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**Mathematics Framework**  
**Chapter 13: Instructional Materials to Support**  
**Equitable and Engaging Learning of the California**  
**Common Core State Standards for Mathematics**

8	Mathematics Framework Chapter 13: Instructional Materials to Support Equitable and	
9	Engaging Learning of the California Common Core State Standards for Mathematics ...	1
10	Introduction.....	2
11	Intent and Purpose .....	3
12	Instructional Resources and Focus, Coherence, and Rigor in the Common Core	
13	State Standards for Mathematics.....	5
14	State Adoption of Instructional Materials.....	6
15	Criteria for Evaluating Mathematics Instructional Materials for Kindergarten Through	
16	Grade Eight .....	7
17	Three Types of Programs.....	9
18	Basic Grade-Level Program.....	9
19	Algebra I and Mathematics I .....	9
20	Criteria for Materials and Tools Aligned with the Standards .....	9
21	Category 1: Mathematics Content/Alignment with the Standards.....	11
22	Category 2: Program Organization .....	12
23	Category 3: Assessment.....	13
24	Category 4: Access and Equity.....	14
25	Category 5: Instructional Planning and Support .....	15
26	Guidance for Instructional Materials for Grades Nine through Twelve.....	16
27	Social Content Review .....	18
28	Accessible Instructional Materials .....	18
29	Publishers’ and Content Developers’ Guide to the Mathematics Framework .....	19
30	Conclusion.....	24

31 **Introduction**

32 The California State Board of Education (SBE) has constitutional and statutory authority  
33 to adopt instructional materials for kindergarten through grade eight. *Education Code*  
34 (*EC*) sections 60200–60204 describe the process for the adoption of instructional  
35 materials for these grades and mandate that submitted materials be evaluated for  
36 consistency with adopted content standards and specific evaluation criteria approved by

37 the SBE. The evaluation criteria are updated with each content area adoption to ensure  
38 relevancy and are incorporated into the curriculum frameworks.

39 *EC* Section 60010(h) defines instructional materials as “all materials that are designed  
40 for use by pupils and their teachers as a learning resource and help pupils to acquire  
41 facts, skills, or opinions or to develop cognitive processes. Instructional materials may  
42 be printed or non-printed, and may include textbooks, technology-based materials, other  
43 educational materials, and tests.” The SBE traditionally adopts only basic instructional  
44 materials programs, for example, programs that are designed for use by pupils and their  
45 teachers as a principal learning resource and meet in organization and content the  
46 basic requirements of a full course of study—generally one school year in length.

47 Instructional materials that are adopted by the state help teachers to present and  
48 students to learn the content set forth in the *California Common Core State Standards*  
49 *for Mathematics with California Additions* (CA CCSSM), which include both the content  
50 standards and the standards for mathematical practice (SMPs). This document  
51 establishes the criteria for evaluating instructional materials for the current adoption and  
52 will help to inform future adoptions. It is the intent of the SBE that these criteria be seen  
53 as neutral on the format of instructional materials to ensure consideration of emerging  
54 technologies that incorporate digital and interactive online formats, and other innovative  
55 types of curriculum.

56 A local educational agency (LEA) may choose to use instructional materials that have  
57 not been adopted by the SBE, pursuant to *EC* Section 60210, so long as they are  
58 aligned to state standards and a majority of the participants of any review process  
59 conducted by the LEA are classroom teachers who are assigned to the subject area or  
60 grade level of the materials being reviewed.

## 61 **Intent and Purpose**

62 *Mathematics Framework Chapter 13: Instructional Materials to Support Equitable and*  
63 *Engaging Learning of the CA CCSSM* is intended to support publishers and content  
64 developers of instructional materials to serve California’s diverse student population.

65 Those publishers and content developers may choose to participate in the California  
66 SBE Instructional Materials Adoption process, and this chapter includes the criteria that  
67 will be used for that adoption review and evaluation. In addition, this chapter provides  
68 guidance for local districts on the adoption of instructional materials for students in  
69 grades nine through twelve, the social content review process, supplemental  
70 instructional materials, and accessible instructional materials.

71 The 10 years since the adoption of California’s first CCSS-aligned math framework has  
72 been a decade of technological advancements and innovations unimagined in 2013.  
73 Changes to instructional materials have been evolving at an equally rapid pace.  
74 Educators today deftly shift from paper to screen, book to video, discussion to chat. The  
75 global pandemic and the quick shift to remote learning accelerated the use of  
76 technology and digital tools to deepen student learning and strengthen student  
77 engagement in the classroom. Students today are digital natives—some even the  
78 children of digital natives—who mastered the use of tablets and devices even before  
79 they could walk. And we cannot imagine now what changes lie in the next 10 years with  
80 artificial intelligence heading toward becoming standard in education circles.

