



Division of Academic Standards, Instruction, and Assessment

DUAL NOTICE: Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules Without a Public Hearing Unless 25 or More Persons Request a Hearing, and Notice of Hearing if 25 or More Requests for Hearing Are Received; Revisor's I.D. Number R-4733, OA File 8-9005-37919

Proposed Amendment to Rules Governing K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies, *Minnesota Rules* 3501.3501; Repeal of Rules 3501.1300-1345; Revisor's I.D. Number R-4733

Introduction. The Department of Education intends to adopt rules without a public hearing following the procedures in the rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, *Minnesota Rules*, parts 1400.2300 to 1400.2310, and the Administrative Procedure Act, *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.22 to 14.28. However, if 25 or more persons submit a written request for a hearing on the rules by 4:30 p.m. on October 25, 2023, the Department will hold a public hearing via Webex. The Honorable Eric L. Lipman, Administrative Law Judge, will preside. The hearing will start at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, and end at 8 p.m.

On **Wednesday, November 8, 2023**, the hearing may be accessed at <https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=mb67f619ebf404823322c5cc683e959d2> (Access Code 2488 676 8051 and Password JyANtksf623), by mobile device or phone at +1-415-655-0003 (US Toll), 24886768051## or by video system or application by dialing 24886768051@minnesota.webex.com.

A second day of the hearing will be held on **Thursday, November 9, 2023**. It will be held from 1 to 4:15 p.m., or until the last stakeholder seeking recognition to testify does so, whichever is earlier. It will end no later than 4:15 p.m. To access the hearing on that date, you may go to <https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=m67bf05d908e1b222a30ab2530d2c68b5>. Please use access code 2486 847 0306 and meeting password fyB8JcT23bM.

Alternatively, you may join by phone or mobile device by dialing +1-415-655-0003, 24868470306## or you may join using a video system or application by dialing 24868470306@minnesota.webex.com.

To determine whether the Department will adopt the rules without a hearing or if it will hold the hearing, you should contact the agency contact person after the comment period ends and before the hearing date.

Subject of Rules and Statutory Authority. A copy of the rules may also be viewed on the agency website at [K-12 Social Studies Standards \(mn.gov\)](https://mn.gov/k-12-social-studies-standards).

The proposed rules are about amendments governing the K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies, *Minnesota Rules* 3501.3501, and the repeal of Rules 3501.1300-1345. *Minnesota Statutes*, section 120B.021, subd. 3, authorizes the Department to adopt rules for statewide K-12 academic standards in Social Studies.

Minnesota has K-12 academic standards in several legislative-required content areas, including Social Studies. Academic standards and supporting benchmarks are essential because they help identify the student learning requirements for graduation; they identify the knowledge and skills that all students must achieve by the end of

a grade level; and they serve as a guide for local curriculum adoption, development, and improvement. Student mastery of the academic standards is generally measured through local assessments.

Minnesota's current K-12 academic standards in Social Studies were adopted in 2011 and went into effect in the 2012-2013 school year. Legislation passed in 2016 modified the state review and revision schedule for academic standards, requiring a review of the academic standards and related benchmarks in Social Studies beginning in the 2020-2021 school year and every ten years after that.

- 1) The Department is considering rule amendments that change the existing K-12 academic standards in Social Studies to reflect the national college, career, and civic life readiness framework. The standards review committee has proposed rule language that fits Minnesota's students' needs and supports the career and college readiness goals in Social Studies. If adopted, the proposed Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies will ultimately replace the state's current standards. Research in social studies has advanced since 2012, including a 2013 foundational consensus research report titled *The College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards*. This report was used throughout the review and revision work to help identify other state standards for our national trends gap analysis and to consider feedback throughout the review and revision process.

The proposed standards are based on extensive national research, committee experience, expert guidance, discussion, and stakeholder feedback. The proposed 2021 K-12 academic standards in Social Studies represent a significant revision of the 2011 standards. Three of the most significant changes include: 1) The creation of 25 anchor standards defining Career and college readiness (a considerable reduction of standards from 2011.) It also mirrors Minnesota's other content areas through standards that frame learning from kindergarten to high school.

