

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Instruction
SELECTION AND EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The County Superintendent and County Board desire that instructional materials, as a whole, present a broad spectrum of knowledge and viewpoints, reflect and value society's diversity, and enhance the use of multiple teaching strategies and technologies. The County Superintendent/County Board shall adopt instructional materials based on a determination that such materials are an effective learning resource to help students achieve grade-level competency and that the materials meet criteria specified in law. Textbooks, technology-based materials, and other educational materials shall be aligned with academic content standards and the County Superintendent/County Board curriculum to ensure that they effectively support the adopted courses of study.

The County Superintendent and County Board shall select instructional materials for use in grades K-8 that have been approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) or have otherwise been determined to be aligned with the state academic content standards adopted by SBE. (Education Code 60200, 60210)

The County Superintendent and County Board shall adopt instructional materials for grades 9-12 upon determining that the materials meet the criteria specified in law and administrative regulation. (Education Code 60400)

The County Superintendent or designee shall establish a process by which instructional materials shall be reviewed for recommendation for adoption for use.

Public Hearing on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

The County Board shall annually conduct one or more public hearings on the sufficiency of the County Superintendent/County Board instructional materials, including textbooks, technology-based materials, other educational materials, and tests. Technology-based materials include, but are not limited to, software programs, video disks, compact disks, optical disks, video and audio tapes, lesson plans, databases, and the electronic equipment required to make use of those materials by students and teachers as a learning resource. (Education Code 60010, 60119)

The hearing shall be held on or before the end of the eighth week from the first day students attend school for that year. (Education Code 60119)

The County Superintendent and County Board encourage participation by parents/guardians, teachers, interested community members, and bargaining unit leaders at the hearing. Ten days prior to the hearing, the County Superintendent or designee shall post a notice in three public places within the County Superintendent's jurisdiction containing the time, place, and purpose of the hearing. The hearing shall not take place during or immediately following school hours. (Education Code 60119)

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At the hearing(s), the County Superintendent and County Board shall determine, through a resolution, whether each student in each school, including each English learner, has sufficient textbooks or other instructional materials which are aligned to the content standards adopted by SBE and consistent with the content and cycles of the curriculum framework adopted by SBE in each of the following subjects: (Education Code 60119)

1. Mathematics;
2. Science;
3. History-social science;
4. English language arts, including the English language development component of an adopted program;
5. World language; and
6. Health

The County Superintendent and County Board shall also determine the availability of science laboratory equipment, as applicable to science laboratory courses offered in grades 9-12. (Education Code 60119)

In making these determinations, the County Superintendent and County Board shall consider whether each student has sufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials to use in class and to take home. This does not require that each student have two sets of materials. However, materials shall not be considered sufficient if they are photocopied sheets from only a portion of a textbook or instructional materials copied to address a shortage. (Education Code 60119)

If materials are in a digital format, they shall be considered sufficient as long as each student, at a minimum, has and can access the same materials in the class and to take home as all other students in the same class or course and has the ability to use and access them at home. (Education Code 60119)

If the County Superintendent and County Board determine that there are insufficient textbooks or instructional materials, the County Superintendent shall provide information to classroom teachers and to the public setting forth, for each school in which an insufficiency exists, the percentage of students who lack sufficient standards-aligned textbooks or instructional materials in each subject area and the reasons that each student does not have sufficient textbooks or instructional materials. The County Superintendent and County Board shall take any action, except an action that would require reimbursement by the Commission of State Mandates, to ensure that each student has sufficient materials within two months of the beginning of the school year in which the determination is made. (Education Code 60119)

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The degree to which every student has sufficient access to standards-aligned instructional materials shall be included in the County Superintendent's local control and accountability plan. (Education Code 52060)

Complaints

Complaints concerning instructional materials shall be handled in accordance with law, County Superintendent/County Board policy, and administrative regulation.

Adopted: 10/20/2011

Amended: 03/21/2013, 11/19/2020, 06/15/2023

Legal ReferenceEducation Code

220 Prohibition against discrimination
1240 County superintendent, general duties
33050-33053 General waiver authority
33126 School accountability report card
35272 Education and athletic materials
44805 Enforcement of course of studies; use of textbooks, rules and regulations
49415 Maximum textbook weight
51501 Nondiscriminatory subject matter
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan
60000-60005 Instructional materials, legislative intent
60010 Definitions
60040-60052 Instructional requirements and materials
60060-60063.5 Requirements for publishers and manufacturers
60070-60076 Prohibited acts (re instructional materials)
60110-60115 Instructional materials on alcohol and drug education
60119 Public hearing on sufficiency of materials
60200-60210 Elementary school materials
60226 Requirements for publishers and manufacturers
60350-60352 Core reading program instructional materials
60400-60411 High school textbooks
60510-60511 Donation for sale of obsolete instructional materials
60605 State content standards
60605.8 Common Core State Standards
60605.86-60605.88 Supplemental instructional materials aligned with Common Core State Standards

Code of Regulations, Title 5

9505-9530 Instructional materials

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Management Resources

California Department of Education Publications

Instructional Materials FAQ

01-05 Guidelines for Piloting Textbooks and Instructional Materials, rev. January 2015

Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for Social Content, 2013

Websites

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Association of American Publishers: <http://www.publishers.org>

California Academic Content Standards Commission, Common Core State Standards:
<http://www.scoe.net/castandards>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>