and suggestions for how to use the data to make mid-course corrections

[Calendar of Questions 2013-2014](#)

Creator: The Council of Great City Schools

The Council of Great City Schools developed these questions to serve as a tool for districts as they implement the Common Core. The calendar provides overarching questions that could be posed throughout the year, questions for district staff and principals to consider before the school year starts and questions arranged by month that can be used to focus on a particular aspect of implementation.

State Education Agency (SEA) Planning

[CCSSO State Education Agency \(SEA\) Common Core Implementation: Progress and Capacity Rubric](#)

Creator: CCSSO

CCSSO developed this progress and capacity rubric for state education agencies with support from the U.S. Education Delivery Institute. The rubric addresses five key elements of implementation, including systems alignment and system change, teacher supports, principal supports, student supports, and communications and engagement. This resource builds off of tools created by Education First and Achieve.

[Achieve CCSS Implementation Rubric and Self-Assessment Tool](#)

Creator: Achieve, Education First

Education First and Achieve created a “CCSS Implementation Rubric and Self-Assessment Tool” to help states determine the strength of their implementation plans and illustrate ways to improve them. This tool sets a high-quality standard for a strong state role, provides some concrete details and examples to help state leaders get there, and profiles some promising state approaches. The rubric identifies a strong state role that seeks three outcomes: accountability

for results, quality of services and products, and alignment of services and products with the expectation of the CCSS.

[Teaching to the Core: Integrating Implementation of Common Core and Teacher Effectiveness Policies](#)

Creator: CCSSO, Aspen Institute

CCSSO and the Aspen Institute Education & Society Program have released a policy brief authored by Ross Wiener that discusses aligning teacher evaluation with Common Core implementation. The purpose of this policy brief and its 10 recommendations is to help state departments succeed in carrying out the dual responsibilities of leading changes in teacher evaluation and implementation of the Common Core State Standards. The first six recommendations deal with organizational design and functions of state departments and the final four recommend changes in practice.

[Survey Results on Common Core Implementation in Urban Cities](#)

Creator: The Council of Great City Schools

The Council of Great City Schools conducted a survey of all their 67 urban school districts to determine how Common Core implementation is going. The survey covers a wide range of implementation areas including districts' long-term implementation plans, professional development activities, strategies on measuring and collecting data on implementation, and communication strategies. The report also includes preliminary predictions on how student achievement will be impacted by under the Common Core.

[Professional Learning Policy Workbook for States and Districts](#)

Creator: Learning Forward

Learning Forward released the Professional Learning Policy Review: A Workbook for States and Districts in 2013, authored by Joellen Killion. This workbook provides states and local school districts with guidance on how to conduct a review of existing policies related to professional learning. The review process includes discovery, analysis, and recommendations for possible policy changes.

[Seizing the Moment: State Lessons for Transforming Professional Learning](#)

Creator: Learning Forward

This brief provides lessons learned from states that have worked to transform their professional learning systems. The brief underscores the importance of a coordinated state professional learning strategy, the adoption of professional learning standards, the value of assessing the quality of professional development being used, and strategies for leveraging state leadership to drive professional learning improvements.

Principal Supports

[National Association of Secondary School Principals \(NASSP\) Common Core Resources](#)

Creator: National Association of Secondary School Principals

NASSP has a number of resources to help school leaders as they work to meet the challenge of implementing the standards, including a webinar series, articles, a library of Common Core digital publications and newsletters, and a blog on the principals and the Common Core.

[Action Briefs Outlining Role of School Personnel in Common Core Implementation](#)

Creator: Achieve, College Summit, NASSP

Achieve, in partnership with College Summit, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), and the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), released a series of action briefs on the role of school counselors, secondary school leaders, and elementary school leaders in the implementation of the Common Core. The action briefs provide school leaders with a deeper understanding of the Common Core and spell out the leaders' critical role in implementation.

[ASCD Education Leadership Article: The Common Core Standards: Starting Now](#)

Creator: ASCD, SAP

The Common Core Standards: Starting Now, featured in ASCD's Education Leadership Journal in January 2013, provides guidance on beginning Common Core implementation to principals and district superintendents in a time of competing priorities and tight budgets.

