



Grade 7 Guide to Rigor in Mathematics 2.0

In order to provide a quality mathematical education for students, instruction must be rigorous, focused, and coherent. This document provides explanations and a standards-based alignment to assist teachers in providing the first of those: a rigorous education. While this document will help teachers identify the explicit component(s) of rigor called for by each of the Louisiana Student Standards for Mathematics (LSSM), it is up to the teacher to ensure his/her instruction aligns to the expectations of the standards, allowing for the proper development of rigor in the classroom.

This rigor document is considered a “living” document as we believe that teachers and other educators will find ways to improve the document as they use it. Please send feedback to classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov so that we may use your input when updating this guide.

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Table of Contents

Introduction

Definitions of the Components of Rigor	2
A Special Note on Procedural Skill and Fluency	2
Recognizing the Components of Rigor	3
Focus in the standards	3

Grade 7 LSSM Rigor Alignments	4
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Definitions of the Components of Rigor

Rigorous teaching in mathematics does not simply mean increasing the difficulty or complexity of practice problems. Incorporating rigor into classroom instruction and student learning means exploring at a greater depth, the standards and ideas with which students are grappling. There are **three** components of rigor that will be expanded upon in this document, and each is equally important to student mastery: **Conceptual Understanding, Procedural Skill and Fluency, and Application.**

- **Conceptual Understanding** refers to understanding mathematical concepts, operations, and relations. It is more than knowing isolated facts and methods. Students should be able to make sense of why a mathematical idea is important and the kinds of contexts in which it is useful. It also allows students to connect prior knowledge to new ideas and concepts.
- **Procedural Skill and Fluency** is the ability to apply procedures accurately, efficiently, and flexibly. It requires speed and accuracy in calculation while giving students opportunities to practice basic skills. Students' ability to solve more complex application tasks is dependent on procedural skill and fluency.
- **Application** provides valuable context for learning and the opportunity to solve problems in a relevant and a meaningful way. It is through real-world application that students learn to select an efficient method to find a solution, determine whether the solution makes sense by reasoning, and develop critical thinking skills.

A Special Note on Procedural Skill and Fluency

While speed is definitely a component of fluency, it is not necessarily speed in producing an answer; rather, fluency can be observed by watching the speed with which a student engages with a particular problem. Furthermore, fluency does not require the most efficient strategy. The standards specify grade-level appropriate strategies or types of strategies with which students should demonstrate fluency (e.g., 1.OA.C.6 allows for students to use counting on, making ten, creating equivalent but easier or known sums, etc.). It should also be noted that teachers should expect some procedures to take longer than others (e.g., fluency with the standard algorithm for division, 6.NS.B.2, as compared to fluently adding and subtracting within 10, 1.OA.C.6).

Standards identified as targeting procedural skill and fluency do not all have an expectation of automaticity and/or rote recall. Only two standards, 2.OA.B.2 and 3.OA.C.7, have explicit expectations of students knowing facts from memory. Other standards targeting procedural skill and fluency do not require students to reach automaticity. For example, in 4.G.A.2, students do not need to reach automaticity in classifying two-dimensional figures.

Recognizing the Components of Rigor

In the LSSM each standard is aligned to one or more components of rigor, meaning that each standard aims to promote student growth in conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and/or application. Key words and phrases in the standards indicate which component(s) of rigor the standard is targeting: conceptual understanding standards often use terms like *understand*, *recognize*, or *interpret*; procedural skill and fluency standards tend to use words like *fluently*, *find*, or *solve*; and application standards typically use phrases like *word problems* or *real-world problems*. Key words and phrases are underlined in each standard to help clarify the identified component(s) of rigor for each standard.

Focus in the Standards

Not all content in a given grade is emphasized equally in the standards. Some clusters require greater emphasis than others based on the depth of the ideas, the time that they take to master, and/or their importance to future mathematics or the demands of college and career readiness. More time in these areas is also necessary for students to meet the Louisiana Standards for Mathematical Practice. To say that some things have greater emphasis is not to say that anything in the standards can safely be neglected in instruction. Neglecting material will leave gaps in student skill and understanding and may leave students unprepared for the challenges of a later grade. Students should spend the large majority of their time on the major work of the grade (□). Supporting work (□) and, where appropriate, additional work (□) can engage students in the major work of the grade.

