
Architecture and Construction Course Standards

The Background:

Rules, Regulations, and Minimum Standards of the State Board of Education 0520-01-03-.05(1) calls for the State Board of Education to adopt curriculum standards for each subject area, grades K-12. The approved standards are to be the basis for planning instructional programs in each local school system. Adopted textbooks are also to be aligned with the state curriculum standards. Section 3.205 Approved High School Courses of the State Board of Education Policy identifies those courses which have been approved by the Board for instruction across the state.

The Department of Education's Division of College & Career Readiness (C&CR) is proposing changes to approved course standards in the Architecture & Construction career cluster. This item includes new courses within this career cluster that are now better aligned with postsecondary pathways, incorporate added instructional rigor by embedding Tennessee State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in Technical Subjects and where applicable, Mathematics, and reflect the competitive employment demands of our state.

Courses included in this item:

Mechanical, Electrical, & Plumbing Systems (MEP)	New Course
Electrical Systems	Revised/Renamed Course
HVAC	Revised/Renamed Course
Plumbing Systems	Revised/Renamed Course

Since first reading of the standards included in this item, the C&CR Division has accepted feedback from Tennessee educators, CTE Directors, and industry experts via the CTE.Questions@tn.gov email address and through individual communications. Based on that feedback, the following changes have been made to the item since first reading:

- Updated course description information with new and revised course numbers and teacher endorsement codes.
- Made minor grammatical and formatting edits, in addition to small changes in language to enhance alignments to Tennessee State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in Technical Subjects and address questions posed by reviewers.
- Added alignments between the standards and modules of The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), to increase potential for student certification in these subject areas.
- Added standards in MEP to address additional electrical content and components of residential wiring systems, as well as construction drawings, specifications, and documentation.

- Added language in Electrical Systems and HVAC around electrical codes and inspection procedures as well as components of a contract.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.