

Indiana's Academic Standards: Social Studies Standards (2007)

Indiana's Education Roundtable is charged with ensuring Indiana has world-class academic standards. Through the work of the Roundtable and State Board of Education, Indiana adopted new standards for English/Language Arts in 2006, Math and Science in 2000 and for Social Studies in 2001. These academic standards rank among the very best set of expectations for student learning in the country.

1. To ensure this continues to be the case, Indiana follows a six-year cycle to review and update the standards that coincides with text-book adoption. Social Studies text-book adoption takes place next year 2008 – therefore, the process to complete a review of our Social Studies academic standards was discussed with the Education Roundtable in July 2007 with work progressing according to the outlined process. A brief summary follows:
2. **Initial Draft** - Staff pulled together a small team consisting of classroom teachers, postsecondary content specialists, and Department of Education staff to complete initial review work – identifying and addressing gaps, confirming alignment from grade-to-grade, removing outdated content/concepts, and benchmarking to content covered in the following: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assessments in Civics, Geography, and U.S. History at grades 4, 8, and 12; the College Board's Advanced Placement programs in Macro and Micro Economics, Human Geography, U.S. Government, U.S. History and World History; The Fordham reports on *The State of State Standards 2006*, *Effective State Standards for U.S. History: A 2003 Report Card*, *State Geography Standards*, *State History Standards*, *American Diploma Project College- and Work-Readiness Benchmarks*. From this review work, the team produced an initial draft.
3. **External Review** – Draft was reviewed externally by content experts representing five national organizations, the Thomas B. Fordham Foundation, the National Center for Civic Education, National Center for Economic Education, National Council for History Education, and National Geographic. In-state content specialists from Indiana's post secondary institutions, professional associations, state museums, and K-12 educators also were notified and input was sought via email and the online process. In-state groups included the Indiana Council for the Social Studies, Indiana Council for Economic Education, Indiana Council for History Education, Geography Educators Network of Indiana. Recommendations and comments were used to refine the final draft.
4. **Public Review** – Draft was posted online for 30 days (August) to provide opportunity for additional review and feedback by teachers, administrators, parents, students, members of the business community, and other interested parties. Members of the Education Roundtable and State Board also were asked to review and comment via the online process and to encourage those they represent to do the same. More than 215 individuals provided input. Public comments can be viewed at <http://mustang.doe.state.in.us/dg/standards/welcome.cfml>. Feedback was used to refine the draft.
5. **Final External Review** – Experts from Fordham, National Center for History Education, National Center for Economic Education and National Geographic provided additional critique and input throughout the process. All organizations reviewed the Final Draft and their findings accompany the Final Draft to the Education Roundtable.
6. **Education Roundtable Action** – Roundtable asked to act on the Final Draft Social Studies Standards (2007) update at the September 20, 2007 meeting. Action will consist of a resolution to the State Board of Education for adoption.

Social Studies Standards
Attachment A

7. **State Board Adoption** – Adoption by the State Board anticipated at its October 3, 2007 meeting.
8. **Standards to Schools** – The updated Social Studies Standards (2007) will immediately be posted online at www.indianastandards.org and at www.doe.state.in.us. Copies of the K-12 Teacher Editions will be sent to schools in July 2008.
9. **Alignment of State Assessments to Measure New (Updated) Standards** –Core 40 End-of Course Assessment [for U.S. History](#) will be aligned to measure the updated Social Studies Standards beginning with tests administered during the 2008-09 school year.