7th Grade

LSSM – 7 th Grade		Explicit Component(s) of Rigor		
Code	Standard	Conceptual Understanding	Procedural Skill and Fluency	Application
7.RP.A.1	<u>Compute</u> unit rates associated with ratios of fractions, including ratios of lengths, areas and other quantities measured in like or different units. <i>For example, if a person walks 1/2 mile in each 1/4 hour, compute the unit rate as the complex fraction $\frac{1/2}{1/4}$ miles per hour, equivalently 2 miles per hour.</i>		✓	
7.RP.A.2	<u>Recognize and represent</u> proportional relationships between quantities.	✓	✓	
7.RP.A.2a	<u>Decide</u> whether two quantities are in a proportional relationship, e.g., by testing for equivalent ratios in a table or graphing on a coordinate plane and observing whether the graph is a straight line through the origin.	✓	✓	
7.RP.A.2b	<u>Identify</u> the constant of proportionality (unit rate) in tables, graphs, equations, diagrams, and verbal descriptions of proportional relationships.	✓		
7.RP.A.2c	<u>Represent</u> proportional relationships by equations. <i>For example, if total cost t is proportional to the number n of items purchased at a constant price p, the relationship between the total cost and the number of items can be expressed as $t = pn$.</i>	✓	✓	
7.RP.A.2d	<u>Explain</u> what a point (x, y) on the graph of a proportional relationship means in terms of the situation, with special attention to the points $(0, 0)$ and $(1, r)$ where r is the unit rate.	✓		
7.RP.A.3	Use proportional relationships to solve <u>multi-step ratio and percent problems</u> of simple interest, tax, markups and markdowns, gratuities and commissions, fees, percent increase and decrease, and percent error.		✓	✓
7.NS.A.1	<u>Apply and extend previous understandings</u> of addition and subtraction to <u>add and subtract</u> rational numbers; <u>represent</u> addition and subtraction on a horizontal or vertical number line diagram.	✓	✓	
7.NS.A.1a	<u>Describe</u> situations in which opposite quantities combine to make 0. <i>For example, a hydrogen atom has 0 charge because its two constituents are oppositely charged.</i>	✓		
7.NS.A.1b	<u>Understand</u> $p + q$ as the number located a distance $ q $ from p , in the positive or negative direction depending on whether q is positive or negative. <u>Show</u> that a number and its opposite have a sum of 0 (are additive inverses). <u>Interpret</u> sums of rational numbers by describing real-world contexts.	✓		
7.NS.A.1c	<u>Understand</u> subtraction of rational numbers as adding the additive inverse, $p - q = p + (-q)$. <u>Show</u> that the distance between two rational numbers on the number line is the absolute value of their difference, and apply this principle in real-world contexts.	✓		
7.NS.A.1d	<u>Apply properties of operations</u> as strategies to <u>add and subtract</u> rational numbers.	✓	✓	
7.NS.A.2	<u>Apply and extend previous understandings</u> of multiplication and division and of fractions to <u>multiply and divide</u> rational numbers.	✓	✓	