[ASCD Education Leadership Article: Making the Shifts](#)

Creator: ASCD, SAP

Making the Shifts, featured in ASCD's Education Leadership Journal in January 2013, provides guidance on the instructional shifts in English language arts/literacy and mathematics that impact professional development, assessment design, and curriculum choices. When educators focus on three core shifts in English language arts and literacy, the expectations for teaching and learning will be clear, consistent, and tightly aligned to the goals of the standards.

[ASCD report: Fulfilling the Promise of the Common Core State Standards: Moving from Adoption to Implementation to Sustainability](#)

Creator: ASCD, CCSSO

"Fulfilling the Promise of the Common Core State Standards: Moving from Adoption to Implementation to Sustainability" outlines illuminating activities educators and policymakers at all levels can take on to successfully implement the Common Core State Standards. The recommendations in the report are derived from data gathered from field work, surveys, and educator summits hosted by ASCD and CCSSO in Arkansas, Colorado, North Carolina, and Utah.

[Learning Forward Brief Series on Professional Learning and Common Core](#)

Creator: Learning Forward

These briefs are offered as part of Learning Forward's initiative Transforming Professional Learning to Prepare College- and Career-Ready Students: Implementing the Common Core. Visit this website to find the below reports:

[Meet the Promise of the Content Standards: Professional Learning Required](#) This brief focuses on the critical role that professional learning plays in implementing content standards. The brief outlines a vision for educators supported through high-quality professional learning, describes

elements of effective professional learning, and provides recommendations for educators to take action at the federal, state, system, school, and individual level.

[Meet the Promise of the Content Standards: Investing in Professional Learning](#)

The second brief details the critical attributes of professional learning necessary to achieve the vision of CCSS, and addresses the need for long-term national and state commitment and investment to achieve that vision.

[Putting a Price Tag on the Common Core: How Much Will Smart Implementation Cost?](#)

Creator: The Fordham Institute

Putting a Price Tag on the Common Core: How Much Will Smart Implementation Cost by the Thomas B. Fordham Institute estimates the implementation cost for each of the forty-five states and the District of Columbia that have adopted the Common Core State Standards. The report shows that costs naturally depend on how states approach implementation. The authors illustrate this with three implementation models: business as usual, bare bones, and balanced implementation. The report examines the tradeoffs associated with each implementation strategy and estimates the cost of all three approaches for every state that has adopted the Common Core.

[Partnering for Student Success: How States and Districts Collaborate to Innovate](#)

Creator: US Education Delivery Institute

This report by the U.S. Education Delivery Institute provides case studies of promising practices where state education leaders are maximizing the impact of their efforts by creating strong, collaborative relationships with school leaders throughout their states.

[State Progress on Implementing the Common Core](#)

Creator: Education First, EPE Research Center

On February 4, 2013, Education First and the EPE Research Center released a second annual look at state implementation of the Common Core State Standards. The new report, "Moving Ahead: A National Perspective on States' Progress in Common Core State Standards Implementation Planning" found states making progress in three key areas: professional development for teachers, developing instructional materials, and devising teacher-evaluation systems linked to the new standards.

Mathematics Common Core Resources

[Publishers' Criteria for Common Core State Standards for Mathematics](#)

Creator: CCSS Lead Writers

The Publishers' Criteria for Common Core State Standards for Mathematics were developed by the lead authors of the standards to guide publishers and curriculum developers as they work to develop mathematics materials aligned with the Common Core State Standards for grades K-8 and [High School](#). The criteria encourage developers and publishers to be strategic about what to include and what to exclude in instructional materials. By underscoring the most significant

elements of the mathematics standards, the criteria illustrate what shifts must take place in the next generation of curricula, including paring away elements that distract from, or are at odds with the CCSS. These guidelines are not intended to dictate classroom practice, but rather are meant to ensure publishers and curriculum developers provide teachers with effective tools.

[Common Core Webinar Series](#)

Creator: CCSSO, the National Governors Association, the National Association of State Boards of Education, Achieve, the Council of Great City Schools

CCSSO, the National Governors Association, the National Association of State Boards of Education, Achieve, and the Council of Great City Schools cohosted two webinars in October 2012 on the K-8 Math Publishers' Criteria developed by Student Achievement Partners: one for state and district curriculum leaders, education policymakers, and one for publishers. Jason Zimba, a lead math standards writer and a co-developer of the Publishers' Criteria, and Beth Cocuzza, Director of Mathematics for Student Achievement Partners, walked participants through the criteria and discussed the recommended uses of this document.