- 2) Increased learning opportunities, including historical and contemporary Dakota and Anishinaabe people in each of the Social Studies disciplines and
- 3) The addition of an ethnic studies strand to provide the skills and knowledge to understand the experiences and perspectives of people of color within and beyond the United States to analyze how race and racism have been and continue to be powerful social, cultural, and political forces, and their connections to other axes of stratification, including gender, class, sexuality, and legal status.

"The proposed standards are grounded in the belief that all students can, and must be, prepared for educational, career, and civic opportunities after high school. The proposed rules are consistent with the educational vision supported by current research on Social Studies that integrates the knowledge and skills needed for successful students in the 21st century. As the C3 Framework calls out: "Now more than ever, students need the intellectual power to recognize societal problems; ask good questions and develop robust investigations into them; consider possible solutions and consequences; separate evidence-based claims from parochial opinions; and communicate and act upon what they learn. And most importantly, they must possess the capability and commitment to repeat the process as long as necessary. Young people need strong tools for, and methods of, clear and disciplined thinking to successfully traverse the worlds of college, career, and civic life." The standards help students accomplish that by:

- Prepare for democratic decision-making and participation in civic life by understanding democratic values, skills, and practices.
- Have deep and enduring understandings, concepts, and skills from the disciplines and use their knowledge to interact with their community, nation, and world.

- Collaborate as part of the decision-making and problem-solving process.
- Apply inquiry processes as they locate, explore, and organize information to be interpreted, analyzed, synthesized, and evaluated.
- Use interdisciplinary applications and integration of the arts, humanities, and other academic and career or technical content areas.
- Understand that when evaluating information, the source and context must be considered along with multiple perspectives and viewpoints.
- Apply geographic perspectives, knowledge, and skills in the workforce, academic settings, and daily life.
- Understand the economic reasoning embedded in personal financial literacy and apply it when making decisions to be wise consumers, investors, and savers.
- Recognize and evaluate varied perspectives and cultures, both historical and current.

The proposed K-12 academic standards in Social Studies will ensure that Minnesota's Social Studies standards require the rigor and understanding necessary to support literate and capable students and citizens.

Comments. You have until **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023**, to submit written comments in support of or in opposition to the proposed rules or any part or subpart of the rules. Your comment must be in writing and posted on the OAH website by the due date. Commenting is encouraged. Your comments should identify the portion of the proposed rules addressed, the reason for the comment, and any change proposed. You are encouraged to propose changes to the rule. Any comments that you have about the legality of the proposed rules must also be made during this comment period.

You may review the proposed rule and submit written comments via the [Office of Administrative Hearings Rulemaking eComments website](https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions): <https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions>.

Request for a Hearing. You may also request that the Department hold a hearing on the rules. You must request a public hearing in writing. Requests for a hearing must be sent directly to the agency contact person, Catherine Rogers. Your request must be received by **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023**. You must include your name and address in your written request. In addition, you must identify the portion of the proposed rules you object to or state that you oppose the entire set of rules. Any request that does not comply with these requirements is invalid, and the agency cannot count it when determining whether it must hold a public hearing. You are also encouraged to state the reason for the request and any changes you want to be made to the proposed rules.

Agency Contact Person. Submit questions or written requests for a public hearing to the agency contact person. The agency contact person is Catherine Rogers at the Minnesota Department of Education, 400 NE Stinson Blvd., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413. You may email her at mde.rulemaking@state.mn.us.

Withdrawal of Requests. If 25 or more persons submit a valid written request for a hearing, the Department will hold a public hearing unless a sufficient number of persons withdraw their requests in writing. If enough requests for a hearing are withdrawn to reduce the number below 25, the agency must give written notice to all persons who requested a hearing, explain the actions the agency took to effect the withdrawal and ask for written comments on this action. If a public hearing is required, the agency will follow the procedures in *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.131 to 14.20.

Alternative Format/Accommodation. Upon request, this information can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, braille, or audio. To make such a request or if you need an accommodation to make this hearing accessible, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

Modifications. The Department might modify the proposed rules due to public comment or the rule hearing process. It must support modifications by data and views submitted to the agency or presented at the hearing. The adopted rules may not differ substantially from those proposed rules unless the Department follows the procedure under *Minnesota Rules*, part 1400.2110. If the proposed rules affect you in any way, the Department encourages you to participate in the rulemaking process.

