



Draft Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Social Studies

Document revisions and additions since the December Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) meeting:

1. **An increase in detail, additional pages added to the document:** Based on feedback provided, the draft *KAS for Social Studies* is currently 230 pages, which is an increase from 147 pages.
2. **The Addition of Grade-Level Overviews:** Based on feedback provided, grade-level overviews were added in kindergarten through grade 8. In K-8, each grade level is introduced with a grade-level overview that includes an expanded grade-level introduction, suggested key vocabulary, connections to the previous and following grade, an explanation of what inquiry looks like in practice and opportunities for cross disciplinary connections. The grade-level theme presented in the introduction drives the standards within the concepts and practices through the four disciplines of civics, economics, geography and history.
 - a. **Grade-level introductions:** Feedback indicated that stakeholders valued the additional clarity of an expanded introduction specific to each grade level. The expanded introduction provides additional information on the grade-level theme and explains how the goal of social studies education connects with students as they progress through their social studies education. Additionally, the expanded introduction provides examples of how learners engage with each of the four disciplines during the year.
 - b. **Suggested key vocabulary:** Feedback indicated that stakeholders valued suggested key vocabulary specific to each grade level. The writing committee identified terms that they felt were essential to understanding the content and skills in the standards. The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction.
 - c. **Looking Back, Looking Ahead: progression snapshots:** Feedback indicated that stakeholders valued the progression snapshots found in the overviews. Short summaries of the previous and following grades are included to provide teachers information on what a student's social studies learning experience is focused on in the previous and following grade. This short snapshot provides a short narrative on how the current grade's theme progresses.
 - d. **What this would look like in practice:** Feedback provided indicated that supports were needed to assist teachers in seeing how the inquiry and discipline strand standards interact in a learning experience. This section provides guidance on how to combine the standards into a learning experience for students and how the standards work together to ensure students are engaged in the inquiry practices throughout K-8. The identified sample evidence of learning is a possible suggestion of how the disciplinary strand standards interact with the inquiry practices; however, it is not the only pathway and is not comprehensive to obtain mastery of the standards.
 - e. **Opportunities for cross disciplinary connections:** Feedback provided indicated that teachers needed support, especially at the elementary school level, when understanding how cross disciplinary connections could be made among the content standards. In this section, connections are made between the *KAS for Social Studies* and the *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Reading and Writing*.

See pages 26-28 for the kindergarten grade-level overview, pages 84-86 for grade 5, and pages 125-127 for grade 8. Additional examples of the specific grade-level overviews are identified in the Table of Contents.

- 3. The Addition of Disciplinary Clarifications of the Standards:** Based on feedback provided, disciplinary clarifications were added in kindergarten through grade 8. Following the grade-level standards for each grade, disciplinary clarifications are provided. The disciplinary clarifications include sample ideas of content and concepts to help teachers better understand the expectations of the standards. The identified disciplinary clarifications are possible suggestions; however, they are not the only pathways and are not comprehensive to obtain mastery of the standards.

See pages 31-35 for the kindergarten disciplinary clarifications, pages 90-95 for grade 5, and pages 133-139 for grade 8. Additional examples of the disciplinary clarifications are identified in the Table of Contents.

- 4. Review of Standards:** Based on feedback provided from the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE), public comments provided at the December KBE meeting and stakeholder comments from focus groups conducted in December, the Social Studies Advisory Panels (AP) and Social Studies Review and Development Committee (RDC) thoughtfully reviewed the draft *KAS for Social Studies* for concerns raised. This feedback informed revision of the standards and the development of the disciplinary clarifications.