



KANSAS

CERTIFICATION

The general requirements for an initial Kansas certificate include a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, recommendation from an accredited institution verifying completion of a state-approved program, passing scores on the Principles of Learning and Teaching and a content assessment, and recency of experience or college credit hours. Kansas issues Type A, B, and C certificates as described by the Title II report. The state labels these certificates conditional licenses and professional licenses. Endorsements can be earned in grades 5–8 for social studies. In grades 6–12 there is an endorsement available for history and government.

Elementary Certification

According to the Certification and Teacher Education Regulations established by the state of Kansas, elementary teacher preparation programs must include the study of subject areas normally found in the elementary curriculum, including social studies.

Middle-Level Certification

Applicants for a social studies endorsement at the middle level must have successfully completed a state-approved middle-level social studies program and must have secured recommendation from a teacher education institution.

Secondary Certification

According to the Kansas Certification and Teacher Education Regulations, applicants for endorsement in United States history, United States government, and world history at the secondary level must have successfully completed a state-approved program in these areas and must be recommended by a teacher education institution. Applicants seeking a comprehensive social studies endorsement

must have completed an interdisciplinary program that incorporates the requirements in various social studies regulations and be recommended by a teacher education institution. Teachers who hold secondary certificates can receive an initial two-year provisional endorsement at the secondary level for another field or subject if the applicant has completed 50 percent of an approved program. As a result of action this spring, the following endorsements in social studies will be available:

- ❖ History Comprehensive—grades 5–8 (middle level); and
- ❖ History and Government—grades 6–12 (secondary level).

The programs for the secondary level endorsement, although called history and government, are actually comprehensive programs that concentrate on history and government but also address competencies in the other social studies areas of economics, sociology, and geography.

STANDARDS

Standards for Teachers

The Kansas State Board of Education adopted teaching standards in September 2001. Amendments have since been made to these original standards. Each standard specifies detailed teacher requirements in the domains of knowledge and performance. History Comprehensive standards exist for teachers of grades 5–8.

- ❖ Standard 1: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of significant individuals, groups, ideas, events, eras, and developments in the history of the world, and is able to utilize essential analytical and research skills.
- ❖ Standard 2: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of significant individuals, groups, ideas, events, eras, and developments in the history of the United States, and is able to utilize essential analytical and research skills.
- ❖ Standard 3: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of significant individuals, groups, ideas, events, and developments in the history of Kansas, and utilizes essential analytical and research skills.
- ❖ Standard 4: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of significant professional and pedagogical issues and skills relevant to the profession of teaching history.
- ❖ Standard 5: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of governmental systems in the United States and other nations.
- ❖ Standard 6: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of major economic concepts, issues, and systems in the United States and other nations.
- ❖ Standard 7: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of the spatial organizations of the Earth's surface and the relationships among people, places, and physical and human environments.

- ❖ Standard 8: The teacher of comprehensive history has knowledge and understanding of social systems and interactions.

For teachers of students in grades 6–12, standards have been established for teachers of history and government.

- ❖ Standard 1: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding and can create learning experiences around historical concepts and their interrelationships.
- ❖ Standard 2: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding of significant individuals, groups, ideas, events, eras, and developments in the history of the world, and is able to utilize essential analytical and research skills.
- ❖ Standard 3: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding to create learning experiences for students related to the history of the United States.
- ❖ Standard 4: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding of significant individuals, groups, ideas, events, eras, and developments in the history of the United States and is able to utilize essential analytical and research skills.
- ❖ Standard 5: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding of significant individuals, groups, ideas, events, and developments in the history of Kansas, and utilizes essential analytical and research skills.
- ❖ Standard 6: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding of significant professional and pedagogical issues and skills relevant to the profession of teaching history.
- ❖ Standard 7: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding of governmental systems in the United States and other nations.
- ❖ Standard 8: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding of major economic concepts, issues, and systems in the United States and other nations.
- ❖ Standard 9: The teacher of U.S. history and U.S. government, and world history has knowledge and understanding of the spatial organizations of the Earth's surface and the relationships among people, places, and physical and human environments.

Standards for Students

The Kansas Curricular Standards for Civics-Government, Economics, Geography, and History are organized by academic discipline. Standards, benchmarks, and indicators are presented within the document and are organized both by grade level and by discipline. Benchmarks are defined specifically for grades 2, 4, 6, 8, and 11. According to the preface of the standards document, a concerted effort was made to ensure that an integration of the disciplines could take place if desired.