- [Recording of webinar for educators and policy makers](#)
- [Recording of webinar for publishers](#)

[Illustrative Mathematics](#)

Creator: Bill McCallum, lead math standards writer, Kristin Umland, University of New Mexico and Linda Plattner, Executive Director, Illustrative Mathematics

The Illustrative Mathematics Project provides guidance to the work of teachers, states, assessment consortia, and testing companies by illustrating the range and types of mathematical work that students will experience in a faithful implementation of the standards.

[Mathematics Common Core Toolbox](#)

Creator: The Charles A. Dana Center for Mathematics, University of Texas-Austin

The Charles A. Dana Center for Mathematics at the University of Texas-Austin compiled a mathematics common core toolbox. The more rigorous standards require districts to reexamine what it means for all students to understand and learn mathematics. The site includes resources, information, instructional materials, and tools to help districts meet the challenges of the new standards.

[Progressions Documents for the Common Core Math Standards](#)

Creator: Bill McCallum, Jason Zimba, Phil Daro, lead math standards writers

Mathematical progressions, which are narrative documents describing the progression of a topic across a number of grade levels, informed both by research on children's cognitive development and by the logical structure of mathematics, provided the original foundation for writing the standards. The math Common Core writing team is currently finalizing and publishing these documents.

[The Standards: Understanding the Standards for Mathematics](#)

Creator: Student Achievement Partners

Student Achievement Partners has launched [AchievetheCore.org](#) a website to share free, open-source resources to support Common Core implementation at the classroom, district, and state

level. The mathematics resources on the web site include a newly released module that takes a deep dive on the key instructional shifts for math and guidance for focusing math instruction.

[Classroom Examples and Tools for Mathematics Instruction](#)

Creator: Inside Mathematics

Inside Mathematics is a professional resource for educators featuring classroom video examples that illustrate the math practice standards, and videos of exemplary lessons integrating multiple math practices. In addition, Common Core-aligned tasks, searchable either by grade level or content area, are available on the site. Four new classroom videos of “[Number Talks](#)” show students engaged in mental math exercises and conversations about math, including one from a bilingual Spanish-English classroom.

[Common Core Math Blog by Bill McCallum, a Lead Writer of the CCSSM](#)

Creator: Bill McCallum

Math Common Core lead writer Bill McCallum writes a blog of implementation projects related to Common Core mathematics implementation. This blog also includes a forum section with responses to questions about the content of the standards from educators. Any registered user who posts a question in the forum will be answered.

[CCSSO Webinar: Mathematics Common Core Standards and the Concept of Focus](#)

Creator: CCSSO

On April 30, 2012, CCSSO hosted a webinar on the Common Core mathematics, featuring Ellen Whitesides, advisor for the Math SCASS. The webinar included a presentation on the concept of focus in the Math standards, the work of the Math SCASS, and information on the Illustrative Mathematics Project.

[CCSSO Webinar: Common Core State Standards for Mathematics: Shifts and Implications for Instruction](#)

Creator: CCSSO

On March 29, 2012, CCSSO hosted a webinar, supported by the Kansas EAG State Consortium project, titled "Common Core State Standards for Mathematics: Shifts and Implications for Instruction". Presenter Beth Cocuzza, of Student Achievement Partners, is a New Jersey mathematics educator and curriculum expert.

[National Council of Teachers of Mathematics \(NCTM\) President Voices Support for CCSS](#)

Creator: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics'

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' (NCTM) President Linda Gojak wrote an article “Common Core State Standards for Mathematics: An Uncommon Opportunity” for NCTM educators in support of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. As someone who spent nearly 30 years teaching and several more supporting teachers, she makes a strong and personal case for the adoption of the standards.

