



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
State Board of Education  
Department of Public Instruction

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# Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

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North Carolina Department of Public  
Instruction Implementation of The Founding  
Principles Act

*The Founding Principles Act SL 2011-273 (HB  
588), sec.2 as amended by SL 2015-291 (SB  
524) and SL 2019-82 (HB924)*

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**Date Due: October 2025**  
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2024-2025

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION VISION

Every public school student in North Carolina will be empowered to accept academic challenges, prepared to pursue their chosen path after graduating high school, and encouraged to become lifelong learners with the capacity to engage in a globally-collaborative society.

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MISSION

The mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education is to use its constitutional authority to guard and maintain the right of a sound, basic education for every child in North Carolina Public Schools.

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## NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**Maurice "Mo" Green, State Superintendent / 301 N. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601**

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The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee of the North Carolina General Assembly requires the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) to provide a biennial report on the implementation of the Founding Principles Act. This report outlines the steps NCDPI has taken to support districts and schools with implementation of the requirements in this legislation since the submission of the last report in October 2023.

On June 23, 2011, the North Carolina General Assembly passed The Founding Principles Act (SL 2011-273) that directed local boards of education to require, as a condition of high school graduation, students to successfully complete a semester course, "American History I - The Founding Principles." Additionally, the Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) and local boards of education, as appropriate, were directed to provide "curriculum content" to support this course. Lastly, the Act directs the State Board of Education (SBE) to align "any curriculum-based tests developed and administered statewide" to include the content expressed in the Act.

In 2019, legislation was passed that directed DPI and the SBE to begin the revision process of the social studies standards. It also stipulated the creation of a new course called Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy. The standards for the Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy course were approved by the State Board of Education on February 4, 2021.

The North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy course provides instructional alignment to the legislation. The NC Standard Course of Study may be accessed at:  
<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/founding-principles-united-states-america-and-north-carolina-civic-literacy-standards-fall-2021>

Various resources have been created and implemented by NCDPI to help educators across the state successfully teach the founding principles as specified in the legislation.

The Founding Principles Legislation for North Carolina Schools	Founding Principles Resources  Founding Principles of the United States of America
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Session Law 2009-504 (HB1474)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Session Law 2015-291 (SB524)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Session Law 2019-82 (HB924)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Founding Principles Framework Curriculum Guide               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Cluster Preface</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cluster 1</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cluster 2</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cluster 3</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cluster 4</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Founding Principles Recorded Webinar</li> <li>• Founding Principle Webinar PPT</li> <li>• Founding Principles Canvas course to help classroom educators align their instruction in their class to the Founding Principles legislation</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Session Law 2019-82 (HB924)</a></li> </ul>	The revised standards for Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy received

	<p>State Board approval on February 4, 2021. To date, the following support documents have been approved by the State Board of Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Founding Principles of the United States and North Carolina: Civic Literacy - Approved Standards</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Founding Principles Unpacking Document</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">K-12 Social Studies Strand Map</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">K-12 Social Studies Crosswalks</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">K-12 Social Studies Glossary</a></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Founding Principles Canvas course to help classroom educators align their instruction in their class to the Founding Principles legislation</li> <li>• Self-paced 5 part On-demand video series on teaching the Founding Principles in Civic Literacy</li> </ul>

## 2023 – 2025 Biennium

In July 2019, House Bill 924, which modifies the current legislation, was passed into law. Revision of the *K-12 Social Studies Standard Course of Study* took place during the 2019-2021 school years. The new standards were approved on February 4, 2021. NCDPI will continue to provide professional development for teachers in civic education and will report on how all requirements are being met in the next biennial report due in October 2027.

There is no longer a state test for Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy. Any assessments for this course are aligned with the standards and created locally.