



ARKANSAS

K-12 SCIENCE STANDARDS

EDUCATION FOR A NEW GENERATION

Steps to Implementation of the *Arkansas K-12 Science Standards*

Arkansas is currently in the adoption stage of implementing new science content standards. The new standards are called the *Arkansas K-12 Science Standards* and replace the 2005 *Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks*. Effective standards implementation is a system-wide commitment. All work is orchestrated at the state level, with involvement and response from districts, schools, and teachers.

Adoption Stage (1-3 years)			
Categories of Work	District	School/Administrator	Teacher
Alignment Transition: From old to new standards	<input type="checkbox"/> Be involved in state-level processes when presented with the opportunity. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> are available for Grades K-8 now and new high school courses are being developed in 2015-2016.	<input type="checkbox"/> Be involved in the state- and district- level processes when presented with the opportunity. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> are available for Grades K-8 now and new high school courses are being developed in 2015-2016.	<input type="checkbox"/> Be involved in the state- and district-level processes when presented with the opportunity. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> are available for Grades K-8 now and new high school courses are being developed in 2015-2016.
Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Review all information received from ADE. <input type="checkbox"/> ADE will assess science in grades 3-10 with ACT Aspire or with the Alternate Portfolio Assessment for 2015-2016.	<input type="checkbox"/> Review all information received from ADE. <input type="checkbox"/> ADE will assess science in grades 3-10 with ACT Aspire or with the Alternate Portfolio Assessment for 2015-2016. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase collaboration among literacy and science teachers to support the science literacy skills assessed on the ACT Aspire.	<input type="checkbox"/> Review all information received from ADE. <input type="checkbox"/> ADE will assess science in grades 3-10 with ACT Aspire or with the Alternate Portfolio Assessment for 2015-2016. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase collaboration among literacy and science teachers to support the science literacy skills assessed on the ACT Aspire.



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Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain instructional focus on the 2005 <i>Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks</i> in the curriculum and consider revising timelines for adoption and/or purchase of new curriculum materials. <input type="checkbox"/> Convene cross-school groups to discuss focus of the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> at each grade and implications for instruction. <input type="checkbox"/> Refrain from purchasing new instructional materials until the standards are available. When new standards are posted on ADE website, begin to review options for purchasing new materials aligned to the standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain instructional focus on the 2005 <i>Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks</i> in the curriculum and ensure teachers are informed about impending changes. <input type="checkbox"/> Convene groups to discuss the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> at each grade and the implications for instruction. <input type="checkbox"/> Identify strong teacher-developed curricular materials that are likely aligned to the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain instructional focus on the 2005 <i>Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks</i> in the curriculum. <input type="checkbox"/> Begin reviewing the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> at http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards. <input type="checkbox"/> Begin reviewing the appendices of the <i>Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)</i> at www.nextgenstandards.org. <input type="checkbox"/> Begin to incorporate the science and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts in currently used curricula/resources/instructional materials.



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Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Develop multi-year PD plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for supporting schools with delivery of PD. <input type="checkbox"/> Access information about PD for administrators on the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> at http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards/science-pd-opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Develop multi-year PD plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide input on district multi-year PD plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Involve staff in development of plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for supporting teachers (short- and long-term). <input type="checkbox"/> Assess PD needs of staff in school, and identify high-priority PD needs by subject area/topic. <input type="checkbox"/> Access information about PD for administrators on the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> at http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards/science-pd-opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate and pursue opportunities for PD on the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> and Disciplinary Literacy in Science. <input type="checkbox"/> Access information about PD on the <i>Arkansas K-12 Science Standards</i> at http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards/science-pd-opportunities.



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Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Relay information from the state to schools and teachers. <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage involvement of administrators and teachers in input opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> Refine high-level talking points for district administrators, and focus on key messages, timelines, and language used in disseminating information to staff and families. <input type="checkbox"/> Access communication tools at http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards/communication-tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Determine the set of teachers and other professionals who need to be informed about the pending new standards and/or involved in providing feedback. <input type="checkbox"/> Keep appropriate teachers informed using information from district and state. <input type="checkbox"/> Identify lead teachers to help develop communications based on district/state key points for rest of staff. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop and implement strategies for communicating to parents. <input type="checkbox"/> Access communication tools at http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards/communication-tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pursue opportunities to become involved in the state/district/school-level transition process. <input type="checkbox"/> Access communication tools at http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards/communication-tools.