

# California Eld Standards Aligned To Common Core

## California ELD Standards Aligned to Common Core: A Comprehensive Guide

California's English Language Development (ELD) standards play a crucial role in ensuring that English learners (ELs) achieve academic success alongside their native English-speaking peers. These standards, closely aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), provide a framework for educators to support ELs in developing their English language proficiency across all subject areas. This article delves into the intricacies of the California ELD standards, exploring their alignment with the Common Core, highlighting their benefits, and offering practical implementation strategies for educators. We will also examine the key components of **ELD instruction**, the importance of **differentiated instruction for ELs**, and explore resources for **assessing English language proficiency**.

### Understanding the Alignment: ELD and Common Core in California

The California ELD standards are meticulously designed to complement the Common Core State Standards. They don't replace the Common Core but instead provide a roadmap for how ELs can access and master the rigorous academic content within the Common Core framework. This alignment ensures that ELs are not only learning English but also developing the critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills necessary to succeed academically.

The alignment is achieved through a multi-faceted approach. Both sets of standards emphasize:

- **College and Career Readiness:** Both the ELD and Common Core standards aim to prepare students for success in college and future careers. This shared goal informs the development of rigorous curriculum and instruction.
- **Academic Language Development:** A significant overlap exists in the emphasis on academic vocabulary and language functions. The ELD standards explicitly address the development of the specific language skills needed to comprehend and produce academic texts across

disciplines.

- **Content Integration:** The ELD standards are not taught in isolation. They are seamlessly integrated into all subject areas, ensuring that ELs develop language proficiency within the context of meaningful content. This integrated approach promotes deeper understanding and retention.
- **Standards-Based Instruction:** Both sets of standards provide clear learning objectives and expectations, enabling teachers to design effective instruction and assessment aligned with specific student needs.

## Benefits of Aligning ELD Standards with Common Core

The alignment of California's ELD standards with the Common Core offers numerous benefits for both ELs and educators:

- **Enhanced Academic Achievement:** By explicitly addressing the language needs of ELs within the context of Common Core content, the aligned standards facilitate greater academic success for this population.
- **Improved Language Proficiency:** The integrated approach promotes holistic language development, encompassing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in authentic contexts.
- **Increased Equity:** The alignment ensures that all students, regardless of their language background, have access to high-quality instruction and the opportunity to reach their full potential.
- **Streamlined Instruction:** Teachers can use a single set of standards as a guide for planning and instruction, making lesson planning more efficient and effective.
- **Data-Driven Instruction:** The clear learning objectives enable teachers to track student progress and adjust instruction based on data, ensuring targeted support for individual students.

## Implementing California ELD Standards Effectively

Effective implementation of the California ELD standards requires a multi-pronged approach:

- **Teacher Training:** Professional development is crucial to equip teachers with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively teach ELs using the aligned standards. This training should focus on differentiated instruction, assessment strategies, and culturally responsive teaching practices.
- **Curriculum Alignment:** Schools and districts need to ensure that their curriculum is aligned with both the ELD and Common Core standards. This may involve revising existing curricula or adopting new materials that explicitly address the language needs of ELs.
- **Assessment and Monitoring:** Regular assessment is crucial to track

student progress and identify areas needing further support. This assessment should include both formal and informal measures that assess both language proficiency and content understanding.

- **Collaborative Planning:** Teachers should collaborate to plan and deliver instruction that addresses the unique needs of ELs. This may involve co-teaching, team teaching, or other collaborative models.
- **Parent and Community Involvement:** Engaging parents and the wider community is essential to support ELs' learning and create a welcoming and supportive environment.

## Resources and Support for Educators

Numerous resources are available to support educators in implementing the California ELD standards. These include:

- **The California Department of Education (CDE) website:** This website provides access to the ELD standards, curriculum frameworks, and other relevant resources.
- **Professional organizations:** Organizations such as the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) offer professional development opportunities and networking opportunities for educators.
- **University-based programs:** Many universities offer courses and workshops on teaching ELs.

## Conclusion

The alignment of California's ELD standards with the Common Core represents a significant step towards ensuring equitable access to high-quality education for all students, regardless of their language background. By effectively implementing these standards and leveraging available resources, educators can empower ELs to achieve academic success and reach their full potential. The key lies in embracing a holistic approach that integrates language development with content instruction, provides targeted support based on individual student needs, and fosters a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

## FAQ

### **Q1: How are the California ELD Standards different from the Common Core State Standards?**

A1: The California ELD Standards are not a replacement for the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Instead, they complement the CCSS by providing a framework for how English learners (ELs) can access and master the rigorous academic content within the Common Core. The ELD standards focus specifically on the language skills necessary to meet the Common Core expectations, addressing listening, speaking, reading, and writing in the context of academic

content.

**Q2: What types of assessments are used to measure progress in California ELD Standards?**

A2: A variety of assessments are employed, including formative assessments (ongoing checks for understanding) and summative assessments (end-of-unit or end-of-year evaluations). Formative assessments might involve observations of classroom participation, informal writing samples, or quick quizzes. Summative assessments could be standardized tests specifically designed for ELs, performance-based tasks showcasing language skills in context, or portfolio assessments demonstrating growth over time. The specific assessments used will vary depending on the student's level and the specific ELD standard being assessed.

**Q3: How do teachers differentiate instruction to meet the needs of ELs at various proficiency levels?**

A3: Differentiation is key. Teachers might use varied instructional strategies like providing visual aids, graphic organizers, pre-teaching vocabulary, offering sentence starters, using cooperative learning activities, and modifying assignments based on individual student needs. They might also use tiered assignments where students work on the same concept but at varying levels of complexity. The goal is to provide scaffolding and support tailored to each student's current proficiency level.

