

W I N T E R 2 0 1 5

AR Teacher Resources

ADE Assessment/Curriculum/PD Updates



Preparing for the PARCC Assessment

PARCC Calculator Policy – Allowable Calculators

Grades 6-7: Four-function with square root and percentage functions

Grade 8: Scientific calculators

High School: Graphing calculators (with functionalities consistent with TI-84 or similar models)

No calculators are allowed for grades 3-5, unless the student has an approved calculator accommodation. [PARCC Calculator Policy](#)

Assessment Updates

Sign up for the assessment updates email at the bottom of the [site!](#)

PARCC Student Tutorials

TestNav 8 Tutorial, Printable Paper-Based Student Tutorials, and Online Student Tutorials are now available [here](#).

Helpful Websites

Math

[Illustrative Mathematics](#) –

Resources for teachers and teacher leaders

ELA/Literacy

[Edcite](#) –

Engage your students with Common Core practice!

ELL

[Reading Rockets](#) –

Teaching with Interactive Picture E-Books in Grades K-6

Upcoming PD

- March 2-5 – Allison Zmuda / Connecting UbD and LDC
- May 5 – Jay McTighe / Now Working with LDC
- June 17-18 LDC Summer Conference – Delving Deeper
- [Arkansas IDEAS](#) features many free online PD options
- ADE Disciplinary Literacy: Social Studies K-12 workshop recording is now available [here](#).

[Professional Development Requirements](#)



Science

Elementary Science Safety Video

ADE is working with a science safety expert, an advisory committee of K-12 and Higher Ed educators, and AETN to create an Elementary Science Safety Video with companion facilitator's guide that will support the implementation of the Arkansas K-12 Science Standards at grades K-4 in 2016. The final video will be made available on ArkansasIDEAS as a PD opportunity.

Disciplinary Literacy in Science

Literacy and science specialists from ADE and the state education cooperatives are collaborating to create two professional development opportunities designed for science teachers at Grades 4-5 and Grades 6-8. These Disciplinary Literacy trainings are designed to engage participants in the use of literacy strategies as a support for student understanding of science concepts.

Teacher Resources

ELA/Literacy and Math

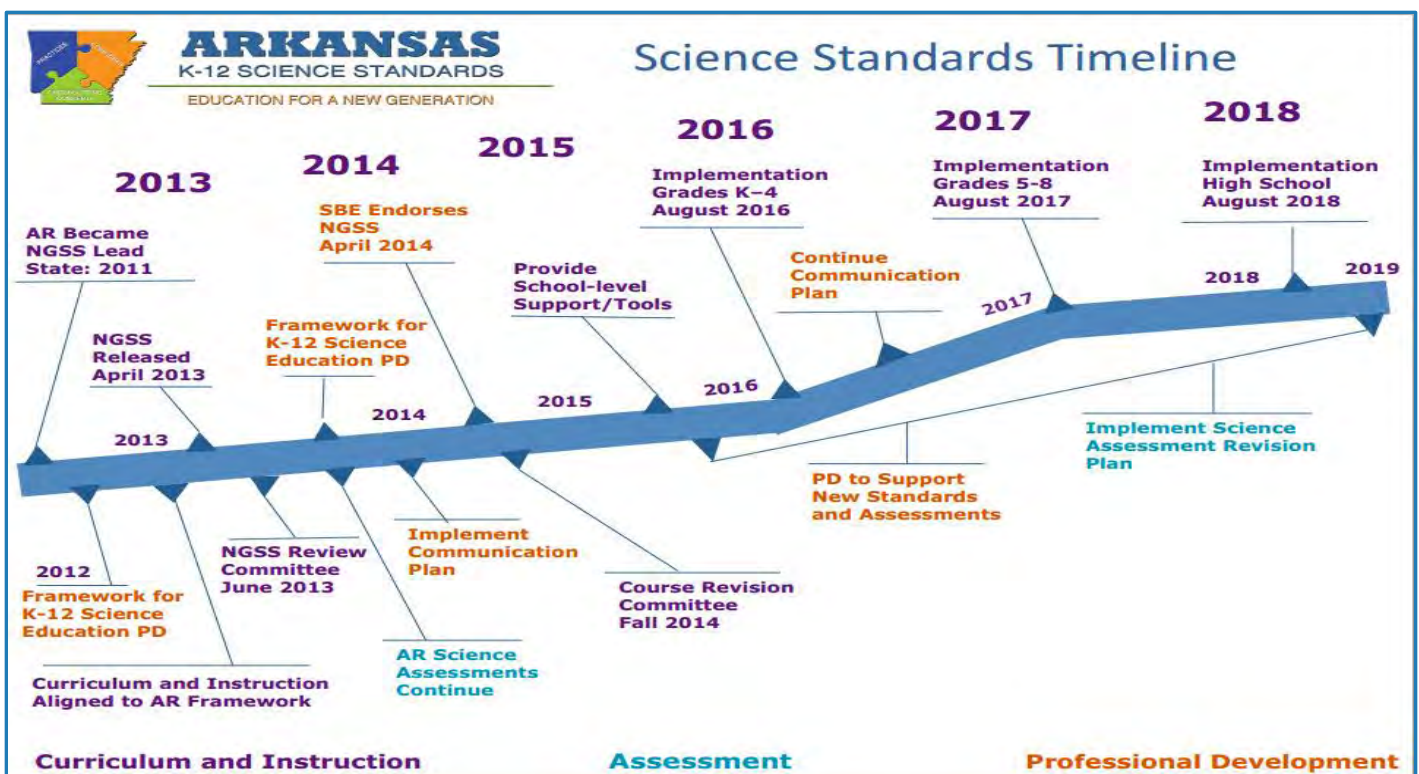
- [Achieve](#) – Click the tab labeled **EQuIP Exemplars** to see CCSS aligned lessons and units of study that have been reviewed using the EQuIP Rubric.

