

A Guide to Common Core Implementation

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE	
Undetermined or did not adopt	10%
2011-2013	16%
2013-2014	21%
2014-2015	28%
2015-2016	4%

The Common Core State Standards initiative aims to improve student readiness for college and careers through establishing new curriculum standards in language arts and mathematics. The initiative was launched in 2009, sponsored by the National Governors Association (NGA) and Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

Implementation timeline

The majority of states have signed on to adopt Common Core State Standards, with implementation times phased through 2016.¹

As the ACT, SAT and GED exams are aligning to Common Core curricula, even schools that are not adopting these standards may find the need to adjust their educational content in order to give students the best chance of success on college entrance exams.

Digital assessment

Two state-led consortia are designing new K-12 assessments aligned to Common Core State Standards, ready to be put in use by the 2014-2015 school year.

PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers)	SMARTER BALANCED Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
Year-end digital assessments, fixed format	Year-end digital assessments, computer-adaptive technology
Periodic assessments throughout the school year	Periodic assessments throughout the school year
\$186M grant from Department of Education Race to the Top program	\$175M grant from Department of Education Race to the Top program

¹ As of October 2013.

Technology requirements

PARCC and Smarter Balanced have issued similar guidelines for the minimum technology recommendations of devices used for online assessments:

- Minimum 9.5-10" screen with 1024×768 resolution
- 1GB RAM recommended
- External keyboards required for test takers using tablets for PARCC assessments
- Secure browsers and the ability to lock down features during testing
- Able to connect to the internet
- 100 kbps per student bandwidth recommended

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For sources and complete assessment information, visit: CCSSO.org, corestandards.org, edweek.org, NGA.org, parconline.org and smarterbalanced.org.

