



Tennessee Academic Standards: Standards Review History and Process

Tennessee’s standards shine today as an example for the rest of the nation thanks to the State Board of Education’s academic standards review process. Under the direction of former Governor Bill Haslam and the Tennessee General Assembly, the State Board implemented one of the most rigorous standards review processes in the country to ensure high quality academic standards. This effort continues annually thanks to ongoing financial support from the Tennessee General Assembly. To date, Tennessee’s academic standards review process has received over 517, 000 reviews and comments from Tennesseans, including parents, teachers, education leaders, and other citizens.

History of Standards Review in Tennessee

The embedded links provide additional context and press coverage of each standards review cycle.

Date	Event
Late 2014/ early 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Bill Haslam and the General Assembly established a process to review English language arts (ELA) and math standards as the state transitioned away from Common Core State Standards. An online survey to collect public feedback garnered over 78,000 reviews for ELA and 43,000 for math.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Board facilitated the standards review process for ELA and math codified in T.C.A. §§ 49-1-311-312 and outlined in the standards review process flowchart on the following page. The online feedback surveys for science and social studies standards opened in late 2015 in alignment with T.C.A. § 49-1-313.
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Board facilitated the science and social studies standards review processes and finalized the ELA and math standards review process. April: Revisions to the ELA and math standards were approved on final reading by the State Board. October: Revisions to the science standards were approved on final reading by the State Board. In total, approximately 30,000 reviews of the science standards were during the initial survey window.
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> July: Revisions to the social studies standards were approved on final reading by the State Board. In total, approximately 118,000 reviews of the social studies standards were received between both public survey windows. On June 21, 2021, the Thomas B. Fordham Institute recognized Tennessee’s civics and U.S. History academic standards as some of the best in the country. In their assessment, the Fordham Institute considered our state’s social studies standards for content and rigor as well as clarity and organization.
2017-18 SY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised ELA and math standards implemented in classrooms.
2018-19 SY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised science standards implemented in classrooms.
2019-20 SY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised social studies standards implemented in classrooms.
2020-21 SY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular cycle of math standards review occurred; over 74, 000 reviews and comments collected during both survey windows.
2021-22 SY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular cycle of science standards review occurred; over 60,000 reviews and comments collected during both survey windows.
2022-23 SY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular cycle of social studies standards current happening. Ove 114,000 reviews and comments were received during the first survey window.