



100 West 10th Street, Suite 704
Wilmington, Delaware 19801
T: 302.571.1536
F: 302.571.1538
www.rodelfoundationde.org

Additional Detail: Standards and Assessment

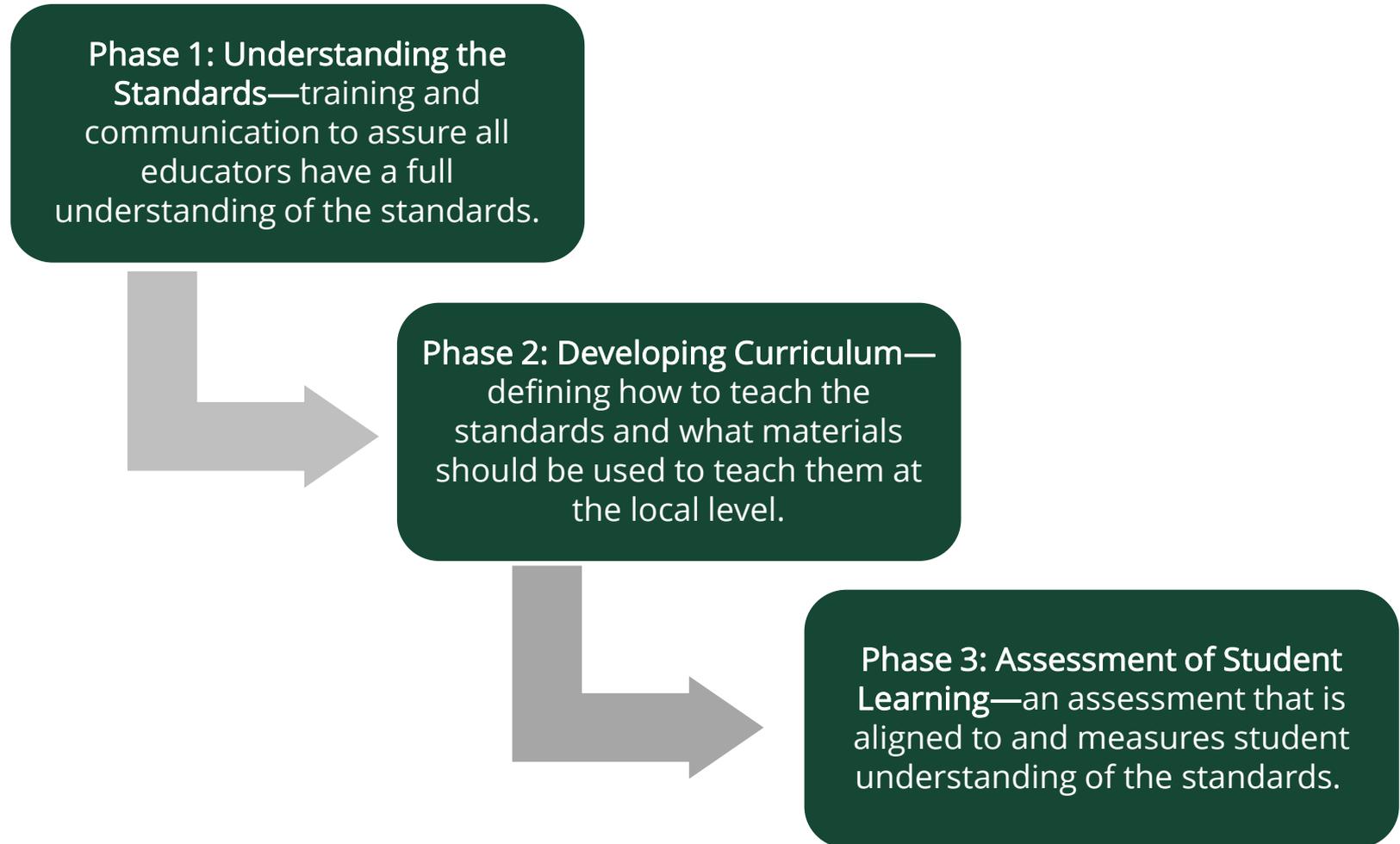
November 2015



Supporting World Class Schools for Delaware

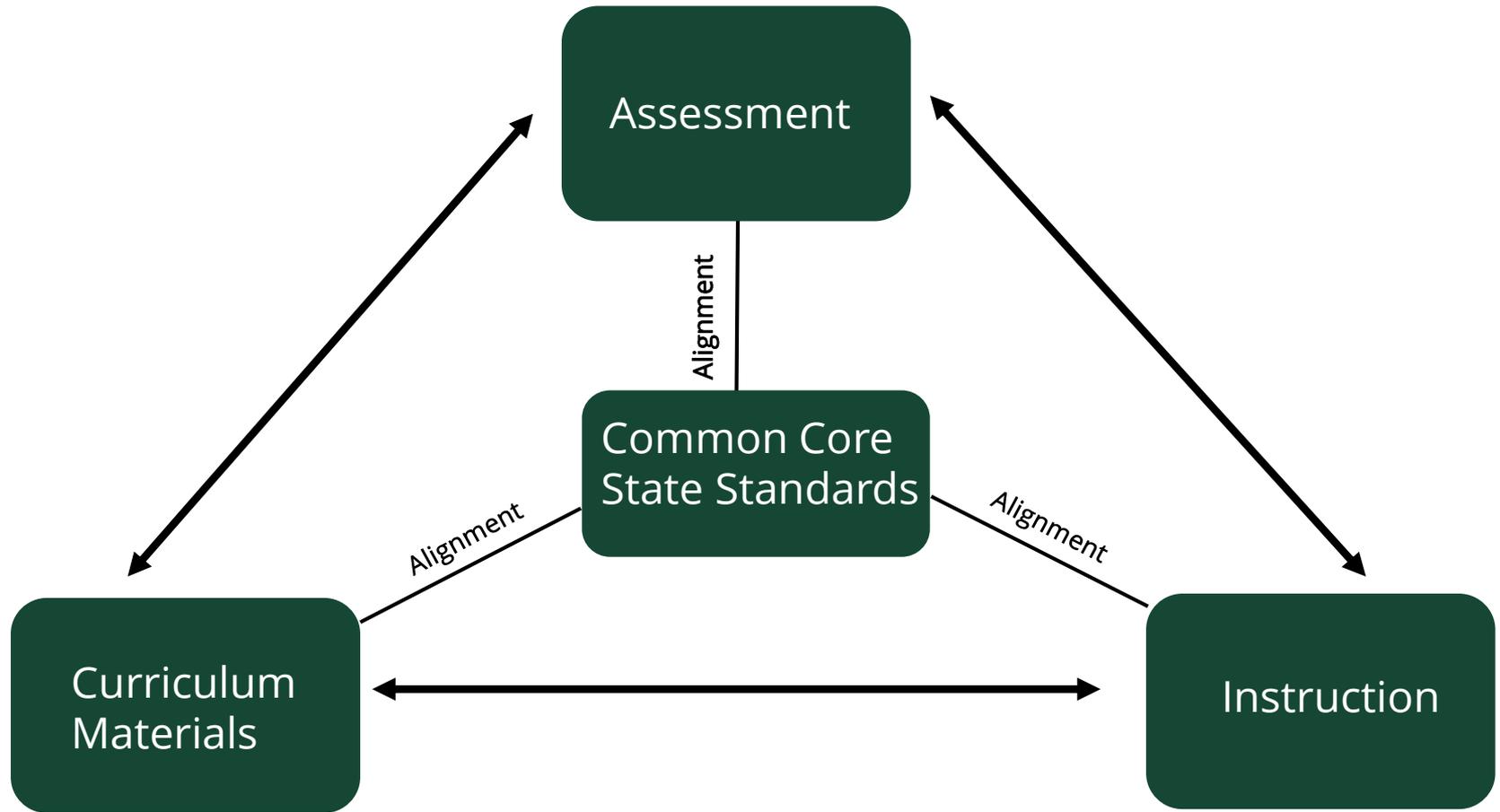
- Delaware is one of more than 40 states to adopt the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics. Full implementation of the standards, curriculum, and assessment was in place during the 2014-15 school year.
- As of 2015, Delaware is one of 15 states to adopt the Next Generation Science Standards. Full implementation will be in place by 2016-17.
- Consistent standards from state to state help level the academic expectations across states, measure and compare student progress to make improvements within states, and limit interruptions in student learning when families move.
- There is a greater focus on deeper content mastery and 21st century skill development, and new instructional approaches and strategies are required to fully implement higher learning expectations in English language arts, mathematics, and science.

There are three primary phases contributing to full implementation of Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.



Standards, curriculum, instruction, and assessment are all crucial parts of improving student learning.

Relationship Between the Common Core State Standards, Curriculum Materials, Instruction, and Assessment



Common Core were created to ensure that all students graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in college, career, and life, regardless of where they live.

- Common Core clearly articulate **what** students are expected to learn in English language arts and mathematics at each grade level.

An example of a second grade English language arts standard:

“Identify the main topic of a multi-paragraph text as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text.”

- The standards set grade-specific goals; however, they do **not** define **how** the standards should be taught or what materials should be used to teach them.
- Delaware is one of 17 states that measures student understanding of Common Core using the Smarter assessments, which is administered in grades three through eight and high school.
- Seven other states have chosen to use the other Common Core-aligned assessment, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC).

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) engage students in science instruction that will prepare them with the critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills necessary to excel in the global society.

