

Wyoming Standards Design Criteria

(Revised 10/6/2020)

Purpose of the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards

The Wyoming Content and Performance Standards shall “ensure the educational programs offered... provide students an opportunity to acquire sufficient knowledge and skills, at a minimum, to” do the following per [W.S.

21-2-304(a)(ii):

- Enter the UW and WY community colleges.
- Prepare students for the job market, postsecondary vocational and technical training, [and military].
- Equip students for their role as a citizen and participant in the political system.
- Have the opportunity to compete both intellectually and economically in society.

Overall Criteria of the Standards

The Wyoming Content and Performance Standards (WYCPS) will:

1. Define and prepare students for what they should know and be able to do by the time they graduate.
2. Reflect the **Common Core of Knowledge**, per W.S.21-9-101(b)(i).
 - a. The 10 content areas.
 - b. Humanities.
 - c. Government and civics including state and federal constitutions pursuant to W.S. 21-9-102.
3. Include the **Common Core of Skills** integrated in each content area, as appropriate, per W.S.21-9-101(b)(iii).
 - a. Problem Solving.
 - b. Interpersonal Communications.
 - c. Computational Thinking and Computer Applications.
 - d. Critical Thinking.
 - e. Creativity.
 - f. Life Skills, including Personal Financial Management Skills.
4. Represent a **progression of knowledge and skills** across grade levels.
5. Be uniform in structure within each and across all content areas, and will:
 - a. Consist of **Content Standards** which are the content and skills students should know and be able to do by the end of the grade level or grade band.

- b. Consist of **Performance Standards** at the state level, which are the standards all students are expected to learn and be assessed on through the district assessment system, through multiple opportunities to demonstrate learning.
 - c. Be **organized in grade bands** K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Only the three content areas assessed on the state test may be organized by individual grade levels.
 - d. Be **developed in the Standards Template format** to ensure uniformity across content areas.
6. Be developed at the **appropriate grain size** meaning the standards will be neither too small nor too large.
 - a. Will consist of knowledge and skill expectations rather than activities.
 - b. Will not prescribe day-to-day curriculum nor be developed at a level so narrow that it could be mastered by a student in an afternoon.
 - c. Will not be developed at a level so broad that it would take a student several months of instruction to master nor be open to numerous equally valid interpretations.
7. Reflect the **full range of cognitive and psychomotor levels** or depth appropriate to the content area and grade level / grade band.

Clarity for All

The WYCPS will be:

8. Reflective of stakeholder input and feedback.
9. Prefaced with a content-specific rationale.
10. Understandable by students, parents, educators, and other Wyoming stakeholders.

Measurability

11. The WYCPS will serve as the basis for formative, interim, benchmark, and summative assessments of student learning.