Science

- Arkansas K-12 Science Standards [webpage](#)

Social Studies

- [Outline](#) of social studies content by grade and subject area
- [Overview](#) of major curriculum shifts, anticipated PD, and curricular needs



ELA/Literacy

Important PARCC Links

[PARCC/Pearson Portal](#):

Bulletins, Test Preparation, PARCC Manuals and Training, Support

[Evidence Statements](#)

[Blueprints](#)

[Writing Rubrics](#)

ELL

- ADE will have an ESL Academy this summer 2015. For more information contact Miguel Hernandez at Miguel.Hernandez@arkansas.gov.
- The ELPA 21 Field Test for Arkansas is February 2, 2015 – February 27, 2015.
- The English Language Development Assessment (ELDA) is March 16, 2015 – May 1, 2015. More information can be found [here](#).
- [Reading Strategies](#)
[Teacher Observation Checklist](#)
- [Interpreting Assessment Results](#)



Framework for Fine Arts

On January 8, 2015, the State Board of Education approved the 2014 Fine Arts Curriculum Framework. Forty-eight arts educators representing the disciplines of theatre, dance, music, and visual art convened in June and July of 2014 to write or revise curriculum frameworks for their respective disciplines. The result was 34 courses. Some of these were revisions, but the majority of the courses were brand new, especially in the areas of theatre and dance.

The new framework is different from the former Fine Arts Curriculum Framework in several ways and addresses problems inherent in the old standards.

- All fine arts disciplines and courses share four strands and eleven content standards, which reflect the organization of the new national arts standards.
- The new framework contains a wide variety of courses that satisfy the 0.5 credit graduation requirement.
- The new framework includes four one-semester appreciation courses, one in each of the four disciplines, giving schools much more latitude in fulfilling the requirement to offer a survey of fine arts course.
- The former framework contained no courses for theatre or dance. The new framework offers ample opportunity for students to participate in a full range of arts activities.

Next steps in preparing to implement the 2014 Fine Arts Framework in the fall of 2015 involves professional development.

The 2014 Fine Arts Curriculum Framework is located [here](#).

A webinar providing an overview of the new framework will be held Thursday, February 5, at 1:00 pm. **For further information or log in information to the webinar, contact Lana Hallmark, ADE Fine Arts Curriculum Specialist, at lane.hallmark@arkansas.gov or 501-682-7590.**



Framework for Social Studies

A committee of 55 K-16 educators and curriculum supervisors met for two weeks during June 2014 and revised the ADE Social Studies Curriculum Framework and high school courses. The frameworks were approved by the State Board of Education on January 8, 2015 and will be implemented in the 2015-16 school year. The newly revised frameworks can be accessed [here](#). For further information, contact Margaret (Maggie) Herrick, ADE Social Studies Curriculum Specialist, at Margaret.Herrick@arkansas.gov or (501) 682-6584.



Transitional Courses

A.C.A. § 6-15-2012(b) states, “(b) [a] high school shall provide for each student who does not meet the college and career readiness standards under the assessment: (1) [o]ne or more transitional courses designed to help the student reach college and career readiness standards; and (2) [r]elated strategies to allow for accelerated skill and knowledge development consistent with the college and career readiness standards.”

Arkansas schools may fulfill these requirements by offering one or more of the Math and Literacy transitional course options. Academic advisors should work with students and parents to determine if the transitional course being offered is appropriate. Prior academic classes, scores, and post-secondary intentions should be considered when determining appropriateness of a transitional course. Transitional courses are rigorous and are not to be confused with remediation.

More information about transitional courses may be found on the Arkansas Department of Education website at the following links: [English Language Arts](#) and [Math](#).

New Curriculum & Instruction Listserv

A listserv has been established by the Curriculum and Instruction Unit, Division of Learning Services at the Arkansas Department of Education. The purpose of this listserv is to communicate with district curriculum leaders. Communications will focus on curriculum updates and changes in Arkansas education. All messages posted on this listserv have been created and approved by Stacy Smith, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at ADE. General information about the mailing list can be found [here](#).



[Newest Resources](#)

Teacher Resources

The Arkansas Department of Education now has a new [Teacher Resources](#) page. Resources for assessment, curriculum and instruction, special education, ELA, math, and science are available. Also, Learning Services newsletters will be posted on this site.