[Research on Common Core State Standards for Mathematics](#)

Creator: Dr. William Schmidt, the Education Policy Center at Michigan State University

Dr. William Schmidt and the Education Policy Center at Michigan State University released three papers discussing implementation of the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics

(CCSSM). Each paper includes findings derived from separate surveys conducted in 2011 and provides baseline information on awareness, support, and progress on CCSSM implementation among key stakeholders.

- [Implementing the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics: What We Know About Teachers of Mathematics in 41 States](#): In 2011, the Center for the Study of Curriculum at Michigan State University conducted a survey of school district directors and math teachers in the states that have adopted the CCSSM. The goal of the survey was to provide baseline information about what math teachers and school district directors know about the standards as well as inform and guide efforts as states begin implementation.
- [Implementing the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics: What Parents Know and Support](#): In order for implementation of the CCSSM to be successful, all stakeholders must be engaged. The Center for the Study of Curriculum conducted a survey of the parents of students in grades 1-8 about their perceptions and attitudes towards education in general and the standards in particular.
- [Implementing the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics: A Comparison of Current District Content Coverage in 41 States](#): The Center for the Study of Curriculum conducted a survey of all states that have adopted the CCSSM. The goal was to provide baseline information about awareness of the CCSSM initiative, gain understanding of how well acquainted education officials were with specific CCSSM topics, and to determine progress in local efforts to implement CCSSM.

English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy Common Core Resources

[Publishers' Criteria for the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy](#)

Creator: Sue Pimentel and David Coleman, lead CCSS ELA standards writers

The Publishers' Criteria for English Language Arts and Literacy were developed by the lead authors of the CCSS to guide publishers and curriculum developers as they work to develop reading materials aligned with the Common Core State Standards for grades [K-2](#) and grades [3-12](#). The criteria encourage developers and publishers to be strategic about what to include and what to exclude in instructional materials. By underscoring the most significant elements of the literacy standards, the criteria illustrate what shifts must take place in the next generation of curricula, including paring away elements that distract from, or are at odds with the CCSS. These guidelines are not intended to dictate classroom practice, but rather are meant to ensure publishers and curriculum developers provide teachers with effective tools.

[Supplemental Research to Appendix A of Common Core State Standards on Text Complexity](#)

Creator: CCSSO, NGA

As a result of new research on the quantitative dimensions of text complexity published since the standards' release, CCSSO and NGA developed a supplement to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards that is posted on www.corestandards.org. This research expands upon the three-part text complexity model outlined in Appendix A of the CCSS in ELA/Literacy that blends

quantitative and qualitative measures of text complexity with reader and task considerations. The supplement contains an updated chart of text complexity grade bands and associated ranges for six quantitative computer programs that measure text complexity. It also presents new field-tested tools for helping educators assess the qualitative features of text complexity.

[Complete Collection of PD Modules and Courses](#)

Creator: Student Achievement Partners

Student Achievement Partners' Common Core website includes free, open-source resources to support Common Core implementation at the classroom, district, and state level: www.achievethecore.org. Resources currently available include the most recent edition of the English Language Arts (ELA) Publishers' Criteria and guides to writing text dependent questions. Additionally, Student Achievement Partners recently developed a module that introduces educators and school officials to the literacy shifts in the content areas.

[Basal Alignment Project](#)

Creator: The Council of the Great City Schools and Student Achievement Partners

The Council of the Great City Schools and Student Achievement Partners (SAP) developed a free, online resource bank, known as the Basal Alignment Project, of standards-aligned materials and questions that teachers and administrators can use in conjunction with their current curriculum while new instructional products are being developed. These organizations have convened literacy educators from states across the country to write the materials. Website registration is required to access the dozens of freely-available, revised questions and tasks for widely used 3rd-5th grade texts in basal reading series. Sign up on Edmodo by using the code "etuyrm" to join the BAP group.

[CCSSO Webinar on Text Complexity](#)

Creator: CCSSO

The recording of the January 26, 2012 webinar on text complexity and the accompanying materials are available online. The webinar, which focused on tools and resources to support teachers and districts on text complexity, featured Sue Pimentel, a leader on the Common Core State Standards English language arts writing committee, as well as representatives from the Kansas and Louisiana Departments of Education.

