



Legislation Impacting Social Studies 2019 - 2021

During the 2019, 2020, and 2021 legislative sessions, several bills affecting social studies have been signed into law. Below is a brief overview of the elements of each law. That which is specific to the local school districts are in *italics*. Since this document provides only an overview, districts are encouraged to look at the legislation for specific details.

[HB19 - 1192](#)

Teaching of history, culture, and civil government ([22-1-104](#))

1. The 1192 Commission made recommendations for revisions to the Colorado Academic Standards for history and civics
 - a. The recommendations must seek to further the discovery, interpretation, and learning of the history, culture, social contributions, and civil government of the US and CO;
 - b. including the contributions of American Indians, Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans;
 - c. the LGBT within those minority groups;
 - d. the intersectionality of significant social and cultural features within these communities; and
 - e. the contributions and persecution of religious minorities.
2. *Satisfactory completion of a course on the civil government of the United States and the state of Colorado, including subjects described in Section #1 above is a condition of high school graduation in the public schools of this state.*
3. *Each school district board of education shall convene a community forum on a periodic basis, but not less than once every six years, for all interested persons to discuss adopted content standards in civics, including the subjects described in Section #1 above.*

[HB20-1336](#)

Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Public Schools

1. *Each school district board of education and charter school to is incorporate the standards on Holocaust and genocide studies adopted by the state board into an existing course that is currently a condition of high school graduation for school years beginning on or after July 1, 2023.*
2. The state board adopted standards related to Holocaust and genocide studies before July 1, 2021.
3. The Department of Education created and must maintain a publicly available resource bank of materials pertaining to Holocaust and genocide courses and programs, no later than July 1, 2021. This resource bank can be found at:
<https://www.cde.state.co.us/cosocialstudies/holocaustandgenocideeducation>

Timeline

2019

HB19 – 1192
Teaching of history, culture,
and civil government

2020

HB20-1336
Holocaust & Genocide Studies
In Public Schools

HB20-1032
Concerning the Timing of
Education Standards Review

2021

HB21-1200
Concerning Financial Literacy
Standards for Public Schools

SB21-067
Strengthening Civics
Education in Colorado



HB20-1032

Concerning the Timing of Education Standards Review

1. This bill changed the standards revision schedule.
 - a. All 13 content areas used to be revised once every 6 years
2. Now, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the content areas are revised every two years beginning 2020 - Social Studies and The Arts have started the revision process.
3. Timeline for Social Studies and The Arts:
 - a. Draft of the revised standards to be posted for public comment Nov. 2021
 - b. Revised standards presented to the State Board of Education for approval, June 2022
 - c. Full implementation of the revised standards occurs in the 2024-2025 school year.

For more information: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreviewgroups>

HB21-1200

Concerning Financial Literacy Standards for Public Schools

The state board shall ensure that the ninth through twelfth grade financial literacy standards include an understanding of:

- The costs associated with obtaining a postsecondary degree
 - How to assess the affordability of and budget for different options for obtaining a postsecondary degree or credential;
 - The ways in which students pay for higher education, including but not limited to using funds from savings accounts and obtaining student loans, grants, or scholarships;
 - Types of student loan programs and types of student loan debt, including public and private loans;
 - The purpose of the free application for federal student aid, or FAFSA
 - The purpose of the Colorado application for state financial aid, or CASFA
 - Repayment of student loans and the requirement to repay student loans, even if the student does not complete the credential, and the consequences of defaulting on student loans;
 - State and federal programs that may be available to manage student loan debt; and
 - Potential career earnings, including starting salary by field and level of degree or credential;
 - Common methods for saving for retirement, including long-term investments, tax-deferred accounts, pensions, and government retirement benefits;
 - Credit cards and managing credit card debt; and homeownership and mortgages.
- *Each school district board of education is strongly encouraged to adopt as part of its district curriculum courses pertaining to financial literacy to be taught in grade-appropriate courses at the elementary, middle, junior high, and high school grade levels.*
- *When selecting mathematics and economics textbooks, each school district is strongly encouraged to select those texts that include substantive provisions on personal finance, including personal budgeting; credit; debt management; student loan borrowing and financial aid; homeownership; retirement, including long-term investments, tax-deferred accounts, pensions, and government retirement benefits; and similar personal finance topics.*
- *As part of the process of establishing the Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP), the student and the student's parents must be made aware of the importance of completing the free application for federal student aid or the Colorado application for state financial aid, or successor forms for accessing federal and state financial aid, and be provided help in completing the forms, if requested.*



SB21-067:

Strengthening Civics Education in Colorado

1. *Thorough and effective instruction in civics must include:*
 - *Civic knowledge, civic skills, civic behavior, and civic dispositions*
2. In addition to the requirements outlined in [22-1-104](#) (including additions from HB19-1192), instruction in a civics course must include (these requirements will be added to the revised social studies standards):
 - The three branches of government and how they interact; an understanding of how laws are enacted at the federal, state, and local government levels; and the methods by which citizens shape and influence government and governmental actions;
 - The formation and development of the governments of the United States and the state of Colorado using federal and state foundational documents and the significance and relevance of those foundational documents in modern society

NOTE: this is not the complete list, please see the law for additional content

For questions, please contact Stephanie Hartman, Social Studies Content Specialist, at hartman_s@cde.state.co.us