Common Core State Standards Resources

This Resource Guide contains information that has been found to be helpful on this topic. It contains only websites with materials that can be accessed at no cost.

Achieve
http://www.achieve.org/common-core-state-standards
Achieve partnered with NGA and CCSSO on the Initiative and a number of Achieve staff and consultants served on the writing and review teams. Resources include a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the CCSS, fact sheets about the standards, side-by-side comparisons of the CCSS and the ADP benchmarks, content comparison briefs between the CCSS and well-regarded benchmarks (including the standards for high-performing nations and states), and links to editorials supporting the CCSS. Among the resources available is *Common Core State Standards & Career and Technical Education: Bridging the Divide between College and Career Readiness*. The report lays out a blueprint for increased engagement between state education leaders and the career and technical education (CTE) community. The paper outlines a set of strategies state and district leaders can leverage to ensure the implementation of Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Achieve the Core
http://www.achievethecore.org/
Achieve the Core is a non-profit organization working to support teachers across the country in their efforts to realize the promise of the Common Core State Standards for all students. The website has free content designed to help educators understand and implement the Common Core State Standards. It includes practical tools designed to help students and teachers see their hard work deliver results. Their homepage states: Please steal these tools and share them with others.

Assessment Services Supporting ELs through Technology Systems (ASSETS)
http://www.assets.wceruw.org/
WIDA is the Project Management Partner for the ASSETS Consortium, a collaboration designed to create an innovative technology-based assessment system supporting English learners. The system will be operational in 2015-16. The consortium will develop a next generation assessment system to measure English language proficiency linked to Common Core State Standards that will include K-12 assessments, be technology based, provide interim and annual assessments, and provide screeners for identification and placement. As managing partner, WIDA is working with partners at the Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL), WestEd, UCLA, MetriTech, Inc., and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) on all aspects of project planning, test development, governance support, budget monitoring, and communications.

Center for Applied Technology (CAST)
http://www.cast.org/
CAST is a nonprofit educational organization whose mission is to expand learning opportunities for all individuals, especially those with disabilities, through the development and use of innovative, technology-based resources. Through its applied research program, CAST investigates the needs of diverse learners and the effectiveness of UDL teaching tools and strategies in a variety of real-life contexts. Applied research informs CAST's concept development and product design.

Product development at CAST focuses on the creation of accessible curricula and software that are defining the evolving standards of Universal Design for Learning. Current CAST products include a software tool designed to support learners of all ages who may lack the skills needed to read materials independently; evaluation tools for World Wide Web accessibility; and supported learning tools and curriculum in the areas of literacy, mathematics, science, and social studies. Products are developed in-house as well as in partnership with major educational publishers and university-based researchers.

Center for K–12 Assessment & Performance Management at ETS
www.k12center.org
The goal of the K–12 Center is to facilitate discussion among the best minds in the country in order to assist with the development of a new generation of assessment and performance management methodologies, technologies, policies and practices. The K–12 Center at ETS offers a variety of publications, including guides, papers, policy briefs, presentation slides and more. These publications represent the best thinking and research on the range of measurement issues facing national, state and local decision makers. They can be used to aid discussions and support efforts to increase understanding among educators, policymakers and the public.

Center on Instruction
http://www.centeroninstruction.org
The Center on Instruction (COI) is a national content center, part of the Comprehensive Center network and funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) and Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). COI provides support to the 16 Regional Comprehensive Centers as they support State Education Agencies to close the achievement gap and improve teaching and learning for all students. The Center focuses on the following content areas and objectives:

Content Areas

- Reading
- Math
- Science
- Special Education
- English Language Learning

Objectives

- Synthesize research
- Identify examples of best practices
- Translate these into usable products
- Disseminate information about ESEA
- Provide Professional Development

Some recently added resources on the site include:

- *Revised Publishers' Criteria for the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy, K–2 and Grades 3–12*
- *Special Edition - COI Resources in Early Literacy (K-3) for Struggling Students and Students with Disabilities*
- *BUILDING THE FOUNDATION - A Suggested Progression of Sub-skills to Achieve the Reading Standards: Foundational Skills in the Common Core State Standards*

January 2014

Coming Together to Raise Achievement: New Assessments for the Common Core State Standards
http://www.k12center.org/rsc/pdf/Coming_Together_June_2013.pdf
In this guide, within summaries of the six federally funded assessment Consortia, you will learn more about the specific tools, materials and strategies being utilized by each to support improvement at the district, school and classroom levels In each case, the member states have agreed to utilize the same summative assessments, accommodations guidelines and cut scores for proficiency . However, individual states will continue to determine whether and how these assessments are used for other purposes, such as educator evaluations, student promotion and graduation decisions.

