

## Office of Teaching and Learning

# System Guidance for the Updated Freedom Framework

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) has updated its [Freedom Framework social studies standards](#) to reflect President Trump's executive order renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America. See [March 12, 2025, News Release](#). Louisiana's [Freedom Framework social studies standards](#) specifically reference the Gulf in two areas -**grade 4 standard 4.19a and grade 5 standard 5.13a**.

## Guidance for Louisiana School Systems

- These updates will take effect in the 2025-2026 school year.
- This change in terminology is reflected in two standards (one in grade 4 and one in grade 5).
- Teachers should reference the language of the standards in their instruction and follow the Teacher Guidance for the Updated [Freedom Framework social studies standards](#). All LDOE digital social studies resources in grades 4 and 5, including course frameworks and instructional slide decks, will be updated by the end of summer 2025.
- Louisiana schools will not be required to purchase new instructional materials before their regular update schedule.
- Publishers of [Tier 1 social studies materials](#) for grades 4 and 5 will update the digital versions of their curricula to align with the updated standards in the coming months. School systems will be able to access the updated materials on publisher websites/platforms and on the LDOE [Bayou Bridges](#) page.
- The LDOE will collaborate with publishers of fourth and fifth-grade [Tier 1 social studies materials](#) to incorporate the updates into future print versions. As school systems naturally replace their print materials, the updated language will be included, similar to how instructional materials are routinely revised based on political boundaries and historical events.
- Previous [Instructional Materials Reviews](#) for curricula will remain unaffected, but future IMR reviews will incorporate this change in the standards.
- Each local school system should determine the appropriate use of instructional materials to meet the educational needs of their students.