

# Louisiana Student Standards Summary: Mathematics

## Goal for K-12 Mathematics

Students in Louisiana are ready for college or a career if they are able to meet college and workplace expectations without needing remediation in mathematics skills and concepts. The standards represent the steps students must take along the way to be able to meet this goal.

## Standards Review


Louisiana educators created a new set of standards written specifically to address the needs of Louisiana students. The new standards ensure connections that provide a smooth transition from one grade to the next, realign standards to provide developmentally appropriate content for all grades or courses while maintaining high expectations, are not vague or open to multiple interpretations, and allow teachers to choose the most appropriate method for teaching specific content.

Louisiana educators on the Standards Review Committee and Content Subcommittees reviewed all 433 math standards for grades K-12 and rewrote 26 percent of those standards.

- In grades K-2 math, Louisiana educators rewrote 10 percent of the standards.
- In grades 3-12 math, Louisiana educators rewrote 28 percent of the standards.

### 1. Louisiana’s new standards ensure connections that provide smooth transitions from one grade to the next.

For example, currency standards were added to kindergarten, first and third grades to more effectively build students understanding of currency over time.



NEW Kindergarten Currency Standard	NEW First Grade Currency Standard	EXISTING Second Grade Standard	NEW Third Grade Currency Standard
Recognize pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters by name and value. <i>Example: This is a nickel and it is worth 5 cents.</i>	Determine the value of a collection of coins up to \$.50. (Pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters in isolation; not to include a combination of different coins.)	Solve word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies, using \$ and ¢ symbols appropriately. <i>Example: If you have 2 dimes and 3 pennies, how many cents do you have?</i>	Solve word problems involving pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and bills greater than one dollar, using the dollar and cent symbols appropriately.

### 2. Louisiana’s new standards provide developmentally appropriate content for all grades or courses while maintaining high expectations.

- A Grade 3 standard requiring students to divide a figure into different sections in order to find its total area was considered developmentally inappropriate by many who provided public feedback. This standard was moved as written to Grade 4 to ensure that the expectation did not change.
- Many high school standards required applying the same skills to various equation types. Committees determined the proper placement for each equation type and assigned each one to the appropriate high school course without changing the expectation of the standard.

### 3. Louisiana’s new standards are clear and not open to multiple interpretations.

Grade 8 Existing Standard	Grade 8 Revised Standard
Explain a proof of the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse.	Explain a proof of the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse using the area of squares.

### 4. Louisiana’s new standards allow teachers to choose the most appropriate method for teaching specific content.

For example, one of the original standards in Grade 4 indicated that students were to “apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication to multiply a fraction by a whole number.” The standard was revised to read “Multiply a fraction by a whole number” allowing teachers to determine the most appropriate method of instruction.