81 Instructional materials for mathematics—the field from which all technology springs—  
82 should reflect our twenty-first century world and best practices learned over the last  
83 decade of teaching the CA CCSSM. Classroom tools should be dynamic, adapting to  
84 our ever-changing world. Evaluations of materials should focus on what evidence shows  
85 about how best to teach the standards.

86 In the face of change, one thing remains constant: high-quality instructional resources  
87 help educators teach and students learn. This chapter on instructional materials differs  
88 from other chapters of the framework in audience and purpose. The primary audience of  
89 this chapter are the publishers and content developers of materials to support  
90 mathematics instruction, who will find information they need to participate in the SBE  
91 adoption process. A key difference between that guidance and the guidance for  
92 teachers and administrators throughout the other chapters of the framework is in  
93 addressing content and context. The publisher and content developers of instructional

94 materials provide the content to address standards, but they should remain aware of the  
95 context of the mathematics instruction that will occur using these materials as resources  
96 for teachers and students. Bridging the understanding between content and context,  
97 and developing instructional resources that provide guidance to teachers while allowing  
98 the flexibility necessary for supporting all students, will be critical in the implementation  
99 of the 2023 *Mathematics Framework*. For this reason, there is a Publisher Content  
100 Developer Guide to the Mathematics Framework section at the end of this chapter.

## 101 **Instructional Resources and Focus, Coherence, and Rigor in the** 102 **Common Core State Standards for Mathematics**

103 Instructional materials for mathematics in California should place a strong emphasis on  
104 students' engagement in mathematics in the ways described in the CA CCSSM (or the  
105 Standards). Built upon underlying and updated principles of focus, coherence, and rigor,  
106 the Standards hold the promise of enabling all California students to become powerful  
107 users of mathematics in order to better understand and positively impact the world—in  
108 their careers, in college, and in civic life. This promise is best realized when students  
109 are actively engaged in questioning, productive struggle, problem solving, reasoning,  
110 communicating, and explaining.

111 For this adoption, publishers and content developers of instructional resources should  
112 focus on the mathematical practices and provide guidance to teachers on impactful  
113 classroom instruction using the three principles of focus, coherence, and rigor, as  
114 embedded in the *Mathematics Framework*.

115 The principle of focus is closely tied to the goal of depth of understanding. The principle  
116 derives from a need to confront the mile-wide but inch-deep mathematics curriculum  
117 experienced by many. This framework's answer to the coverage-versus-depth challenge  
118 posed by the principle of focus is to lay out principles for instructional design that make  
119 the Standards achievable, including: (a) focus on Big Ideas; (b) use tasks worthy of  
120 student engagement; and (c) embed exercises in a larger context of investigation.

121 The challenge posed to curriculum designers by the principle of coherence is to avoid  
122 losing the forest for the trees. That is, discrete content standard mastery does not  
123 necessarily assemble in students' minds into a coherent big-picture view of  
124 mathematics. In other words, students do not arrive at conceptual understanding of  
125 mathematical ideas simply by performing procedural tasks. Instructional materials  
126 cannot match the contours of the Standards by approaching each individual content  
127 standard as a separate event. Nor can materials align to the Standards by  
128 approaching each individual grade as a separate event. The Standards are woven out  
129 of learning progressions, and maintaining these progressions in the implementation of  
130 the Standards is critical to help all students achieve higher level mathematics. This  
131 framework's answers to the challenge posed by the principle of coherence are to  
132 focus on: (a) Big Ideas; (b) progressions of learning across grades; (c) relevance to  
133 students' lives; and (d) high-quality first instruction.

134 Rigor refers to an integrated way in which conceptual understanding, strategies for  
135 problem-solving and computation, and applications are learned, so that each supports  
136 the other. The challenge posed by the principle of rigor is to provide all students with  
137 experiences that interweave concepts, problem-solving (including appropriate  
138 computation), and application, such that each supports the other. It is important the  
139 publishers and content developers fully understand the instructional shifts and how their  
140 choices of instructional strategies in the materials impacts teachers' and students' ability  
141 to access those shifts.

142 Instructional resources for mathematics include a variety of instructional materials—  
143 tools such as rods, cubes, tiles and building materials, rulers, protractors, graph paper,  
144 calculators, computers and technology such as online interactive content, interactive  
145 whiteboards and student-response devices. The term “instructional materials” is broadly  
146 defined to include textbooks, technology-based materials, other educational tools, and  
147 assessment instruments.