Common Career Technical Core (CCTC)
http://www.careertech.org/career-technical-education/cctc/info.html
The Common Career Technical Core (CCTC) is a state-led initiative to establish a set of rigorous, high-quality standards for Career Technical Education (CTE) that states can adopt voluntarily. The standards have been informed by state and industry standards and developed by a diverse group of teachers, business and industry experts, administrators and researchers. The initiative is being coordinated by the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc), which represents the state and territory heads of secondary, postsecondary and adult CTE across the nation. The CCTC includes a set of standards for each of the 16 Career Clusters™ and their corresponding Career Pathways that define what students should know and be able to do after completing instruction in a program of study. The CCTC also includes an overarching set of Career Ready Practices that apply to all programs of study.

Common Core Standards
http://www.corestandards.org/
The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The standards were developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts, to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce. Available on the website are documents, such as a Mission statement, information about the standards development, Frequently Asked Questions, English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards, and maps showing adoption of standards by states.

Common Core State Standards Initiative | PTA
http://www.pta.org/4446.htm
The *Parents' Guide to Student Success*, available in English and Spanish, was developed in response to the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics that more than 40 states have adopted. The National PTA[®] created the guides for grades K-8 and two for grades 9-12 (one for English language arts/literacy and one for mathematics). The *Guide* includes:

- Key items that children should be learning in English language arts and mathematics in each grade, once the standards are fully implemented.
- Activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning.
- Methods for helping parents build stronger relationships with their child's teacher.
- Tips for planning for college and career (high school only).

January 2014

Council of Chief State School Officers
http://www.ccsso.org/
CCSSO and National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) have released a set of state-led education standards, the Common Core State Standards. The English-language arts and mathematics standards for grades K-12 were developed in collaboration with a variety of stakeholders including content experts, states, teachers, school administrators and parents. The standards establish clear and consistent goals for learning that will prepare America's children for success in college and work. CCSSO, has worked in collaboration with members, partners and thought leaders to identify four areas of focus that will lead the systems change necessary for a true transformation of teaching and learning. Those areas are Next Generation Learning; Standards, Assessment, and Accountability; System of Educator Development; and Comprehensive Data Systems. The CCSSO website offers a wealth of publications, briefs, growth models, research-based practices, and other resources.

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment System Consortium (DLM)
http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/
The Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment System Consortium seeks to create an assessment system to support teachers in improving the learning of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities (SCD). The new DLM alternate assessment system will let students with significant cognitive disabilities show what they know in ways that traditional multiple-choice tests cannot. The DLM system is designed to map a student's learning throughout the year. The system will use items and tasks that are embedded in day-to-day instruction. In this way, testing happens as part of instruction, which both informs teaching and benefits students. An end of the year assessment will be created for states that want to include a summative test in addition to the instructionally embedded system. The website provides resources with links to other websites for students and parents, educators, researchers as well as Project Reports.

Education Commission of the States Core Commons-Emerging strategies and issues in implementing the Common Core
http://www.ecs-commoncore.org/
Core Commons is designed by the Education Commission of the States (ECS) to serve as a resource to states, policymakers and the public on the implementation of the Common Core State Standards. ECS tracks state progress on the development and implementation of common core strategies and policies. In addition, ECS explores the critical issues states encounter as they move to full implementation. Available on this vibrant website are highlights of current state implementation efforts, implementation issues by topic area, blogs, and policy tracking since 2010 which includes legislation and summaries collected from state newsletters, *StateNet, LexisNexis and Westlaw*. A variety of resource documents and video vignettes are also available.

English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century Consortium (ELPA21)
www.ELPA21.org
ELPA21 is an enhanced assessment system designed to measure the English language proficiency (ELP) of English language learners (ELLs) as they progress through their K–12 education and achieve college and career readiness. Designed for states by states and other assessment and content experts of English language development, ELPA21 will provide assessments for ELLs — along with strategies for test design, administration, scoring, and reporting — that provide students, parents, teachers, administrators, and communities the current and relevant information they need to best support every student as they work toward achieving ELP in support of the college- and career-ready Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English language arts and mathematics

LearningPort National Professional Development Library
http://www.learningport.us
LearningPort is a national professional development library of learning modules, tool kits, archived webinars and video resources designed by U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to support the use of ARRA funds. The library was made available through a supplement to NASDSE's IDEA Partnership. Larry Wexler, Director of OSEP's Research to Practice Division expressed the intent of The LearningPort in this way: "We believe that after saving jobs, most school districts would use at least some of their ARRA funds to support the provision of professional development. As such, we wanted to develop a resource for States.