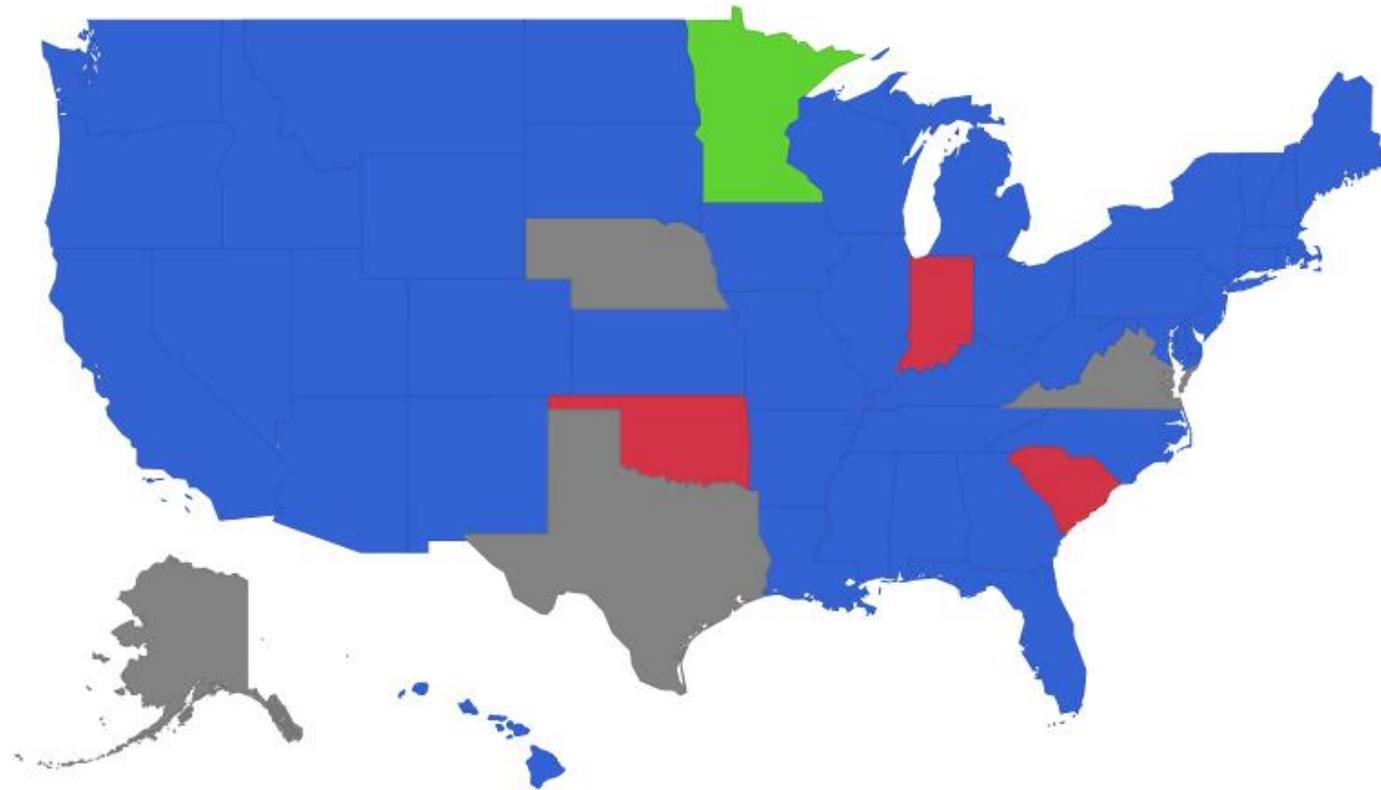
- Delaware was one of 26 states that helped develop the Next Generation Science Standards.

An example of a third grade standard is:

Construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive.

- While NGSS set high expectations for the knowledge and skills students should know at each grade level, the standards do not set a lesson plan or tell teachers how to teach.
- By the end of the 2016-17 school year, a comprehensive assessment system that is fully aligned to the NGSS will be implemented in Delaware.

More than 40 states have adopted and implemented the Common Core State Standards.