## 148 **State Adoption of Instructional Materials**

149 The California SBE adopts instructional materials for kindergarten through grade eight.

150 Under current state law, LEAs—school districts, charter schools, and county offices of  
151 education—are not required to purchase state-adopted instructional materials. The  
152 state-level adoption process determines whether a publisher’s or content developer’s  
153 program has fully addressed all grade-level content standards, as well as the other  
154 evaluation criteria, and is not an endorsement of a particular program. For the 2025  
155 mathematics adoption, the Standards are organized around the Big Ideas along the  
156 learning progressions, and should be addressed collectively, not individually.

157 LEAs have the authority and the responsibility to conduct their own evaluation of  
158 instructional materials and to adopt the materials that best meet the needs of their  
159 students. Additionally, there is no state-level adoption of programs for use by students  
160 in grades nine through twelve, however, Algebra I and Integrated Mathematics I  
161 (hereafter referred to as Mathematics I) are included in the kindergarten through grade  
162 eight adoption process. LEAs have the sole responsibility and authority to adopt  
163 additional instructional materials for grades nine through twelve.

164 The primary source of guidance for the selection of instructional materials is the  
165 following section *Criteria for Evaluating Mathematics Instructional Materials for*  
166 *Kindergarten Through Grade Eight* (Criteria). The Criteria section provides a  
167 comprehensive description of effective instructional programs that are aligned with the  
168 CA CCSSM and are consistent with the guidance in this framework. The Criteria will be  
169 the basis for the 2025 Adoption of Mathematics Instructional Materials and is also a  
170 useful tool for LEAs that conduct their own evaluations of instructional materials.

## 171 **Criteria for Evaluating Mathematics Instructional Materials** 172 **for Kindergarten Through Grade Eight**

173 Instructional materials that are adopted by the state help teachers to present, and  
174 students to learn, the content set forth in the CA CCSSM. This refers to both the content  
175 standards and the Standards for Mathematical Practice (SMPs), as revised pursuant to  
176 California *Education Code (EC)* Section 60605.11. To accomplish this purpose, this  
177 document establishes criteria for evaluating mathematics instructional materials for the

178 current adoption cycle, which adds greater emphasis to the SMPs. These criteria serve  
179 as evaluation guidelines for the statewide adoption of mathematics instructional  
180 materials for kindergarten through grade eight.

181 The Standards require focus, coherence, and rigor as defined above and discussed in  
182 more detail in chapter 1 of the *Mathematics Framework*, with development of the  
183 content standards and SMPs intertwined throughout. The Standards are organized by  
184 grade level in kindergarten through grade eight and by conceptual categories for higher  
185 mathematics. The standards for higher mathematics are organized in two ways—as  
186 model courses and in conceptual categories. Overall, the Standards do not dictate a  
187 singular approach to instructional resources—to the contrary, they provide opportunities  
188 to raise student achievement through innovation.

189 In addition to this Framework, there are a number of supportive and advisory  
190 documents that are available for publishers and content developers of instructional  
191 materials that define the depth of instruction necessary to support the focus, coherence,  
192 and rigor of the CCSSM. These documents include the *Progressions Documents for  
193 Common Core Math Standards* (available at  
194 <https://mathematicalmusings.org/2023/02/28/final-version-of-progressions/>) and Smarter  
195 Balanced Test Specifications (available at <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>).

196 The Progressions note key connections among standards within and between grades,  
197 point out cognitive difficulties and pedagogical solutions, and give more detail on  
198 particularly knotty areas of the mathematics. For example, they note connections  
199 between kindergarten through grade five Measurement and Data standards and  
200 standards for work with numbers (74). They give a side-by-side comparison of the  
201 standards for measurement of area in grades three and five and the measurement of  
202 volume in grades five and six (89). They display multiplication and division situations for  
203 equal groups, arrays, and comparisons (32), and analogous measurement situations  
204 (103).



## 205 **Three Types of Programs**

206 Three types of programs will be considered for adoption: basic grade-level for  
207 kindergarten through grade eight, Algebra I, and Mathematics I. Publishers and content  
208 developers may submit programs for one grade or any combination of grades. In  
209 addition, publishers and content developers may include intervention and acceleration  
210 components to support a range of learners.

### 211 **Basic Grade-Level Program**

212 The basic grade-level program is the comprehensive curriculum in mathematics for  
213 students in kindergarten through grade eight, or a subset of those grades. Such  
214 programs provide the foundation for instruction and are intended to ensure that all  
215 students master the CA CCSSM. Publishers and content developers may submit  
216 programs for one grade or any combination of grades.

