

# The CSU and The New State Standards



The new California state standards are a set of clear educational standards for kindergarten through 12th grade. Students who meet the standards at each grade level will be prepared to graduate high school with literacy, communication and mathematical skills necessary for first-year college courses and entry-level positions in the workplace. As the nation's largest producer of teachers, the CSU prepares educators to efficiently implement the new state standards in the classroom through expert training and resources offered within the system's 23 campuses. Successful implementation of the new state standards ensures college readiness and boosts academic success – reinforcing the goals of the CSU's [Graduation Initiative 2025](#).

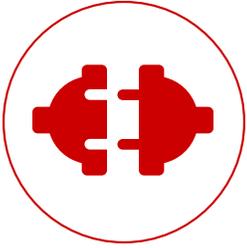
## CSU Initiatives for Teacher Preparation

- [New Generation of Educators Initiative](#) – CSU campuses serve as demonstration sites for clinically-based approaches preparing beginning teachers for the new state standards. In partnership with school districts, CSU faculty implement best practices in teacher preparation and collect teacher candidate performance data for continuous program improvement.
- [Expository Reading and Writing Course \(ERWC\)](#) – Full-year English course for grades 7-12, developed and taught by a task force of CSU faculty and high school teachers. Proven to improve 12th graders' state assessment scores and English Preparatory Test (EPT) scores. CSU funds professional learning for high school teachers.
- [Strengthening Math Instruction \(SMI\)](#) – Professional learning program for secondary math teachers of Algebra 1 to Calculus, aligning math instruction with the new California state standards and standards for mathematical practice. CSU-funded and co-taught by certified CSU instructors, county offices of education and high school teachers.
- [CSU Math Teacher Education Partnership \(CSU-MTEP\)](#) – A collaboration of CSU mathematics faculty, community college educators and K-12 teachers, setting directions for secondary math teacher education and gold standard implementation of the new standards in Mathematics (CCSS-M).
- [The CSU Science and Engineering Education Community](#) – An online community of CSU science and engineering faculty, community college educators and K-12 teachers. Designed to prepare future and current teachers for the state's new science standards, based on the national Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Instructional approaches for implementation of the new state standards include attention to the significant new focus on the engineering design process.
- [Linked Learning](#) – Integrates rigorous academics with career-based learning and real world workplace experiences in fields such as engineering, health care, business and more. The CSU prepares educators and collaborates with local school districts in instructional approaches, enabling students to apply knowledge gained from the new standards to hands-on work environment.

## The New State Standards Difference



Students are prepared for “21st century skills” – critical thinking, problem solving, group collaboration and effective communication – preparing students to succeed in higher education and thrive in today’s competitive global economy.



Integration of technology in the classroom is encouraged and facilitated, closing the opportunity gap to technological resources between school districts.



Multiple-choice assessments are replaced with more project-oriented and critical thinking assessments, requiring students to apply their knowledge through demonstration.



Curriculum is aligned across states and is on par with the high standards of nations whose students have had the greatest educational success, with more emphasis on deep understanding and real-world applications.



Local schools and classroom teachers are given more support for designing strategies that are relevant and compelling to their students, empowering the learning experience.