LSSM – 7 th Grade		Explicit Component(s) of Rigor		
Code	Standard	Conceptual Understanding	Procedural Skill and Fluency	Application
7.NS.A.2a	<u>Understand</u> that multiplication is extended from fractions to rational numbers by requiring that operations continue to satisfy the properties of operations, particularly the distributive property, leading to products such as $(-1)(-1) = 1$ and the rules for multiplying signed numbers. <u>Interpret</u> products of rational numbers by describing real-world contexts.	✓		
7.NS.A.2b	<u>Understand</u> that integers can be divided, provided that the divisor is not zero, and every quotient of integers (with non-zero divisor) is a rational number. If p and q are integers, then $-(p/q) = (-p)/q = p/(-q)$. <u>Interpret</u> quotients of rational numbers by describing real-world contexts.	✓		
7.NS.A.2c	<u>Apply properties of operations</u> as strategies to <u>multiply and divide</u> rational numbers.	✓	✓	
7.NS.A.2d	<u>Convert</u> a rational number to a decimal using long division; <u>know</u> that the decimal form of a rational number terminates in 0s or eventually repeats.	✓	✓	
7.NS.A.3	Solve <u>real-world and mathematical problems</u> involving the four operations with rational numbers.		✓	✓
7.EE.A.1	<u>Apply properties of operations</u> as strategies to <u>add, subtract, factor, and expand</u> linear expressions with rational coefficients to include multiple grouping symbols (e.g., parentheses, brackets, and braces).	✓	✓	
7.EE.A.2	<u>Understand</u> that rewriting an expression in different forms in a problem context can shed light on the problem and how the quantities in it are related. <i>For example, $a + 0.05a = 1.05a$ means that "increase by 5%" is the same as "multiply by 1.05."</i>	✓		
7.EE.B.3	Solve multi-step <u>real-life and mathematical problems</u> posed with positive and negative rational numbers in any form (whole numbers, fractions, and decimals), using tools strategically. <u>Apply properties of operations</u> to <u>calculate</u> with numbers in any form; <u>convert</u> between forms as appropriate; and <u>assess</u> the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies. <i>For example: If a woman making \$25 an hour gets a 10% raise, she will make an additional $1/10$ of her salary an hour, or \$2.50, for a new salary of \$27.50. If you want to place a towel bar $9\ 3/4$ inches long in the center of a door that is $27\ 1/2$ inches wide, you will need to place the bar about 9 inches from each edge; this estimate can be used as a check on the exact computation.</i>	✓	✓	✓
7.EE.B.4	<u>Use variables</u> to <u>represent</u> quantities in a real-world or mathematical problem, and <u>construct</u> simple equations and inequalities to <u>solve problems</u> by reasoning about the quantities.	✓	✓	✓
7.EE.B.4a	Solve <u>word problems</u> leading to equations of the form $px + q = r$ and $p(x + q) = r$, where p , q , and r are specific rational numbers. Solve equations of these forms <u>fluently</u> . <u>Compare</u> an algebraic solution to an arithmetic solution, identifying the sequence of the operations used in each approach. <i>For example, the perimeter of a rectangle is 54 cm. Its length is 6 cm. What is its width?</i>	✓	✓	✓
7.EE.B.4b	Solve <u>word problems</u> leading to inequalities of the form $px + q > r$, $px + q \geq r$, $px + q < r$ or $px + q \leq r$, where p , q , and r are specific rational numbers. <u>Graph</u> the solution set of the inequality and <u>interpret</u> it in the context of the problem. <i>For example: As a salesperson, you are paid \$50 per week plus \$3 per sale. This week you want your pay to be at least \$100. Write an inequality for the number of sales you need to make, and describe the solutions.</i>	✓	✓	✓