National Alternate Assessment Center
http://www.naacpartners.org/
NAAC is a five-year project funded under the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). NAAC has four primary objectives: to bring together and build on high quality, technically sound alternate assessments; to demonstrate high quality design through our selected partner states; to administer all types of alternate assessments; and finally, to provide technical assistances through high quality dissemination practices. This site includes resources for parents and teachers, presentations and publications, and tools for alternate assessments.

National Center and State Collaborative Partnership
http://www.ncscpartners.org/
The NCSC partnership is focused on alternate assessments based on alternate achievement standards (AA-AAS). The National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) is applying the lessons learned from the past decade of research on alternate assessments based on alternate achievement standards (AA-AAS) to develop a multi-state comprehensive assessment system for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The project draws on a strong research base to develop an AA-AAS that is built from the ground up on powerful validity arguments linked to clear learning outcomes and defensible assessment results, to complement the work of the Race to the Top Common State Assessment Program (RTTA) consortia. Appropriately challenging alternate assessment on alternate achievement standards, based on grade-level content; with different achievement expectations for students with significant cognitive disabilities will be utilized. Curriculum, instruction, and professional development resources are being developed and will appear on the website.

National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO)
http://www.cehd.umn.edu/nceo
The National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) was established in 1990 to provide national leadership in designing and building educational assessments and accountability systems that appropriately monitor educational results for all students, including students with disabilities and English Language Learners (ELLs). NCEO offers the following kinds of materials and services for state personnel, educators, parents, and others concerned with the educational outcomes of all students:

- An extensive publications list that includes technical reports, state activity updates, policy documents, and self-study guides.
- Criteria for evaluating existing policies on large-scale assessments.
- Recommendations for developing assessment policies and guidelines for participation, accommodations, reporting, and accountability that include all students.
- Current information on assessment projects and other efforts to collect data on the educational outcomes of all students.
- A national network of people who can assist states and other agencies as they consider assessment issues.

National Center on Universal Design for Learning
http://www.udlcenter.org/implementation/udl_ccss
The National Center on Universal Design for Learning has resources on the intersection of UDL and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). These helpful tools and links illustrate the important way that the CCSS identify *WHAT* educators need to address in their instruction while UDL guides *HOW* to design their instruction. Key resources include a crosswalk on UDL and the Literacy by Design Collaborative (LDC) framework and video examples showing lessons illustrating classroom instruction addressing both the UDL guidelines and CCSS.

National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center)
http://www.nga.org
The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort, launched more than a year ago by state leaders, including governors and state commissioners of education from 48 states, 2 territories and the District of Columbia, through their membership in the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

Next Generation Science Standards
http://www.nextgenscience.org/
A collaborative, state-led process managed by Achieve. The National Research Council, the National Science Teachers Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Achieve are the lead partners in the two-part process to develop the *Next Generation K-12 Science Standards* (NGSS). As the process develops, new information is located on this website.

Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
http://www.parcconline.org/
The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is a consortium of states working together to develop a common set of K-12 assessments in English and math anchored in what it takes to be ready for college and careers. These new K-12 assessments will build a pathway to college and career readiness by the end of high school, mark students' progress toward this goal from 3rd grade up, and provide teachers with timely information to inform instruction and provide student support. The PARCC assessments will be ready for states to administer during the 2014-15 school year.

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
www.smarterbalanced.org
The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (Smarter Balanced) *is* a state-led consortium working to develop next-generation assessments that accurately measure student progress toward college- and career-readiness. Smarter Balanced is one of two multistate consortia awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Education in 2010 to develop an assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) by the 2014-15 school year. SBAC will create required summative assessments; a retake option; optional formative, or benchmark, exams and tools, processes and practices for use in planning and implementing informal, ongoing assessment. *The Transition to the Common Core Work Group* — one of ten state-led Smarter Balanced work groups — will identify high–quality curriculum resources aligned to the CCSS, and professional development strategies that can be replicated across states. The tools and resources will be posted online and incorporated into the digital library — an on-demand resource to help teachers address learning challenges and differentiate instruction — as part of the assessment system.

This document was generated within the IDEA Partnership by cross-stakeholders representing teachers, administrators, related service personnel, family members and youth, state education agencies, higher education, technical assistance providers, and assessment consortia.

January 2014