In each of the four disciplines that appear in the standards, both content and process and skills receive attention. The history standards address United States history, Kansas history, and world history. At the beginning of the document a program scope is presented and essential concepts are defined for each of the disciplines at grade clusters (K–2, 3–4, 5–6, 7–8, and 9–12).

The Kansas standards in history draw upon the National Standards for History and recommendations outlined by the National Council for History Education. Similar to the national standards, Kansas' standards emphasize specific eras at different grade levels. In United States history, foundational knowledge is provided for students starting in kindergarten and continuing to the 4th grade. In grades 5–6 the emphasis is on the years until 1800. Grades 7–8 focus on the 19th century while the emphasis at the high school level is on 20th century U.S. history. For the study of world history, Kansas has organized its standards around seven areas of world history as identified by the National Council for History Education. Appendices provide suggested content outlines that are keyed to the benchmarks. The following benchmarks exist:

- ❖ Kansas, U.S., and world history, by the end of grade 2:
 - Benchmark 1: Contribution of Individuals
 - Benchmark 2: Experiences of Groups
 - Benchmark 3: Significance of Symbols
 - Benchmark 4: Ways of Using Land
- ❖ Kansas history, by the end of grade 4:
 - Benchmark 1: Experiences of Groups
 - Benchmark 2: Significance of Symbols
 - Benchmark 3: Ways of Using Land
 - Benchmark 4: Impact of Exploration and Migration
 - Benchmark 5: Contributions of Individuals
- ❖ Kansas history, by the end of grade 8 and again by the end of grade 11:
 - Benchmark 1: Exploration
 - Benchmark 2: Migration
 - Benchmark 3: Territorial Period and Civil War
 - Benchmark 4: Expansion and Development
 - Benchmark 5: Industrialization
 - Benchmark 6: Depression and World War II
 - Benchmark 7: Contemporary Kansas
 - Benchmark 8: Historical Thinking
- ❖ U.S. and world history, by the end of grade 4:
 - Benchmark 1: Contributions of Individuals
 - Benchmark 2: Experiences of Groups
 - Benchmark 3: Significance of Symbols
 - Benchmark 4: Historical Thinking

- ❖ U.S. history, by the end of grade 6:
 - Benchmark 1: to 1763
 - Benchmark 2: 1763–1800
 - Benchmark 3: Historical Thinking
- ❖ U.S. history, by the end of grade 8:
 - Benchmark 1: 1800–1850
 - Benchmark 2: 1850–1900
 - Benchmark 3: Historical Thinking
- ❖ U.S. history, by the end of grade 11:
 - Benchmark 1: to 1763
 - Benchmark 2: 1763–1850
 - Benchmark 3: 1850–1900
 - Benchmark 4: 1900–1930
 - Benchmark 5: 1930–1945
 - Benchmark 6: Since 1945
 - Benchmark 7: Historical Thinking
- ❖ world history, by the end of grade 6:
 - Benchmark 1: Prehistoric, Pre-Classical
 - Benchmark 2: Classical
 - Benchmark 3: Rising Civilizations 500–1450
 - Benchmark 4: Global Age 1400–1600
 - Benchmark 5: Historical Thinking
- ❖ world history, by the end of grade 11:
 - Benchmark 1: Prehistoric, Pre-Classical
 - Benchmark 2: Classical
 - Benchmark 3: Rising Civilizations
 - Benchmark 4: Global Age
 - Benchmark 5: Revolutions
 - Benchmark 6: Global Wars
 - Benchmark 7: Since World War II
 - Benchmark 8: Historical Thinking

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION/EXIT EXAM

Kansas students are required to take three units of history/government in order to graduate from high school. History/government must include U.S. history, world history, and U.S. government, including the Constitution of the United States, and except as otherwise provided a course of instruction in Kansas history and government. These requirements represent a change. Previous specifications referred to an undefined social studies requirement.

Exit Exam

No information has yet been located.

ASSESSMENT

The Kansas Assessment Program assesses students' performance in social studies at grades 6, 8, and 11. The tests consist of multiple-choice questions. The tests were first administered in 2000–01 and this administration was used to establish baseline scores. The test was administered again in 2003. A detailed reporting of the state's social studies scores can be found in the document, "Kansas Assessment Program Results of 2001 Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Social Studies Assessments."