### 217 **Algebra I and Mathematics I**

218 The content described in the CA CCSSM for kindergarten through grade eight provides  
219 the foundational knowledge for Algebra I or Mathematics I. The course content will be  
220 consistent with its high school counterpart and will articulate with the subsequent  
221 courses in the sequence. Furthermore, materials for Algebra or Mathematics I might be  
222 offered separately or as part of a sequence (e.g., a three-year sequence for middle  
223 grade mathematics that uses the CA CCSSM grades six, seven, and eight blueprint,  
224 leaving Algebra or Mathematics I as a separate course; or a three-year sequence that  
225 incorporates the content for CA CCSSM grades six, seven, and eight with Algebra I or  
226 Mathematics I in a more coherent approach).

## 227 **Criteria for Materials and Tools Aligned with the Standards**

228 The criteria for the evaluation of mathematics instructional resources for kindergarten  
229 through grade eight are organized into five categories:

- 230 1. **Mathematics Content/Alignment with the Standards.** CA CCSSM content  
231 standards, practice standards, and sequence of the mathematics program  
232 provide structure for what students should learn at each grade level.

- 233           2. **Program Organization.** Instructional materials support instruction and  
234           learning of the Standards, demonstrating how they are grouped around bigger  
235           ideas in ways that support coherence and include the instructional guidance  
236           features deemed necessary for successful implementation of the program.  
237           (These features may include chapter overviews, glossaries, etc.).
- 238           3. **Assessment.** A variety of assessment strategies, as defined in chapter 12,  
239           are presented in the instructional materials for measuring what students know  
240           and are able to do, and guide next steps for teachers.
- 241           4. **Access and Equity.** Access to the standards-based curriculum for all  
242           students with supports for those with language and learning differences.
- 243           5. **Instructional Planning and Support.** Coherent guidelines for teachers to  
244           follow when planning to provide effective standards-based instruction and  
245           guidance to help teachers provide instruction that ensures opportunities for all  
246           students.

247 Mathematics materials should support teaching to the CA CCSSM as further interpreted  
248 through this curriculum framework. To be eligible for adoption, programs must include a  
249 well-defined sequence of instructional opportunities that provides a path for all students  
250 to become proficient in the standards. While the following are the specified criteria for  
251 categories 1–5, the State recognizes that advances in technology, as well as the  
252 multiple pathways for student proficiency in the Standards, allow for production of  
253 mathematics materials in many different forms that will support instruction and learning  
254 of mathematics that will meet the criteria set forth below.

255 Materials that fail to meet all of the criteria in category 1 (Mathematics  
256 Content/Alignment with the Standards) will not be considered suitable for adoption. The  
257 criteria for category 1 must be met in the core materials or via the primary means of  
258 instruction, rather than in ancillary components. In addition, programs must have  
259 strengths in each of categories 2 through 5 to be suitable for adoption.

260 **Category 1: Mathematics Content/Alignment with the Standards**

261 Mathematics materials should support teaching to the CA CCSSM as further interpreted  
262 through this curriculum framework. To be eligible for adoption, programs must include a  
263 well-defined sequence of instructional opportunities that provides a path for all students  
264 to become proficient in the standards.

265 All programs must include the following features:

- 266 1. Instructional materials, as defined in *EC* Section 60010(h), must be aligned to the  
267 CA CCSSM Content Standards and SMPs, adopted by the SBE in August 2010  
268 and modified in January 2013.
- 269 2. Instructional materials must be consistent with the content of the 2023  
270 *Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through*  
271 *Grade Twelve (Mathematics Framework)*, and the depth of understanding of  
272 mathematics and mathematics instruction as described in the Publishers' and  
273 Content Developers' Guide to the *Mathematics Framework* section in this  
274 chapter. Materials develop conceptual understanding of key mathematical  
275 concepts and offer engaging applications of the mathematics, using real-world  
276 examples and data as a means to spark inquiry and apply mathematical  
277 concepts.
- 278 3. Instructional materials shall be accurate and use proper grammar and spelling  
279 (*EC* Section 60045).
- 280 4. Instructional materials include instructional content based on the California  
281 Environmental Principles and Concepts developed by the California  
282 Environmental Protection Agency and adopted by the SBE (*Public Resources*  
283 *Code* Section 71301) where practicable and aligned to the guidance in the  
284 *Mathematics Framework*.

