



Q&A for School Counselors on Common Core Learning Standards

What are the Common Core Learning Standards?

The New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) were adopted by the New York State Board of Regents in January 2011 for ELA & Literacy and for Mathematics to ensure all students are **college and career ready** by the end of high school. New York State's CCLS are (1) research and evidence based, (2) aligned with college and work expectations, (3) rigorous, and (4) internationally benchmarked

Why are they important for School Counselors?

Standards have always been essential for all areas of education and educators, including school counselors, because they provide critical benchmarks for identifying and assessing **student outcomes**. School counseling and guidance programs address what interferes with a student's ability to learn, to succeed, and to participate in the learning process. Standards define what students should know, understand and be able to do; they do not define intervention methods or resources necessary to support students.

How will Student Assessments and Regents Examinations change because of CCLS?

Some Regents Exams will be aligned to the Common Core beginning in the 2013-14 school year and the rest will follow suit in 2014-15. New York is a Governing State in the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness of College and Careers ([PARCC](#)); PARCC is scheduled to have computer-based assessments that measure the Common Core State Standards in ELA and Mathematics in grades 3-11 beginning in 2014-15. The Board of Regents will decide at a later time whether to adopt the PARCC assessments for New York State and will determine how the PARCC assessments might intersect with the Regents Exams. New York State is a member of the National Center and State Collaborative ([NCSC](#)), a national alternate assessment consortium that is engaged in research and development of new alternate assessments for alternate achievement standards.

| Assessment | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Subject / Grade | | | |
| ELA | | | |
| Grades 3-8 | Aligned to the Common Core | | PARCC |
| Grade 11 Regents | Aligned to the 2005 Standards | Regents Exam Aligned to the Common Core | Regents Exam Aligned to the Common Core / PARCC |
| Math | | | |
| Grades 3-8 | Aligned to the Common Core | | PARCC |
| Algebra I | Aligned to the 2005 Standards | Regents Exams Aligned to the Common Core | Regents Exams Aligned to the Common Core / PARCC |
| Geometry | | Aligned to the 2005 Standards | |
| Algebra II | | | |
| Additional State Assessments | | | |
| NYSAA | Aligned to the 2005 Standards | Aligned to the Common Core | NCSC (subject to adoption by the New York State Board of Regents). |
| NYSESLAT | Aligned to the Common Core | | |

Adopted from: <http://engageny.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/ccsstheline.pdf>

How does the NYSSCA Comprehensive Model support CCLS?

A comprehensive school counseling program is an integral component of the school's academic mission. The NYSSCA Comprehensive Model identifies and prioritizes specific knowledge, attitudes and skills students should be able to demonstrate as a result of a comprehensive school counseling program organized in three domains: **academic, career and personal/social development**. Aligning school counseling and guidance programs with CCLS provides the roadmap for school counselors to move students towards achieving these standards. Used together, these tools enable school counselors to promote and support college and career readiness for all students in the 21st century global environment.

Where can I find more information on CCLS and the NYSSCA Comprehensive Model?

The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a State led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices and the Council of Chief State School Officers: www.CoreStandards.org.

New York State is a member of the Common Core State Standards Initiative and adopted the **New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards (CCSL)**: www.EngageNY.org

The American School Counselor Association **ASCA National Model** (third edition), released in 2012, outlines the components of a comprehensive school counseling program: www.SchoolCounselor.org.

The NYS Model for Comprehensive K-12 School Counseling Programs* provides knowledge and tools to align school counseling practices with the ASCA National Model and expectations of the NYS Education Department: www.NYSSCA.org

(*With the revision of the ASCA Model in 2012, NYSSCA is in the process of revising the NYSSCA NYS Model, expected release in 2013.)