

Social Studies Standards

In March 2022, the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) approved the [2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies \(LSSSS\)](#). The 2023–2024 school year is the first implementation year for the new standards. For more information about the transition, see the [2022 K–12 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies: Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Social Studies Field Tests

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is committed to the ongoing development and administration of high-quality assessments in social studies as part of its comprehensive assessment system and plan to ensure that every Louisiana student is ready for success in the next grade/course, postsecondary education, the workforce, and civic life. The transition to new standards brings with it new assessments aligned to those standards.

Students in grades 3–8 and civics will take a social studies **field test only** in the spring of 2024. Participation in field testing is required by all students in grades 3–8 and all students in grades 9–12 enrolled in a civics course or a course permitted to substitute for civics (American Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States). New LEAP Social Studies assessments will become operational in the spring of 2025 for grades 3–8 and in 2024–2025 for civics.

For more information about the field tests, see the [Social Studies Field Test Guidance for Grades 3–8 and Civics](#) in the [Assessment Guidance Library](#).

High School Social Studies

Beginning with incoming freshmen in 2024–2025 and beyond, the LEAP Civics assessment will replace the LEAP 2025 U.S. History assessment as the Social Studies assessment required for graduation. The LEAP 2025 U.S. History assessment will phase out, with the 2023–2024 freshmen cohort being the last group with the U.S. History assessment as their graduation requirement. A cohort is made up of all students who entered ninth grade for the first time in the state of Louisiana in a given academic year ([Bulletin 111, §703](#)). The U.S. History assessment will continue to be available as a state-administered test through 2026–2027 and will become a school system-administered test beyond that time. The U.S. History assessment will maintain the same design, alignment, rubrics, and reporting approach as in past administrations. The tables that follow outline the details of that transition by cohort and school year.

High School Social Studies Assessment Graduation Requirement by Cohort

Freshmen Cohort	Required High School Social Studies Assessment
2023–2024	U.S. History
2024–2025 and beyond	Civics

High School Social Studies Assessment Administrations by School Year*

School Year	U.S. History	Civics
2023–2024	State-administered operational assessment	State-administered field test in spring 2024 for all students in a Civics course or permitted course substitute
2024–2025		State-administered operational assessment
2025–2026		
2026–2027		
2027–2028 and beyond	School system-administered operational assessment for relevant cohorts	

*BESE has approved bulletin revisions that reflect this information, which should appear in updated bulletins by summer 2023.

Change Log

Posting	Description
August 2022	Document first available in the Assessment Guidance Library
March 2023	Changes to text and graphics to reflect updated information Addition of information on field testing, design, and possible item types
May 2023	Changes to update information Removal of information now available in the Social Studies Field Test Guidance document