## 285 **Category 2: Program Organization**

286 The organization and features of the instructional materials support instruction and  
287 learning of mathematics. Instructional materials must have strengths in these areas to  
288 be considered suitable for adoption:

- 289 1. The instructional materials are consistent with the progressions in the Standards  
290 and guidance in this curriculum framework for relating content to the concepts of  
291 the Big Ideas in previous and future grades, and fully integrate content into  
292 strategically designed opportunities for students to use the mathematical  
293 practices. Further information regarding the Big Ideas of mathematics may be  
294 found in the Publishers' and Content Developers' Guide to the *Mathematics*  
295 *Framework* Section in this chapter.
- 296 2. In each grade in the kindergarten through grade eight sequence, the instructional  
297 materials are designed for students and teachers to spend the large majority of  
298 their time on mathematical investigations that address the Big Ideas of that  
299 grade, as described above, and in the grade band chapters of the *Mathematics*  
300 *Framework*.
- 301 3. Materials drawn from other subject-matter areas are consistent with the currently  
302 adopted California standards at the appropriate grade level, including the  
303 *California Career Technical Education Model Curriculum Standards* where  
304 applicable.
- 305 4. Intervention components, if included, are designed to help teachers respond to  
306 students' progress in mathematics, with opportunities to reclaim missed concepts  
307 from prior grades, to give growth mindset messages and communicate that all  
308 students can be successful and to give students access to rich, connected ideas,  
309 helping them to develop number flexibility as defined in the *Mathematics*  
310 *Framework*.
- 311 5. Instructional materials include supporting activities that provide students  
312 opportunities to access grade-level mathematics and reason mathematically in  
313 age-appropriate contexts, with scaffolds that provide needed foundations or  
314 expand depth to provide additional challenges targeted to deeper understanding.

- 315 6. Teacher and student materials contain an overview of the chapters or units,  
316 clearly identify the target mathematical concepts and practices, and include clear  
317 organizers. These may include tables of contents, indexes, glossaries that clarify  
318 important mathematical terms, and/or their technology-based resource  
319 equivalents.
- 320 7. The grade-level standards, Big Ideas, and the SMPs shall be explicitly stated in  
321 the student editions demonstrating alignment with student lessons.
- 322 8. The instructional materials shall include content, including assessments and all  
323 instruction-related activities, for the equivalent of instruction to address a full  
324 school year in each grade.
- 325 9. A list of the CA CCSSM, organized around and within the major concepts, is  
326 included in the teacher guidance, together with page-number citations or other  
327 references that demonstrate alignment with the content standards and SMPs.

### 328 **Category 3: Assessment**

329 Instructional materials should contain strategies and tools for continually assessing  
330 student understanding and opportunities for new learning. Instructional materials in  
331 mathematics must have strengths in these areas to be considered suitable for adoption:

- 332 1. Student and teacher materials include formative assessments to provide multiple  
333 methods to assess student understanding to inform instruction, such as graphic  
334 organizers, student observation, student interviews, journals and learning logs,  
335 mathematics portfolios, self- and peer evaluations, tests and quizzes, self-  
336 reflection, and performance tasks.
- 337 2. Student and teacher materials include summative assessments to provide  
338 multiple methods of assessing what students have learned and are able to do,  
339 such as selected response, constructed response, real-world problems,  
340 performance tasks, rubrics, and open-ended questions.
- 341 3. Assessments integrate mathematics content and the language needed to  
342 participate in the Standards for Mathematical Practice.

- 343 4. Teacher materials include suggestions on the use of assessment data to guide  
344 decisions about instructional practices, and on ways to modify instruction so that  
345 all students are consistently progressing toward meeting or exceeding the  
346 standards.
- 347 5. At each grade level, instructional materials provide assessment practices (e.g.,  
348 entry-level, diagnostic, formative, interim, skill-based, and summative) necessary  
349 to prepare all students for success in higher mathematics instruction.
- 350 6. Teacher and student materials include curriculum-embedded assessments that  
351 permit teachers to scaffold student learning. Teacher materials should also  
352 provide guidance for diagnostic feedback.

#### 353 **Category 4: Access and Equity**

354 Resources should incorporate recognized principles, concepts, and research-based  
355 strategies to meet the needs of all students and provide equal access to learning  
356 through lessons that are relevant to the students. Instructional resources should include  
357 suggestions for teachers on how to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all  
358 students. In particular, instructional resources should provide guidance to support  
359 students who are English learners, at-risk, advanced learners, and students with  
360 learning disabilities. Instructional resources must have strengths in these areas to be  
361 considered for adoption:

- 362 1. Instructional materials include resources for specific student populations that  
363 would benefit from supports such as, but not limited to, culturally responsive  
364 materials for English learner and other linguistically and culturally diverse  
365 students; strategies that reflect Universal Designs for Learning; and scaffolds that  
366 allow for work along the learning progressions in response to student needs.
- 367 2. Student materials are appropriate for use with a wide range of learners.
- 368 3. Teacher materials include comprehensive teacher guidance and differentiation  
369 strategies that are tied to the *Mathematics Framework*, based on current and  
370 confirmed research, to adapt the curriculum to meet students' identified special  
371 needs and to provide effective, efficient instruction for all students.

