

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Instructional Leaders
Principals

FROM: Kristi D. Austin, PhD
Director, Office of Assessment and Standards

DATE: September 9, 2026

RE: Online Public Review for the *2028 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Social Studies and Civics Standards*

State standards provide the basis for decision-making and educational policy development as well as the foundation for the development of curricula at the local level. The primary goal of standards is to articulate high expectations for teaching and learning for all students enrolled in the public schools of South Carolina.

As a result of the dedicated efforts of a team of South Carolina educators from school and district levels, consultants from institutions of education and research, Social Studies representatives from the Office of Assessment and Standards, as well as partners from the Office of Special Education Services, the Office of Leadership Effectiveness, and the Office of Government Relations & Policy, the *2028 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Social Studies and Civics Standards* are now available for public review and feedback through an online public review survey. The development process established provides an opportunity to ensure South Carolina's high-quality standards are based on current research and best practices and meet the varied educational needs of our state's students.

The feedback survey was developed, with permission, using the criteria for assessment of standards published by Fordham Institute, in conjunction with American Institutes for Research. The public review feedback survey can be accessed using the link below.

[**SS Public Review Feedback Survey**](#)

September 9, 2026

The public review period will begin on **September 9, 2026**, and conclude on **October 9, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.** **Public comments must be submitted through the online survey form**, which is linked above. The survey includes instructions for providing feedback. For additional details and supporting information, please refer to the linked [Purpose & Design of the Standards](#) document.

Following the public review, the Revision Team will review the feedback, and the draft standards will be updated to reflect public review feedback and other focus group input. The standards will then be submitted to the State Board of Education and the Education Oversight Committee for approval.

All stakeholders are encouraged to review the draft standards and submit feedback through the online form no later than **October 9, 2026**. Thank you in advance for your assistance in publicizing this important opportunity as widely as possible.

If you have questions regarding this process, please contact Sandra Ammons in the Office of Assessment and Standards at sammons@ed.sc.gov.