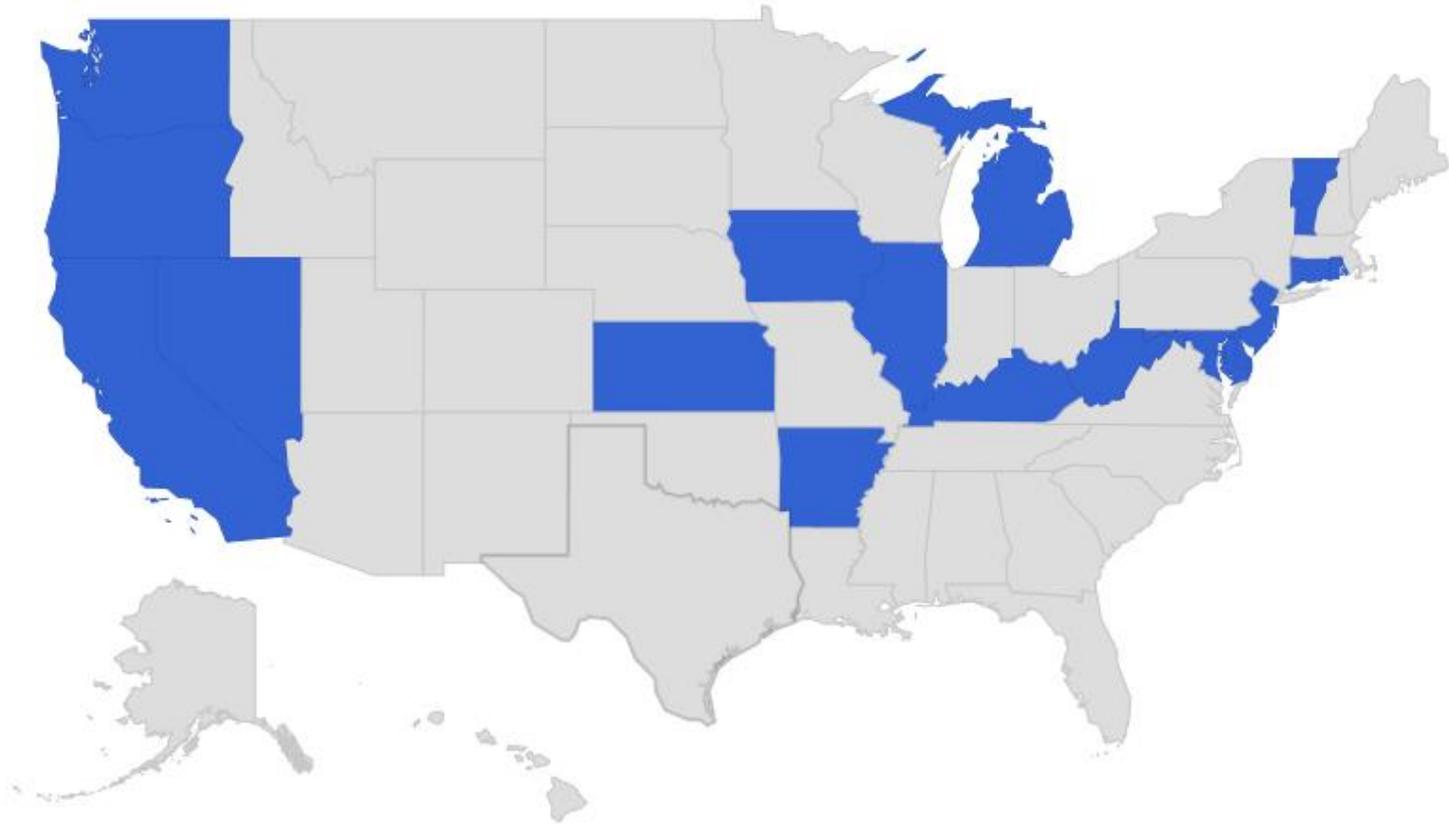


Adopted **Not adopted** **Partial Adoption** **Withdrawn**

Note: This map displays the 46 states and District of Columbia's adoption of CCSS as well as the four states that have not adopted CCSS. Minnesota adopted ELA but not math standards. Updated August 2015.

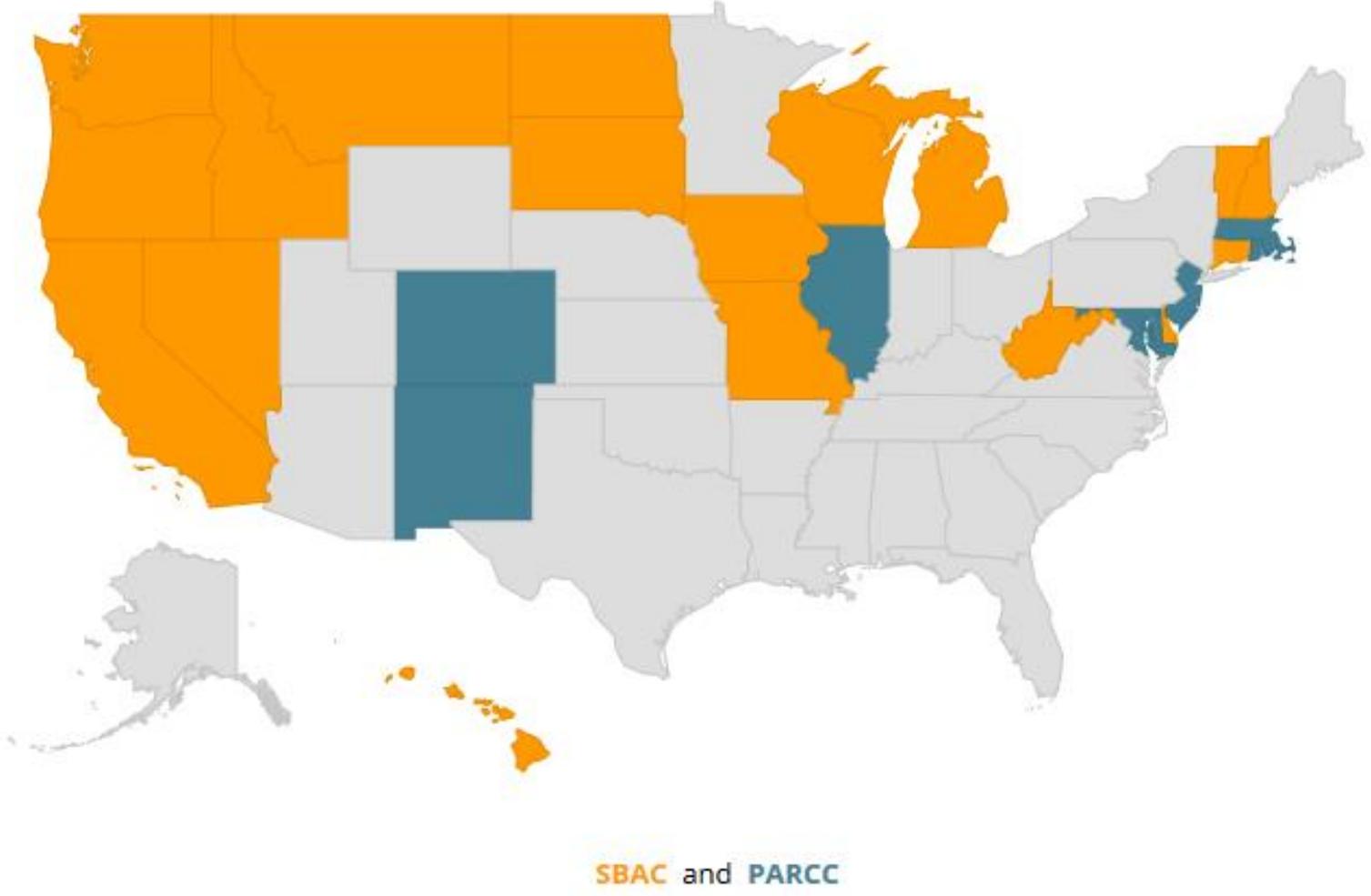
Source: Academic Benchmarks. (2015). Common Core State Standards Adoption Map. <http://academicbenchmarks.com/common-core-state-adoption-map/>.