- 372 4. Teacher materials include strategies for students who are English learners that  
373 are consistent with the *California English Language Development Standards:*  
374 *Kindergarten Through Grade 12* adopted under EC Section 60811. In addition,  
375 the resource *Improving Education for Multilingual and English Learner Students:*  
376 *Research to Practice* contains a wealth of guidance, resources, and tools for  
377 helping schools better meet the needs of multilingual and English learner  
378 students (CDE, 2020).
- 379 5. Teacher materials include strategies to help students who have not yet achieved  
380 grade level proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening in academic  
381 English to understand the mathematics content and practices that are tied to the  
382 *Mathematics Framework*.
- 383 6. Suggestions for advanced learners that are tied to the *Mathematics Framework*  
384 and that allow students to study grade-level content in greater depth.
- 385 7. The visual design of the materials does not distract from the mathematics, but  
386 instead serves to support students in engaging thoughtfully with the subject.

## 387 **Category 5: Instructional Planning and Support**

388 Instructional materials must contain a clear road map to assist teachers when planning  
389 instruction for the specific needs and context of their students. The instructional  
390 resources should support Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and culturally and  
391 linguistically responsive instruction to improve and optimize teaching and make learning  
392 more equitable for all people based on scientific insights into how humans learn.  
393 Instructional materials in mathematics should have strengths in many of these areas to  
394 be considered suitable for adoption:

- 395 1. A teacher’s edition that explains the role of the grade-level mathematics  
396 concepts in the context of the overall mathematics curriculum for kindergarten  
397 through grade twelve.
- 398 2. Materials provide teacher guidance that includes annotations and suggestions  
399 for how to utilize and implement the student and ancillary materials, with specific  
400 attention to engaging students to guide their mathematical development.

- 401 3. Unit and/or lesson plans, including suggestions for organizing resources in the  
402 classroom and ideas for pacing or scope and sequence of instruction.
- 403 4. A curriculum guide for the academic instructional year.
- 404 5. Answer keys for any workbooks, quizzes, or other related student activities,  
405 where appropriate.
- 406 6. Materials make use of concrete representations, including manipulatives,  
407 audiovisual, multimedia, and interactive technology resources that support  
408 instruction of the CA CCSSM, and include clear instructions in their use for  
409 teachers and students. Where materials integrate technology – such as  
410 interactive tools, virtual manipulatives/objects, and / or dynamic mathematics  
411 software – they do so in ways that engage students in applying the standards.
- 412 7. Optional homework activities, if included, should extend and reinforce classroom  
413 instruction and provide additional practice of mathematical content, practices,  
414 and applications that have been taught.
- 415 8. Materials provide examples of student work and representation of possible  
416 student strategies to orient teachers to student thinking and help teachers elicit,  
417 make sense of, and respond to student thinking.
- 418 9. Specific strategies to support students in developing the language skills needed  
419 to meet the mathematical learning and language objectives that are explicitly  
420 and clearly associated with instruction and assessment.
- 421 10. Teacher guidance that contains explanations and examples of mathematics  
422 concepts.

423 **Guidance for Instructional Materials for Grades Nine through**  
424 **Twelve**

425 The Criteria document (above) is intended to guide publishers and content developers  
426 in the development of instructional materials for students in kindergarten through grade  
427 eight. It also provides guidance for selection of instructional materials for students in  
428 grades nine through twelve. The five categories in the Criteria document are an  
429 appropriate lens through which to view any instructional materials a district or school is  
430 considering purchasing. Additional guidance for evaluating instructional materials for



431 grades nine through twelve is provided in the *High School Publishers' Criteria for the*  
432 *Common Core State Standards for Mathematics* (NGA/CCSSO, 2013).

433 The process of selecting instructional materials at the district or school level usually  
434 begins with the appointment of a committee of educators, including teachers and  
435 curriculum specialists, and possibly students, who determine what instructional  
436 materials are needed, develop evaluation criteria and rubrics for reviewing materials,  
437 and establish a review process that involves teachers and content-area experts on  
438 review committees. After the review committee develops a list of instructional materials  
439 that are being considered for adoption, the next step is to pilot the instructional  
440 materials. An effective piloting process helps determine if the materials provide teachers  
441 with the resources necessary to implement an instructional program based on the CA  
442 CCSSM. One resource on piloting is the SBE policy document "Guidelines for Piloting  
443 Textbooks and Instructional Materials," which is available through the California  
444 Department of Education (CDE) (CDE, 2015).