[CCSSO Webinar: The Common Core State Standards for ELA: Shifts and Implications for Instruction](#)

Creator: CCSSO

On April 12, CCSSO hosted a webinar, supported by the Kansas EAG State Consortium project, titled "The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts: Shifts and Implications for ELA Instruction." Presenters Meredith and David Liben, ELA instructional specialists and professional development leaders, work with Student Achievement Partners, a nonprofit organization founded by three of the contributing authors of the Common Core State Standards that assembles educators and researchers to design actions based on evidence to improve student achievement. The webinar includes discussion led by Sandra Warren, ASES SCASS adviser, and Kris Shaw, ELA specialist in Kansas State Department of Education.

[International Reading Association \(IRA\) Statement: Providing Literacy Implementation Guidance for the ELA Common Core](#)

Creator: The International Reading Association

The International Reading Association has issued guidance on seven issues that have proven challenging to teachers, principals, administrators, and others who are charged with implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts. The discussion around each of the seven areas – the use of challenging texts, the foundational skills in the standards, comprehension, vocabulary, writing, disciplinary literacy, and diverse learners – is accompanied by recommendations on how to implement these aspects of the standards.

[Aspen Institute Primer on Close Reading of Text](#)

Creator: Aspen Institute

In October 2012, the Aspen Institute released “Implementing the Common Core State Standards: A Primer on ‘Close Reading of Text’.” To assist teachers in understanding and employing a Close Reading technique, the primer addresses three key questions:

- What is “Close Reading” of text, and what are its essential attributes? How, and for what purposes, should teachers employ this strategy?
- What is the role of background knowledge in the development of reading comprehension, and when should teachers activate and/or provide background knowledge?
- What should teachers and district leaders consider about Close Reading as they prepare to implement it in practice?

[ASCD Educational Leadership article: The Common Core Ate My Baby and Other Urban Legends](#)

Creator: ASCD

This article dispels five myths about the new ELA standards and show what the standards really entail.

[The Role of Fiction in the High School English Language Arts Classroom](#)

Creator: Sue Pimentel, David Coleman

Two of the lead authors of the ELA Common Core State Standards, Sue Pimentel and David Coleman, penned this December 2012 article in The Huffington Post that specifies how literature and informational texts are treated in the Common Core.

Connecting Career and Technical Education to the Common Core

[Common Core Standards and Career Technical Education Classroom Tasks](#)

Creator: Achieve, National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education

Achieve and the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education, jointly piloted a process where educators evaluated, modified, and/or developed instructional tasks that demonstrate how Career Technical Education (CTE) content can be leveraged throughout high school mathematics. The tasks were developed by high school and postsecondary mathematics and CTE educators, and validated by content experts in the Common Core State

Standards in mathematics and the National Career Clusters Knowledge & Skills Statements. They were developed to demonstrate how the Common Core and CTE Knowledge & Skills Statements can be integrated into classroom learning, and to provide classroom teachers with a truly authentic task for either mathematics or CTE courses.

[Common Core State Standards & Career and Technical Education: Bridging the Divide between College and Career Readiness](#)

Creator: Hans Meeder and Thom Suddreth of the Meeder Consulting Group, National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium

In May 2012, Achieve released a brief, Common Core State Standards & Career and Technical Education: Bridging the Divide between College and Career Readiness which outlines a set of eight strategies state and district leaders can leverage to ensure the implementation of Common Core State Standards engages, informs, and benefits from the career and technical education (CTE) community.

Connecting English Language Learners to the Common Core

[English Language Proficiency Development Framework](#)

Creator: CCSSO

The English Language Proficiency Development (ELPD) framework, published in September 2012, outlines the underlying English language practices and uses found in the CCSS and the NGSS; communicates to ELL stakeholders the language skills that all ELLs must acquire in order to successfully engage the CCSS and NGSS; and sketches out a procedure by which to evaluate the degree of alignment present between the framework (that corresponds to the language demands of the CCSS and NGSS) and ELP standards.

[Common Core Webinar Series](#)

Creator: CCSSO

To assist states and interested stakeholders in using the ELPD framework, CCSSO hosted a four-part webinar series on this publication. The first webinar oriented participants to the framework and its uses. The subsequent webinars focused on the key practices in each subject area – English language arts, mathematics, and science—as described by their respective standards, as well as the features of discipline-specific language used by teachers and students while engaged in the learning of these key practices.