Delaware is one of 15 states that has already adopted the standards.



Note: Map reflects states that adopted NGSS as of August 2015.
Source: Academic Benchmarks. (2015). Next Generation Science Standards Adoption Map. <http://academicbenchmarks.com/next-generation-science-standards-adoption-map>.

Delaware is one of 17 states that joined the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC).



SBAC and PARCC

Note: Updated November 2015.
Source: Academic Benchmarks. (2015). Common Core State Assessment Consortia Map. <http://academicbenchmarks.com/common-core-assessment-consortia/>.

Strong, useful assessment that provides timely, clear, and relevant feedback on student learning is a necessary aspect of the teaching and learning process. It provides valuable feedback to parents, students, educators, and the general public.

Parents and Students

- **Measure of academic progress**—indicating whether the student has met or exceeded **21st century grade-level expectations** and comparing the student's academic performance to peers in the State of Delaware and nationally.

Teachers

- **Data on student learning** from the previous year—creating opportunities for reflection and aligned professional development that **improves teaching and student learning**.

Schools and Districts

- **Data on high-achieving schools and districts**—helping **scale strong implementation** practices, by identifying strong implementers and highlighting the practices that lead to higher levels of student achievement on the new assessment.

General Public

- **Data on the academic performance of schools serving Delaware children**—ensuring **public transparency** of the use of public funds by monitoring academic achievement and opportunity gaps that persist among low-income and minority student populations.

Assessments are a crucial part of understanding how well students understand the information being presented to them. There are different types of assessment that help measure understanding at various points in the school year.

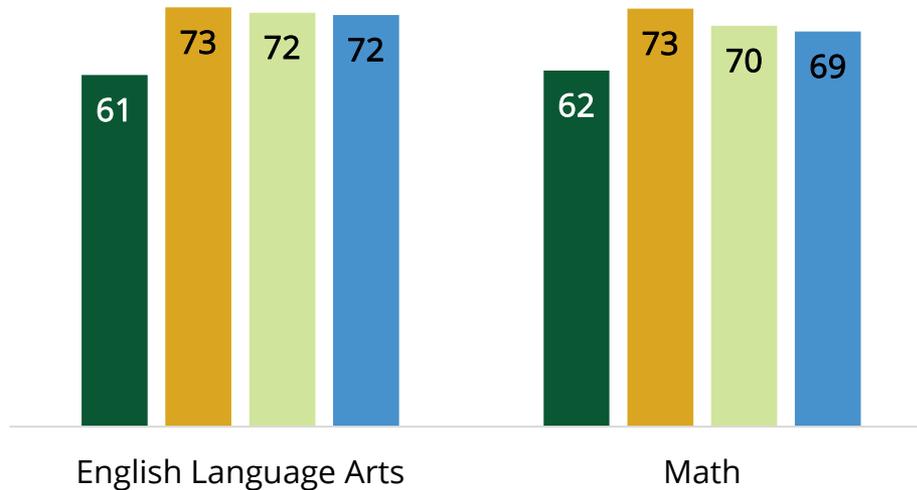
Type of Smarter Assessment	Assessment Uses	Availability for Educator Use
Statewide end-of-the-year assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer adaptive and performance task components • Measures whether a student has mastered the concepts outlined in the standards for that grade level 	<p>Required statewide assessment, administered during the last 12 weeks of the school year</p>
Interim Assessments	<p>Teachers can match assessments with the scope and sequence of their lessons and review student responses to inform future or subsequent instruction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional assessments that can be used throughout the year by educators to see how students are progressing • If, and how often, these interim assessments are given is a local decision
Formative Assessments	<p>Help teachers meet the unique needs of each student</p>	<p>Educators have access to a digital library of tools and professional development materials for classroom instruction, for example, sample scoring rubrics for performance tasks</p>

2011-2014 statewide assessment results show progress as more students succeed on a challenging state assessment. Statewide, approximately seven out of 10 students scored proficient or advanced on the DCAS in 2013-14, compared to six out of 10 students in 2010-11.

Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS)

Percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced on DCAS (2011-2014)

■ 2010-11 ■ 2011-12 ■ 2012-13 ■ 2013-14



Note: Percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced calculated by dividing the total number of students scoring proficient or advanced by the total number of exams administered.