445 Selection of instructional materials at the local level is a time-consuming but very  
446 important process. Poor instructional materials that are not fully aligned with the  
447 principles of focus, coherence, and rigor as defined in the 2023 *Mathematics*  
448 *Framework* and the CA CCSSM waste precious instructional time. High-quality  
449 instructional materials support effective instruction and student learning of concepts,  
450 mathematical practices, and language needed to express them.

## 451 **Social Content Review**

452 To ensure that instructional materials reflect California’s diverse society, avoid  
453 stereotyping, and contribute to a positive learning environment, instructional materials  
454 used in California public schools must comply with the state laws and regulations that  
455 involve social content. Instructional materials must conform to *Education Code* sections  
456 60040–60045, as well as the SBE’s *Standards for Evaluating Instructional Materials for*  
457 *Social Content* (CDE, 2013). Instructional materials that are adopted by the SBE meet  
458 the social content requirements. The CDE conducts social content reviews of a range of  
459 instructional materials and maintains a searchable database of the materials that meet  
460 these social content requirements (CDE, n.d.a).

461 If an LEA intends to purchase instructional materials that have not been adopted by the  
462 state or are not included on the list of instructional materials that meet the social content  
463 requirements maintained by the CDE, then the LEA must complete its own social  
464 content review. Information about the review process is posted on the CDE’s Social  
465 Content Review web page (CDE, 2013).

## 466 **Accessible Instructional Materials**

467 The CDE’s Clearinghouse for Specialized Media and Technology (CSMT) provides  
468 instructional resources in accessible and meaningful formats to students with learning  
469 differences and identified disabilities, including students who have hearing or vision  
470 impairments, severe orthopedic impairments, or other print disabilities. The CSMT  
471 produces accessible versions of textbooks, workbooks, literature books, and  
472 assessment books. Specialized instructional materials include braille, large print, audio  
473 recordings, digital talking books, electronic files, and American Sign Language video  
474 books. Local assistance funds finance the conversion and production of these  
475 specialized materials. The distribution of various specialized media to public schools  
476 provides general education curricula to students with disabilities. Information about  
477 accessible instructional materials and other resources, including what is available and  
478 how to order, is posted on the CSMT’s Media Ordering Guide page (CDE, n.d.b).

479 **Publishers’ and Content Developers’ Guide to the**  
480 **Mathematics Framework**

481 To address the needs of California educators in 2023, the *Mathematics Framework*  
482 includes several new emphases and types of chapters. Instead of two separate  
483 chapters, one on instruction and one on access, a single chapter, *Chapter Two:*  
484 *Teaching for Equity and Engagement*, promotes instruction that fosters equitable  
485 learning experiences for all children, and challenges the deeply-entrenched policies and  
486 practices that lead to inequitable outcomes. Good teaching leads to equitable and  
487 higher outcomes. Instruction and equity come together to create instructional designs  
488 that bring about equitable outcomes. The commitment to equity extends throughout the  
489 framework and every chapter considers the ways in which equity may be brought about.  
490 Publishers and content developers should consider the lens of equity as discussed in  
491 the *Mathematics Framework* when developing lessons and units for instructional  
492 materials.

493 Students at all levels learn best when they are actively engaged in questioning,  
494 struggling, problem solving, reasoning, communicating, and explaining. Powerful  
495 mathematics classrooms require students to have a sense of agency (a willingness to  
496 engage in the discipline, based in a belief in progress through engagement) and an  
497 understanding that the intellectual authority in mathematics rests in mathematical  
498 reasoning itself (in other words, that mathematics makes sense) These factors support  
499 students’ development of their own identities as powerful math learners and users.  
500 Further, active-learning experiences enable students to engage in a full range of  
501 mathematical activity—exploring, noticing, questioning, solving, justifying, explaining—  
502 making clear that mathematics is far more than calculating. Homework activities allow  
503 students to reflect on the concepts learned that day. Publishers and content developers  
504 should consider this research when developing activities for lessons and units.

505 Three concepts of instructional resources that will be critical for publishers and content  
506 developers as they develop materials are content coverage, content depth, and content  
507 delivery. Content coverage refers to alignment to the mathematics standards, including  
508 the SMPs. Content depth refers to the ability of the materials to be used by teachers to

509 provide instruction for a deep understanding of the mathematical practices and  
510 application of mathematics, focusing on the Big Ideas and learning progressions.  
511 Content delivery refers to the guidance to teachers on how to provide high-quality  
512 mathematics instruction within the specific instructional pedagogy, scope and sequence  
513 of the materials.

