

Social Studies Standards

In March 2022, the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) approved the [2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies \(LSSSS\)](#). The 2022–2023 school year is a learning year for the new standards, and 2023–2024 is the first implementation year. For more information about the transition, see the [2022 K–12 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies: Frequently Asked Questions](#).

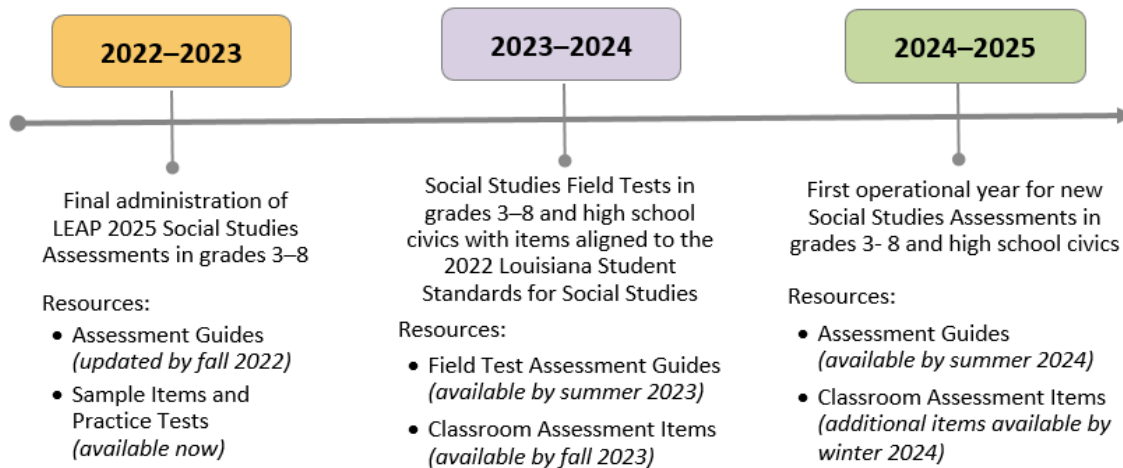
Social Studies Assessments

The Department is committed to the ongoing development and administration of high-quality assessments in social studies as part of its comprehensive assessment system and plan to ensure that every Louisiana student is ready for success in the next grade/course, postsecondary education, the workforce, and civic life. The transition to new standards brings with it new assessments aligned to those standards.

The new LEAP Social Studies assessments will

- include grade/course-specific tests for grades 3–8 and high school civics,
- reflect the vision and instructional priorities for social studies,
- ask students to answer meaningful questions about the content,
- require students to apply their knowledge and skills,
- ask students to utilize sources embedded within the assessment,
- provide educators and parents with useful and timely information about student performance, and
- involve [reviews by Louisiana educators](#) throughout the development process.

Administration and Resources Timeline



Grades 3–8 Social Studies

The final administration of the LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessments in grades 3–8 will take place in spring 2023. In 2023–2024, the new Social Studies assessments in grade 3–8 with items aligned to the [2022 LSSSS](#) will be field tested. All students in grades 3–8 will be required to participate in field testing. The primary purpose of field testing is to gather information about item performance, which is then used to develop test forms and future items. The new LEAP Social Studies assessments in grades 3–8 will be operational beginning in 2024–2025.

High School Social Studies

Beginning with incoming freshmen in 2024–2025 and beyond, the LEAP Civics assessment will replace the LEAP 2025 U.S. History assessment as the Social Studies assessment required for graduation. The LEAP 2025 U.S. History assessment will phase out, with the 2023–2024 freshmen cohort being the last group with the U.S. History assessment as their graduation requirement. A cohort is made up of all students who entered ninth grade for the first time in the state of Louisiana in a given academic year ([Bulletin 111, §703](#)). The tables below outline the details of that transition by cohort and school year.

High School Civics

The new LEAP Civics assessment aligned to the [2022 LSSSS](#) will be field tested in 2023–2024. Participation in the field test is required by all students in grades 9–12 enrolled in a civics course or course permitted to substitute for civics (American Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States). The LEAP Civics assessment will be operational in 2024–2025 and will become the Social Studies assessment required for graduation, beginning with the 2024–2025 freshmen cohort.

High School U.S. History

The 2023–2024 freshman cohort will be the final cohort with the LEAP 2025 U.S. History assessment as a part of their graduation requirements. The assessment will continue to be available as a state-administered test for relevant cohorts through 2026–2027 and will become a school system-administered test beyond that time. The U.S. History assessment will maintain the same design, alignment, and reporting approach as in past administrations.

High School Social Studies Assessment Graduation Requirement by Cohort

Freshmen Cohort	Required High School Social Studies Assessment
2022–2023	U.S. History
2023–2024	U.S. History
2024–2025 and Beyond	Civics

High School Social Studies Assessment Administrations by School Year

School Year	U.S. History	Civics
2022–2023	State-administered operational assessment	Not Applicable
2023–2024	State-administered operational assessment for relevant cohorts	State-administered field test for all students in a high school Civics course or permitted course substitute
2024–2025		State-administered operational assessment
2025–2026		
2026–2027		
2027–2028		