



Implementing the Common Core Standards (ICCS)

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Dear colleagues,

Thank you to all of you who were able to attend the Implementing the Common Core Standards (ICCS) meeting in Minneapolis. We hope you had an informative and productive experience and safe travels home. As we move into the fall, we want to share with you some of the latest updates and available resources to support your state's implementation work, most of which can be found on spaces.ccsso.org. In particular, we are pleased to announce the opportunity for you to participate in a webinar briefing on the release of Dr. David Conley's validity study on the Common Core State Standards. If you have any questions on the Council's implementation efforts, please don't hesitate to reach out, carrieh@ccsso.org.

Thank you,

Carrie Heath Phillips

Director, Common Core Implementation

Council of Chief State School Officers

Register for Webinar Briefing on Study of Common Core State Standards

- On August 24, 2011, the Education Policy Improvement Center (EPIC) will release a validity study on the Common Core State Standards led by Dr. David Conley. The study is based on a national sample of entry-level college instructors to rate the applicability of each Common Core State Standard in comparison to their courses. If the standard was applicable, instructors were asked to rate its importance. The ratings provide information to address two central research questions:
 1. How applicable are the Common Core State Standards to college courses?
 2. When they are perceived as applicable, how important are the Common Core State Standards to college courses?
- The study analyzes ratings from instructors of 1,897 courses at two- and four-year degree-granting

institutions. The full report, Reaching the Goal: Applicability and Importance of the Common Core State Standards to College and Career Readiness, will be available on this web page after August 24, 2011 <https://www.epiconline.org/standardsvaliditystudy> and we will make it available on spaces.ccsso.org.

- You are invited to participate in a webinar that will explain the study and its major findings. The webinar will take place on August 24, 11:00a -12:30p Pacific/ 2:00p -3:30p Eastern. Please click [here](#) to register. **Registrations will be taken on a first-come-first-serve basis until capacity is reached.** Upon completion of the registration, you will be sent information with logistical information for participation.

Technical Expertise Exchange (www.ccsso.org/ctee)

- CCSSO invites members of state and district education agencies to utilize the **Technical Expertise Exchange** as a resource for ideas and clearinghouse to learn more about providers that can assist in implementing reform efforts. The Technical Expertise Exchange now features responses from more than 90 providers, including both for-profit and non-profit organizations and individuals, to common information requests produced by CCSSO that focus on:
 1. Implementing the Common Core State Standards,
 2. Teacher and leader evaluation systems, and
 3. Longitudinal data systems
- Additionally, on September 7th CCSSO will release a fourth request to providers focused on school turnaround and expects to post responses by September 22nd. The Technical Expertise Exchange aims to improve the procurement process by providing states with shared access to information about the capabilities, capacity, and costs of potential providers as well as their best thinking on important issues that are currently facing most agencies. Ultimately, we hope the resource supports states in making informed decisions and collaborating around opportunities for innovative practice. As you explore the Technical Expertise Exchange, please tell us what you think by completing this [survey](#), or by emailing Jon Marino, jonathanm@ccsso.org.

spaces.ccsso.org

- Congratulations to the 219 of you who have been using spaces.ccsso.org since the August meeting. Collectively, you have viewed 20,000 pages on the site, downloaded resources from the library thousands of times, and created three independent sub-communities using the site.
- More than 70 people have downloaded Sandra Alberti's presentation on instructional shifts, 55 have downloaded Connecticut's PowerPoint on linking math standards, assessment, and curriculum, and

more than 130 of you have downloaded the communications toolkit. For feedback on the toolkit, please contact Kate Dando, kated@ccsso.org.

- As a reminder, you will find the reimbursement forms from the August ICCS meeting in the resource library in spaces.ccsso.org.
- The videos of the standards writers co-created by CCSSO and the Hunt Institute are currently accessible in the content library and final versions will be available for download from a YouTube channel by next week.

Save the Date

- The next meeting of ICCS is tentatively scheduled for December 5-7, 2011. We will send out information about enrolling in ICCS 2011-2012 and information on registering for the next meeting after Labor Day.

CCSSO Offers New ELA SCASS

- **CCSSO is offering a new state collaborative on English Language Arts (ELA) in 2011-2012. This new collaborative will focus on the challenges around standards and student assessments in ELA and the opportunities for state collaboration.**
- We are pleased to announce that Susan Pimentel, a lead writer for the Common Core State Standards for ELA, has agreed to serve as the advisor to work with members of this collaborative.
- Information on the costs and the process to become a SCASS member are found at: www.ccsso.org/scass. To register, contact Bob Olsen, roberto@ccsso.org.

CCSSO is Hiring!

CCSSO has a position open for a Senior Program Associate for Common Core State Standards. If you are aware of a qualified applicant with at least 3-5 years of experience, preferably in a state or local education agency, in D.C. or who wants to move to D.C., please encourage him or her to apply. [Senior Program Associate Position](#)