- [Overview](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [English Language Arts](#)
- [Science](#)

[Common Core State Standards Available in Spanish](#)

Creator: San Diego County Office of Education

The San Diego County Office of Education, CCSSO, and the California Department of Education completed a draft translation of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy into Spanish. Common Core en Español is now available to each state and territory that has adopted the Common Core State Standards. An effort to translate the mathematics standards into Spanish is currently underway.

[Videos: Common Core for Community Members in English and Spanish](#)

Creator: Council of the Great City Schools

The Council of the Great City Schools developed two 30-second Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to quickly tell the story of the Common Core State Standards to the public. The PSAs are available in both English and Spanish.

[Understanding Language Project at Stanford University](#)

Creator: Stanford University

Understanding Language Project at Stanford University aims to heighten educator awareness of the critical role that language plays in the new Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards. Language-rich performance expectations such as obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information; articulating and building on ideas; constructing explanations; and engaging in argument from evidence permeate the Common Core State Standards.

[Colorín Colorado](#)

Creator: ART, WETA

The Colorín Colorado site is a partnership between AFT and WETA that aggregates and displays unique resources on Common Core for English as a second language (ESL) teachers, including videos of teachers in Albuquerque, New Mexico collaborating on CCSS instruction for ELLs.

[The Role of Language and Literacy in College- and Career-Ready Standards: Rethinking Policy and Practice in Support of English Language Learners](#)

Creator: Council of the Great City Schools

In October 2012 the Alliance for Excellent Education released *The Role of Language and Literacy in College- and Career-Ready Standards: Rethinking Policy and Practice in Support of English Language Learners* which discusses the role of language and literacy in college- and career-ready standards for English Language Learners (ELLs). The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) offer great promise for advancing the quality of education and outcomes for all students, but meeting the higher expectations associated with them could prove especially daunting for the rapidly growing population of ELLs—students who must learn grade-level content while simultaneously trying to master the English language. This report discusses these challenges, highlights initiatives already underway to help ELLs meet these challenges, and outlines how policy and practice must change to help ELLs graduate ready for college and a career.

Connecting Students with Disabilities to the Common Core

[Using Multi-Tiered Systems of Support \(MTSS\) to Implement Common Core](#)

Creator: Council of the Great City Schools

The Council of Great City Schools put together a white paper which encourages schools to embrace the needs of ALL students. Regardless of how school district leaders implement the Common Core, some students will require additional support and intervention in order to be successful. The Council of Great City Schools recommends implementing the standards within a framework of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) that will help ensure that all students succeed.

[CCSSO Webinar: Language Arts Instructional Strategies for Special Education and All Teachers](#)

Creator: CCSSO

On April 10, 2012 CCSSO hosted a webinar, supported by the Kansas EAG State Consortium project, titled "Language Arts Instructional Strategies for Special Education Teachers and All Teachers." Presenter Lisa Campbell, ELA and special education specialist and professional development leader of Hamilton County, Ohio, focused on critical changes in methods and content of instruction in language arts in the elementary grades under the Common Core Standards that teachers will need to incorporate into their instruction and curriculum.

[CCSSO Webinar: Transition to the CCSS for Teachers of Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities](#)

Creator: CCSSO

On April 16, 2012 CCSSO hosted a webinar, supported by the Kansas EAG State Consortium project. Presenter Karen Erickson, a special education expert at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, focused on important transitions in instructional approach for teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

[CCSSO Webinar: Overview of the 1% Assessment Consortia](#)

Creator: CCSSO

On July 10, 2012 CCSSO hosted a webinar to provide an overview of the two assessment consortia funded to design assessment systems aligned to the Common Core for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) and the National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) Partnership. These new alternate assessments are expected to fit cohesively within the comprehensive assessment systems under development by the Partnership for Assessment Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (Smarter Balanced). Both DLM and NCSC will be ready for use by the 2014-15 school year. Rachel Quenemoen (NCSC) and Neal Kingston (DLM) discussed similarities and differences between the consortia and how their work connects to the Common Core, which was followed by Q&A with the audience.