Cancellation of Hearing. The Department will cancel the hearing scheduled if the agency does not receive requests for a hearing from 25 or more persons. If you request a public hearing, the agency will notify you whether the hearing will be held before the scheduled hearing date. You may also contact the agency contact person at mde.rulemaking@state.mn.us or by phone after the comment period ends to determine whether the hearing will be held. On the scheduled day, you may check whether the hearing will be held by emailing mde.rulemaking@state.mn.us or calling the contact person.

Notice of Hearing. If 25 or more persons submit valid written requests for a public hearing on the rules, the Department will hold a hearing following the procedures in *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.131 to 14.20. The Department will hold the hearing on the above date, time, and place. The hearing will continue until all interested persons have been heard. Administrative Law Judge Eric L. Lipman is assigned to conduct the hearing. Judge Lipman's legal assistant, William Moore, can be reached at the Office of Administrative Hearings, 600 North Robert Street, P.O. Box 64620, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620, telephone (651) 651-7900 and fax (651) 539-0310.

Hearing Procedure. If the Department holds a hearing, you and all interested or affected persons, including representatives of associations or other interested groups, will have an opportunity to participate. You may present your views orally at the hearing or in writing at any time before the hearing record closes. All evidence presented should relate to the proposed rules. You may also submit written material to the Administrative Law Judge to be recorded in the hearing record for five working days after the public hearing ends. At the hearing, the Administrative Law Judge may order that this five-day comment period be extended for a longer period, not more than 20 calendar days. Following the comment period, there is a five-working-day rebuttal period when the agency and any interested person may respond in writing to any new information submitted. No one may submit new evidence during the five-day rebuttal period.

All post-hearing comments and responses must be submitted to the Administrative Law Judge before 4:30 p.m. on the due date. The Office of Administrative Hearings strongly encourages all persons submitting comments and responses to do so using the [Administrative Hearings' Rulemaking eComments website](https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions) (<https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions>). If using the eComments website is not possible, you may submit post-hearing comments in person, via United States mail, or by facsimile addressed to Judge Lipman at the address or facsimile number listed in the Notice of Hearing section above.

All comments or responses received will be available for review at the Department of Education. This rule hearing procedure is governed by *Minnesota Rules*, parts 1400.2000 to 1400.2240, and *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.131 to 14.20. You may direct questions about the procedure to the Administrative Law Judge.

Statement of Need and Reasonableness. The Statement of Need and Reasonableness summarizes the justification for the proposed rules, including a description of who will be affected by the proposed rules and an estimate of the probable cost. You may review or obtain copies for the cost of reproduction by contacting the agency contact person. It is available at no cost on the agency's website at [K-12 Social Studies Standards \(mn.gov\)](https://mn.gov).

Lobbyist Registration. *Minnesota Statutes*, chapter 10A, requires each lobbyist to register with the State Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. Ask any questions about this requirement of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board at Suite #190, Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155, telephone (651) 539-1180 or 1-800-657-3889.

Adoption Procedure if No Hearing. If no hearing is required, the agency may adopt the rules after the end of the comment period. The Department will submit the rules and supporting documents to the Office of Administrative Hearings for a legal review. You may ask to be notified of the date the rules are submitted to the office. If you want to receive notice of this, a copy of the adopted rules, or to register with the agency to receive notice of future rule proceedings, submit your request to the agency contact person listed above.

Adoption Procedure after a Hearing. If a hearing is held, the Administrative Law Judge will issue a report on the proposed rules after the close of the hearing record. You may ask to be notified of the date that the Administrative Law Judge's report will become available, and you can make this request at the hearing or in writing to the Administrative Law Judge. You may also ask to be notified of the date the agency adopts the rules and the rules are filed with the Secretary of State by requesting this at the hearing or by writing to the agency contact person stated above.

Order. I order that the rulemaking hearing be held at the date, time, and location listed above.

Dated: September 25, 2023

Signed: Willie L. Jett II Digitally signed by Willie L. Jett II
Date: 2023.09.15 13:43:43 -05'00'

Willie L. Jett II, Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Education