**Q4: Are there specific resources available for parents of ELs to support their children's learning at home?**

A4: Yes, many resources exist. Schools often provide translated materials, workshops for parents, and information on community programs supporting ELs. The CDE website and other online resources offer information in multiple languages, activities for home learning, and tips for supporting English language development.

**Q5: How can schools ensure that all teachers are adequately trained to implement the ELD standards effectively?**

A5: Ongoing professional development is vital. Schools should provide training on differentiated instruction, strategies for teaching ELs, assessment techniques specific to ELD, and culturally responsive teaching practices. Mentorship programs pairing experienced teachers with those newer to ELD instruction can also be beneficial. Collaboration between teachers to share best practices and resources is also crucial.

**Q6: How are the ELD standards integrated into the curriculum across various subject areas?**

A6: The integration is not about adding a separate ELD block. Instead, ELD instruction is woven into the teaching of all subjects. For example, in science, teachers might pre-teach vocabulary, use visual aids to explain complex concepts, and encourage collaborative discussions in English. In math, they might focus on clear and concise language in problem-solving. The goal is for ELs to develop their language skills while learning the content of each subject area.

**Q7: What role does technology play in supporting ELs in meeting the ELD standards?**

A7: Technology offers numerous tools to enhance ELD instruction. Interactive whiteboards, language learning apps, online dictionaries and translators, and digital storytelling platforms can all be valuable resources. Technology can provide personalized learning experiences, access to diverse texts and media, and opportunities for authentic communication.

**Q8: How are the ELD standards evaluated at the school and district levels?**

A8: Evaluation involves examining student progress on both language proficiency and academic achievement. Schools and districts will use various data points, including standardized test scores (if applicable), classroom-based assessments, and teacher observations to monitor the effectiveness of ELD instruction. Regular data analysis informs adjustments to curriculum, instruction, and professional development efforts.

## **California ELD Standards: A Deep Dive into Common Core Alignment**

California's English Language Development (ELD) standards represent a essential framework for supporting English learners (ELs) in achieving academic success. These standards, tightly aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), offer a strong roadmap for educators to create effective instruction and gauge student advancement. This article will delve into the specifics of this alignment, underscoring the link between the two frameworks and presenting practical strategies for implementation.

The alignment between California's ELD standards and the CCSS isn't simply a issue of parallel {development}; it's a deeply integrated approach designed to ensure that ELs receive the support they need to meet the rigorous requirements of the Common Core. The ELD standards don't substitute the CCSS; instead, they complement them, offering specific guidance on how to adapt instruction to satisfy the unique requirements of ELs at different proficiency levels.

One of the key elements of this alignment is the concentration on formal

language. Both the ELD standards and the CCSS understand the importance of fostering students' ability to understand and use complex language in various academic settings. The ELD standards explicitly address the growth of word knowledge, syntax, and communication skills, providing educators with precise methods for teaching these skills within the context of content-area instruction.

For instance, while the CCSS for a certain grade level might outline the demand that students author an explanatory essay, the corresponding ELD standard would specify how to aid ELs in acquiring the necessary language skills, such as organizing information logically, using appropriate transitions, and employing precise vocabulary. This might include direct instruction in specific grammatical structures, targeted vocabulary building activities, and occasions for exercising the targeted language skills within the context of essay writing.

The ELD standards also stress the importance of differentiation in instruction. Recognizing that ELs arrive to the classroom with varying levels of English proficiency, the standards provide a framework for customizing instruction to satisfy the individual needs of each student. This might involve giving additional support in the form of scaffolded instruction, adjusted assignments, or access to bilingual resources.

Furthermore, the alignment between the ELD and CCSS promotes a unified approach to language and literacy development across all subject areas. Instead of regarding ELD as a distinct subject, the standards incorporate language development into the content-area curriculum, confirming that ELs are improving their English language skills while simultaneously learning core academic content.

Implementing the California ELD standards effectively necessitates a thorough approach. Teachers need to comprehend the specific expectations of both the ELD standards and the CCSS, as well as the individual needs of their ELs. This requires persistent professional education and use to high-quality resources. Schools should establish supportive environments that foster language acquisition, providing ELs with chances to utilize English in significant ways. This might involve introducing collaborative learning activities, utilizing authentic materials, and developing a classroom culture that respects linguistic diversity.

In conclusion, the alignment of California's ELD standards with the Common Core provides a strong framework for supporting English learners in achieving academic success. By combining language development into content-area instruction and offering differentiated support, educators can confirm that ELs have the opportunities they need to flourish academically. This requires a devoted approach to professional training and the creation of supportive classroom environments that value linguistic diversity and foster language acquisition.

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):**

**1. Q: How are the California ELD standards different from the Common Core State Standards?**

**A:** The California ELD standards are not a replacement for the CCSS but rather a supplement. They offer specific guidance on how to adapt instruction to meet the needs of English learners, focusing on the development of academic language skills within the context of the CCSS.

**2. Q: What resources are available to help teachers implement the ELD standards?**

**A:** The California Department of Education website provides a wealth of resources, like sample lesson plans, professional development materials, and assessments. Many county education agencies also furnish support and training.

**3. Q: How are student advancement in ELD assessed?**

**A:** Assessment methods vary, but typically include both formative and summative assessments. Formative assessments might include ongoing observations of student achievement in the classroom, while summative assessments might entail standardized tests or performance-based assessments.

**4. Q: Are the ELD standards applicable to all subject areas?**

**A:** Yes, the ELD standards are applicable to all content areas, as the development of academic language skills is vital for achievement in all subjects. Teachers in all subjects should consider the ELD standards when planning instruction.

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