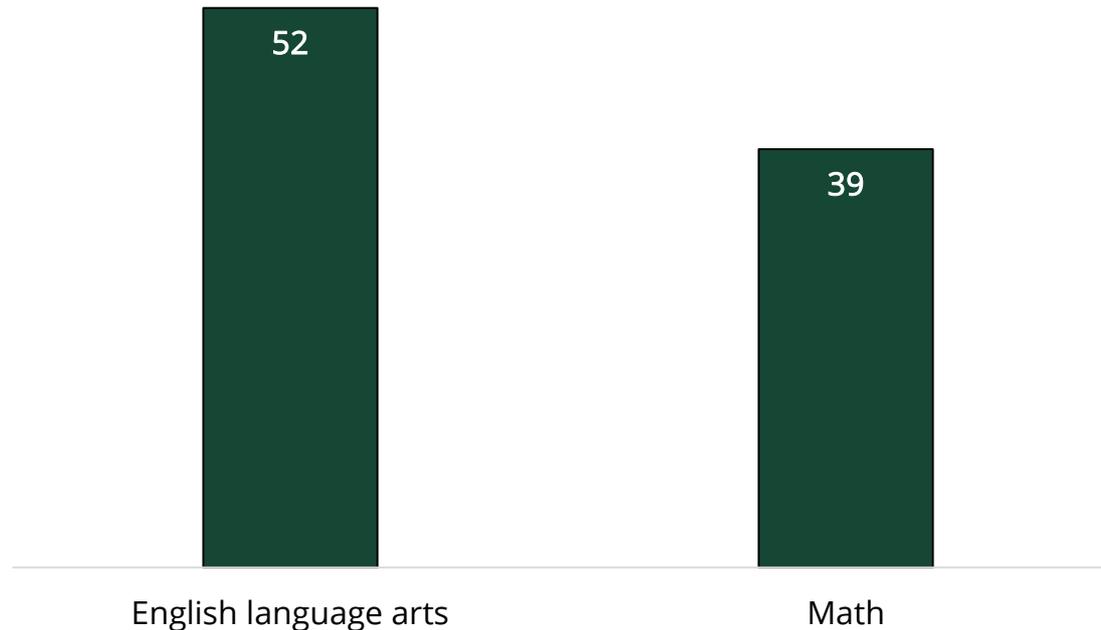
Source: Delaware Department of Education. (2015). Delaware Student Assessment Reporting & Analysis for the Public (ver. 2015).

https://pubapps.doe.k12.de.us/DSARA_Public/default.aspx

2014-15 statewide assessment results provide a new baseline for how Delaware students are performing in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The 2015 Smarter assessment results are the first ever scores for the test, which is aligned with the Common Core—Delaware's higher academic standards. Statewide, approximately five out of 10 students are proficient in English language arts, and roughly four out of 10 students are proficient in math.

Smarter Assessment

Percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced on the Smarter Assessment (2014-15)



Note: Percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced calculated by dividing the total number of students scoring proficient or advanced by the total number of exams administered. Grades three through eight and 11 tested. Smarter Assessment proficiency rates are not directly comparable with DCAS proficiency rates.

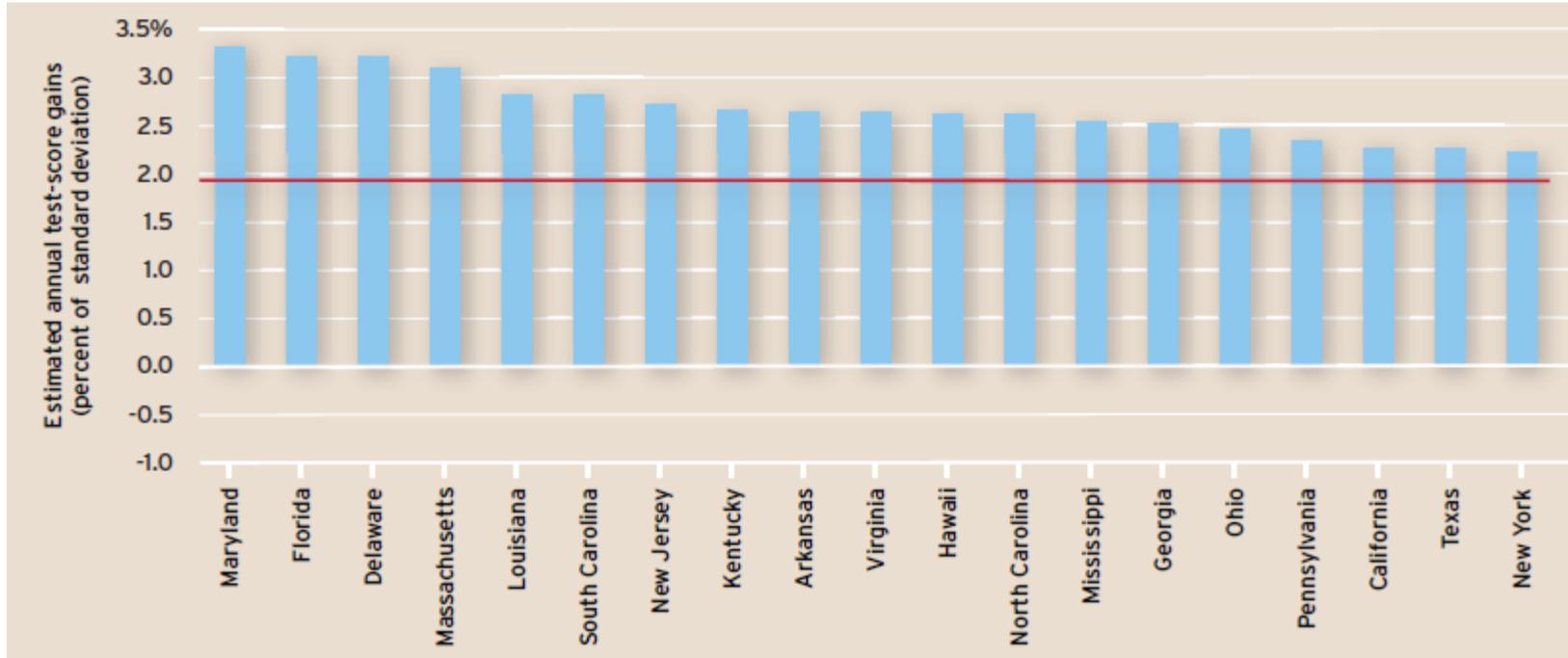
Source: Delaware Department of Education. (2015). Delaware Student Assessment Reporting & Analysis for the Public (ver. 2015).