[NSTTAC Common Core Transition Think Tank](#)

Creator: The National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center

The National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center, funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), has developed a list of example transition skills that are aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

Defining College and Career Readiness

[ILN Framework for College and Career Readiness](#)

Creator: Innovation Lab Network

CCSSO's Innovation Lab Network (ILN) released a white paper that communicates the shared framework and definition elements of College, Career, and Civic Readiness. The framework was accepted by ILN chief state school officers in 2012.

[Building Blocks for Change: What it Means to Be Career Ready](#)

Creator: The Career Readiness Partner Council

The Career Readiness Partner Council, a broad-based coalition of education, policy, business and philanthropic organizations that strives to forward a more comprehensive vision for what it means to be career ready, issued a statement in October 2012 around its vision for career readiness. CCSSO is a member organization of the Career Readiness Partner Council and is one of the listed supporters of the statement.

[National High School Center College and Career Readiness Webinar](#)

Creator: National High School Center

In June 2012, the National High School Center hosted a series of webinars on college and career readiness. Nationally-recognized experts and practitioners in the field of college and career readiness shared their perspectives on defining and actualizing college and career readiness for all students. Topics include:

- The Complexity of College and Career Readiness
- College and Career Readiness and Linked Learning
- College and Career Readiness and Students with Disabilities
- Aligning Resources, Structures, and Supports for Actualizing College and Career Readiness

[Education Policy Improvement Center's Definition of College and Career Readiness](#)

Creator: EPIC

Dr. David Conley, founder of EPIC, has developed a definition of college and career readiness, which is available on the center's website. Dr. Conley presented on this topic to CCSSO's Implementing the Common Core Standards (ICCS) state collaborative in December 2011.

[2012 50-State Achieve Report on College and Career Readiness](#)

Creator: Achieve

In September 2012, Achieve released its seventh annual "Closing the Expectations Gap" report, which surveys all 50 states and the District of Columbia on standards, graduation requirements, assessments, and accountability systems aligned to college- and- career- ready expectations.

Assessment Consortia Information

Two state-led consortia, [Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium \(Smarter Balanced\)](#) and the [Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers \(PARCC\)](#)

Creator: Smarter Balanced, PARCC

Two state-led consortia – the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (Smarter Balanced) and the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) – are currently developing the assessments that will test students on the new standards beginning in the 2014-2015 school year.

Two state-led consortia, [Dynamic Learning Maps](#), [National Center and State Collaborative](#)

Creator: Dynamic Learning Maps, National Center and State Collaborative

Two state-led consortia are developing Common Core assessments for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, which is about 1% of the student population

[CCSSO Webinar: Overview of the 1% Assessment Consortia](#)

Creator: CCSSO

In July 2012, CCSSO hosted a webinar to provide an overview of the two assessment consortia funded to design assessment systems aligned to the Common Core for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities: Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) and the National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) Partnership. These new alternate assessments are expected to fit cohesively within the comprehensive assessment systems under development by the Partnership for Assessment Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (Smarter Balanced). Both DLM and NCSC will be ready for use by the 2014-15 school year, the same year in which the comprehensive assessment systems will be operational. Rachel Quenemoen (NCSC) and Neal Kingston (DLM) discussed similarities and differences between the consortia and how their work connects to the Common Core, which was followed by Q&A with the audience.

[Publication: Coming Together to Raise Achievement: New Assessments for the Common Core State Standards](#)

Creator: PARCC, Smarter Balanced

This guide, provides information about the designs, work, and timelines for each of the five assessment consortia. It also includes advice from educators about what teachers and schools can do now to start the transition to the Common Core State Standards, an annotated list of helpful websites and online resources, and an explanation of evidence-centered design, the process being used to develop the new assessments, and its benefits.

[Publication: December 2011 Report from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems \(NCHEMS\)](#)

Creator: National Center for Higher Education Management Systems

This guide December 2011 report identifies the conditions that can help build consensus between state K-12 and postsecondary systems on policy issues. It specifically makes recommendations for meaningful involvement by higher education in the implementation of the

Common Core State Standards and assessments by identifying criteria that reflect a state's capacity for alignment between K-12 and higher education, as well as the hallmarks of what meaningful higher education involvement looks like.