LSSM – 7 th Grade		Explicit Component(s) of Rigor		
Code	Standard	Conceptual Understanding	Procedural Skill and Fluency	Application
7.G.A.1	<u>Solve problems</u> involving scale drawings of geometric figures, including <u>computing</u> actual lengths and areas from a scale drawing and <u>reproducing</u> a scale drawing at a different scale.		✓	✓
7.G.A.2	<u>Draw</u> (freehand, with ruler and protractor, or with technology) geometric shapes with given conditions. (Focus is on triangles from three measures of angles or sides, <u>noticing</u> when the conditions determine one and only one triangle, more than one triangle, or no triangle.)	✓	✓	
7.G.A.3	<u>Describe</u> the two-dimensional figures that result from slicing three-dimensional figures, as in plane sections of right rectangular prisms and right rectangular pyramids.	✓		
7.G.B.4	<u>Know</u> the formulas for the area and circumference of a circle and use them to <u>solve problems</u> ; <u>give</u> an informal derivation of the relationship between the circumference and area of a circle.	✓	✓	✓
7.G.B.5	<u>Use facts</u> about supplementary, complementary, vertical, and adjacent angles in a multi-step problem to <u>write and solve</u> simple equations for an unknown angle in a figure.	✓	✓	
7.G.B.6	Solve <u>real-world and mathematical problems</u> involving area, volume and surface area of two- and three-dimensional objects composed of triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, cubes, and right prisms. (Pyramids limited to surface area only.)		✓	✓
7.SP.A.1	<u>Understand</u> that statistics can be used to gain information about a population by examining a sample of the population; generalizations about a population from a sample are valid only if the sample is representative of that population. <u>Understand</u> that random sampling tends to produce representative samples and support valid inferences.	✓		
7.SP.A.2	<u>Use data</u> from a random sample to <u>draw inferences</u> about a population with an unknown characteristic of interest. <u>Generate</u> multiple samples (or simulated samples) of the same size to <u>gauge the variation</u> in estimates or predictions. <i>For example, estimate the mean word length in a book by randomly sampling words from the book; predict the winner of a school election based on randomly sampled survey data. Gauge how far off the estimate or prediction might be.</i>	✓	✓	✓
7.SP.B.3	<u>Informally assess</u> the degree of visual overlap of two numerical data distributions with similar variabilities <u>using quantitative measures</u> of center (median and/or mean) and variability (interquartile range and/or mean absolute deviation), as well as <u>describing</u> any overall pattern and any striking deviations from the overall pattern with reference to the context in which the data were gathered.	✓	✓	
7.SP.B.4	Use measures of center and measures of variability for numerical data from random samples to <u>draw informal comparative inferences</u> about two populations. <i>For example, decide whether the words in a chapter of a seventh-grade science book are generally longer than the words in a chapter of a fourth-grade science book.</i>	✓	✓	✓
7.SP.C.5	<u>Understand</u> that the probability of a chance event is a number between 0 and 1 that expresses the likelihood of the event occurring. Larger numbers indicate greater likelihood. A probability near 0 indicates an unlikely event, a probability around 1/2 indicates an event that is neither unlikely nor likely, and a probability near 1 indicates a likely event.	✓		

LSSM – 7 th Grade		Explicit Component(s) of Rigor		
Code	Standard	Conceptual Understanding	Procedural Skill and Fluency	Application
7.SP.C.6	<u>Approximate</u> the probability of a chance event by collecting data on the chance process that produces it and observing its long-run relative frequency, and <u>predict</u> the approximate relative frequency given the probability. <i>For example, when rolling a number cube 600 times, predict that a 3 or 6 would be rolled roughly 200 times, but probably not exactly 200 times.</i>	✓	✓	
7.SP.C.7	<u>Develop</u> a probability model and <u>use it</u> to find probabilities of events. <u>Compare</u> probabilities from a model to observed frequencies; if the agreement is not good, <u>explain</u> possible sources of the discrepancy.	✓	✓	
7.SP.C.7a	<u>Develop</u> a uniform probability model by assigning equal probability to all outcomes, and <u>use the model</u> to determine probabilities of events. <i>For example, if a student is selected at random from a class, find the probability that Jane will be selected and the probability that a girl will be selected.</i>	✓	✓	
7.SP.C.7b	<u>Develop</u> a probability model (which may not be uniform) by observing frequencies in data generated from a chance process. <i>For example, find the approximate probability that a spinning penny will land heads up or that a tossed paper cup will land open-end down. Do the outcomes for the spinning penny appear to be equally likely based on the observed frequencies?</i>	✓	✓	
7.SP.C.8	<u>Find</u> probabilities of compound events <u>using</u> organized lists, tables, tree diagrams, and simulation.	✓	✓	✓
7.SP.C.8a	<u>Understand</u> that, just as with simple events, the probability of a compound event is the fraction of outcomes in the sample space for which the compound event occurs.	✓		
7.SP.C.8b	<u>Represent</u> sample spaces for compound events using methods such as organized lists, tables and tree diagrams. For an event described in everyday language (e.g., "rolling double sixes"), <u>identify</u> the outcomes in the sample space which compose the event.	✓	✓	
7.SP.C.8c	<u>Design and use</u> a simulation to generate frequencies for compound events. <i>For example, use random digits as a simulation tool to approximate the answer to the question: If 40% of donors have type A blood, what is the probability that it will take at least 4 donors to find one with type A blood?</i>	✓	✓	✓