https://pubapps.doe.k12.de.us/DSARA_Public/default.aspx

Nationally, Delaware has improved significantly. Over the past two decades (1992-2011), Delaware ranked third nationally in terms of overall NAEP gains (growth). The National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) is considered the nation’s report card. NAEP is administered every two years to a sampling of fourth and eighth grade students in each state.

Annual Rate of Growth in Student Achievement in Math, Reading, and Science in 41 U.S. states, 1992-2011

— Indicates Average Across 41 States

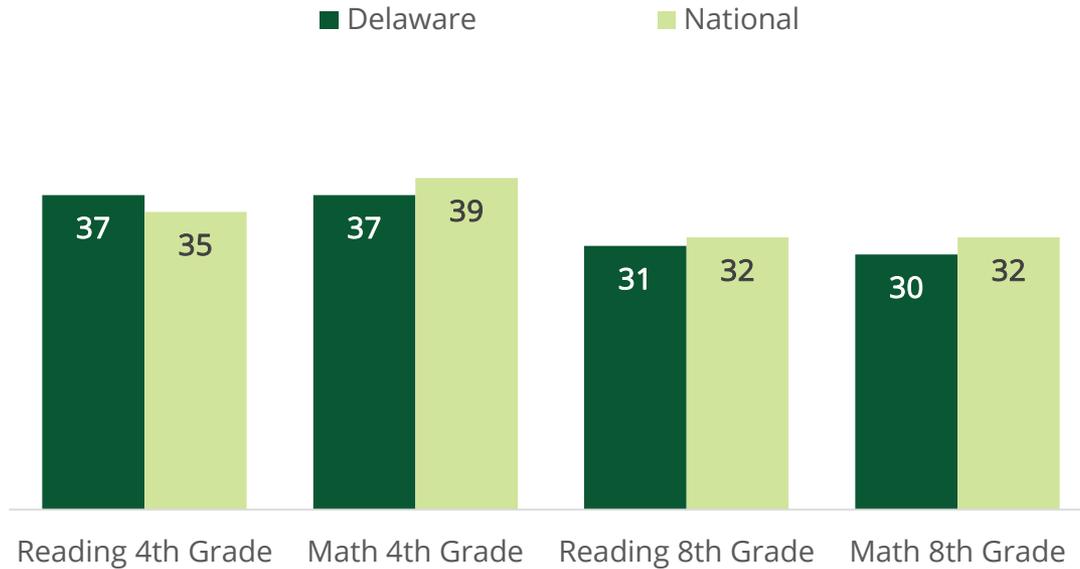


Source: National Center for Education Statistics. (2015). NAEP Data Explorer: State Profile (2013). <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/>; Harvard University Program on Education Policy & Governance. (2012). Achievement Growth: International and U.S. State Trends in Student Performance.. http://www.hks.harvard.edu/pepg/PDF/Papers/PEPG12-03_CatchingUp.pdf.

Delaware proficiency remains comparable to the national average.

Average Delaware and National NAEP Proficiency (2015)

