

# TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## STANDARDS REVIEW

3.209

### Policy Sections:

- I. Purpose of Standards Review
- II. State Board Facilitated Standards Review
- III. Department of Education Facilitated Standards Review

#### I. Purpose of Standards Review

The State Board of Education is charged with approval of all academic standards and courses of study in the public schools.<sup>1</sup> Academic standards determine what students should know and be able to do by the end of a grade level or course. In order to ensure Tennessee's standards are rigorous, relevant, and appropriate for each grade level or course, the Board shall review each set of academic standards regularly.

The Board, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall ensure that the review process for each set of standards is thorough and rigorous. The Board and the Department of Education shall ensure that all standards are of the highest quality and in the best interests of the students of this State.

Each local education agency shall be responsible for developing and implementing instructional programs in compliance with T.C.A. § 49-1-314.

#### II. State Board Facilitated Standards Review

The Board shall review each set of academic standards for the four (4) core academic subject areas (English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) on a rotating basis at least once every eight (8) years. The eight (8)-year period shall be calculated beginning from the date on which a particular set of standards was last approved on final reading by the Board. The Board shall ensure that standards review processes for the areas of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies meet the requirements laid out in T.C.A. §§ 49-1-311 – 49-1-313.

The Board may choose to review a set of standards earlier than every eight (8) years, but in no case shall any set of standards be reviewed more than eight (8) years from the last time a set of standards was approved on final reading by the Board.

Any proposed change or addition to academic standards in English language arts, math, science, and social studies shall be posted for public review on the State Board's website and submitted to the members of the education committees of the State House of Representatives and the Senate at least sixty (60) days before the State Board meeting during which final adoption of the proposed standards is to be considered.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> T.C.A. § 49-1-302.

<sup>2</sup> T.C.A. § 49-1-309.

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**III. Department of Education Facilitated Standards Review**

The Department of Education shall review each set of standards in Career and Technical Education (CTE), Computer Science, Health Education, Fine Arts, Personal Finance, Physical Education, World Languages, and all other subjects (not reviewed by the State Board) on a rotating basis, as set forth in this policy. The Department may choose to review the standards earlier than stipulated in this policy; however, in no case shall any set of standards be reviewed beyond the time period stipulated in this policy.

- (1) Career and Technical Education, Computer Science, and Personal Finance standards shall be reviewed every three (3) years.
- (2) Health Education standards shall be reviewed every four (4) years.
- (3) Standards for Fine Arts, Physical Education, World Languages, and standards for all other subjects that are not reviewed by the State Board shall be reviewed every eight (8) years.

Any proposed change or addition to academic standards in the above areas shall be posted for public review on the State Board's website and submitted to the members of the education committees of the State House of Representatives and the Senate at least sixty (60) days before the State Board meeting during which final adoption of the proposed standards is to be considered.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> T.C.A. § 49-1-309.