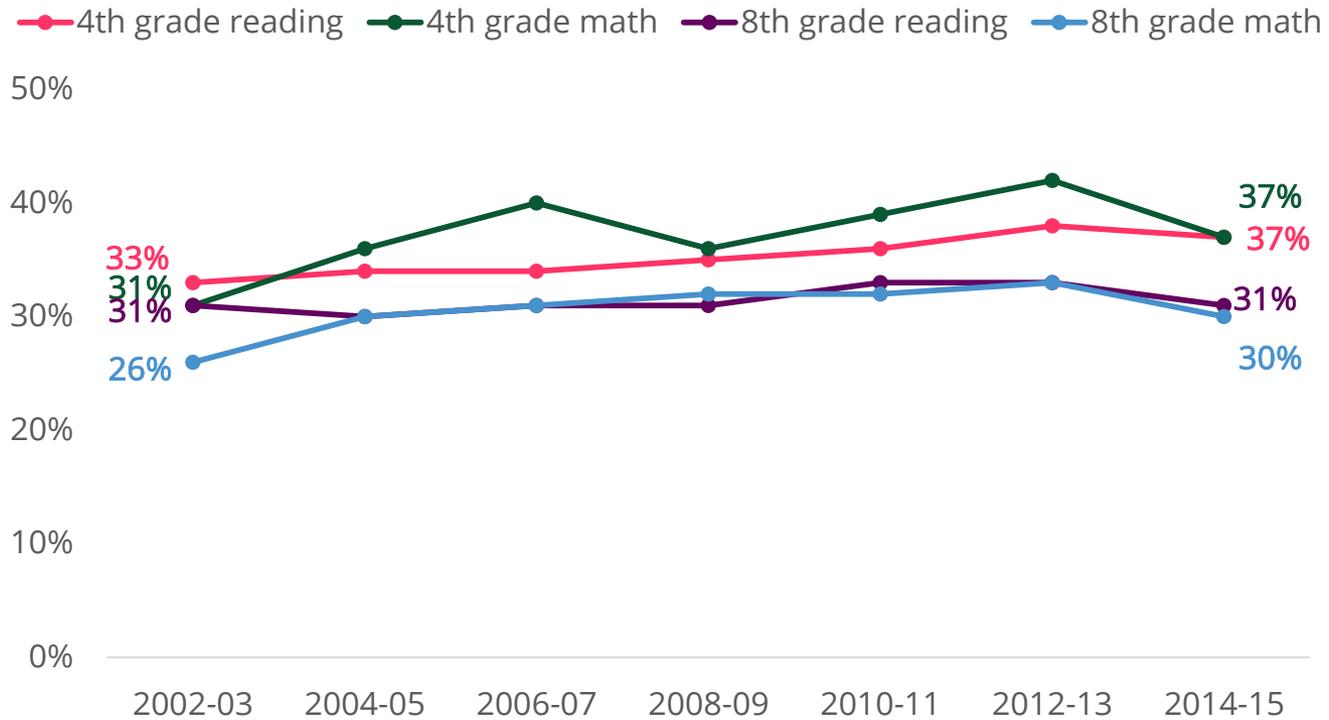
Percentage of students proficient or advanced on the NAEP (2015)



Note: NAEP reading and math assessments are administered to a representative sample of students every two years.
 Source: National Center for Education Statistics. (2015). NAEP Data Explorer: State Profile (2015). <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/>

Since 2003, Delaware students' proficiency in math and reading on the NAEP has increased across most tested grade-levels.

Average Delaware and National NAEP Proficiency (2015)



Note: NAEP reading and math assessments are administered to a representative sample of students every two years. Prior to 2003, fourth grade and eighth grade math and reading subject tests were not administered on a consistent bi-annual basis. Not all NAEP assessments administered before 2003 permitted accommodations for students with disabilities.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics. (2015). NAEP Data Explorer: State Profile (2015). <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/>

Because Delaware students performed on par with students nationally on the NAEP, it is likely that the U.S. results on international assessments reflect how Delaware students would perform in the state administered the test. In 2012, 65 countries participated in the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), a “global report card” of student achievement.

PISA Student Achievement Ranking (2012)

PISA Rank	Reading	Math	Science
1	Shanghai, China	Shanghai, China	Shanghai, China
2	Singapore	Hong Kong, China	Hong Kong, China
3	Hong Kong, China	Singapore	Singapore
4	Taiwan	Japan	Japan
5	Korea	Finland	Korea
6	Macao, China	Estonia	Finland
7	Japan	Korea	Ireland
8	Liechtenstein	Vietnam	Chinese Taipei
9	Switzerland	Poland	Canada
10	Netherlands	Canada	Poland
	#30 United States	#23 United States	#20 United States

Opportunities to Transform the System

Components	Potential Action Steps	Progress Underway	Supporters
Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain the implementation of CCSS and NGSS. • Adopt competencies related to 21st century skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, interpersonal skills, collaboration, persistence, and other skills students will need to be successful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCSS and NGSS adopted and implemented • DelExcells CCSS and NGSS resources pages • Dream Team (LearnZillion) • Common Ground for the Common Core • Delaware Reading and Math Cadre • Delaware Science Coalition • Next Generation Teacher Leader Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) • Delaware STEM Council • State Board of Education (SBE) • Vision Coalition of Delaware
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamline, maintain consistency and improve the implementation of the Smarter Assessments. • Consider the adoption of performance assessments, which are assessments that require students to craft solutions to problems by constructing an answer, producing a product, or performing an activity, in order to assess 21st century skills. • As Delaware shifts to a more personalized, student-centered system, innovate assessments to support that change. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individualize assessments to reflect a student-centered approach, while maintaining comparability to ensure quality ○ Allow students to take assessments when they are ready, rather than wait for a defined testing window ○ Ensure assessments are rigorous and signal that students have mastered specific competencies and skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smarter Assessment • Assessment inventory • Development of a comprehensive assessment system aligned to NGSS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competency-Based Learning Guiding Coalition • DDOE • Delaware STEM Council • Vision Coalition of Delaware