514 The *Mathematics Framework* addresses the challenge posed by the principle of  
515 coherence through the shifts of Big Ideas, progressions across grades (thus, grade-  
516 band chapters rather than individual grade chapters), and relevance to students' lives. A  
517 big idea is characterized by including connected mathematical content and a driver for  
518 investigation—*it is the combination of content and investigation that makes content*  
519 *meaningful and important.*

520 The four content connections described in the framework organize content and provide  
521 mathematical coherence through the grades:

- 522 • CC1 Reasoning with Data
- 523 • CC2 Exploring Changing Quantities
- 524 • CC3 Taking Wholes Apart, Putting Parts Together
- 525 • CC4 Discovering Shape and Space

526 These content connections should be developed through investigation of questions in  
527 authentic contexts; these investigations will naturally fall into one or more of these  
528 Drivers of Investigation:

- 529 • DI1: Making Sense of the World (Understand and Explain)
- 530 • DI2: Predicting What Could Happen (Predict)
- 531 • DI3: Impacting the Future (Affect)

532 Big ideas that drive design of instructional activities will link one or more content  
533 connections with a driver of investigation, such as Communicating Stories with Data to  
534 Predict What Could Happen, or Exploring Changing Quantities to Impact the Future.  
535 Instructional materials should primarily involve tasks that invite students to make sense  
536 of these Big Ideas, elicit wondering in authentic contexts, and necessitate mathematics.

537 Big ideas in math are central to the learning of mathematics, link numerous  
538 mathematical understandings into a coherent whole, and provide focal points for  
539 students' investigations. An authentic activity or problem is one in which students  
540 investigate or struggle with situations or questions about which they actually wonder.  
541 Lesson design should be built to elicit that wondering. An activity or task necessitates a  
542 mathematical idea or strategy if the attempt to understand the situation or task creates  
543 for students a need to learn or use the mathematical idea or strategy.

544 Publishers and content developers should consider UDL when developing lessons and  
545 activities in their materials. It is critical for publishers and content developers to  
546 understand that UDL is a framework for instructional planning for all students and not an  
547 intervention strategy to be employed for special populations.

548 Any intervention strategies included in the instructional program should be aligned to  
549 the CA CCSSM.

550 Publishers and content developers should consider the following terms and their  
551 application to mathematics when developing instructional materials:

552 Big Idea: Big ideas in math are central to the learning of mathematics, link numerous  
553 math understandings into a coherent whole, and provide focal points for students'  
554 investigations. So a focused set of big ideas, indicated as Big Ideas, was created as  
555 part of the California Digital Learning Integration and Standards Guidance initiative  
556 (CDE, 2021). These grade level Big Ideas, organized by Content Connections, and  
557 inclusive of multiple CA CCSSM content standards, are presented in the grade-banded  
558 chapters, 6, 7, and 8.

559 Authentic: An authentic context, activity, or problem is one in which students investigate  
560 or struggle with situations or questions about which they actually wonder. Lesson  
561 design should be built to elicit that wondering. In contrast, an activity is inauthentic if  
562 students recognize it as a straightforward practice of recently-learned techniques or  
563 procedures, including the repackaging of standard exercises in forced "real-world"  
564 contexts. Mathematical patterns and puzzles can be more authentic than such "real-

565 world” settings.

566 Necessitate: An activity or task necessitates a mathematical idea or strategy if the  
567 attempt to understand the situation or task creates for students a need to understand or  
568 use the mathematical idea or strategy.

569 Instructional Practice: The shifts in the *Mathematics Framework*, and subsequent  
570 professional learning opportunities for implementation, will focus on the instructional  
571 practices of teachers. Many teachers have experienced mathematics as a set of  
572 procedures to be memorized, so it is critical that they receive opportunities to  
573 experience mathematics differently themselves. When teachers work on rich  
574 mathematics tasks, through which they can ask their own questions, reason and  
575 communicate with others, develop curiosity and wonder, they start to see mathematical  
576 connections that they may never have seen before. This often prompts teachers to  
577 change their relationship with mathematics, which is an important precursor to changing  
578 their teaching.

579 Integrated: The type of integration outlined here (implementing the content standards  
580 laid out in the CA CCSSM) emphasizes both aspects of integration described in chapter  
581 2: opportunities for forming connections between mathematics and students’  
582 experiences, and opportunities to connect different mathematical ideas. In keeping with  
583 the thrust of this framework, curriculum and instruction should take both of these into  
584 account. As further motivation for integration, NCTM has called for classroom instruction  
585 to rely upon reasoning and sense making in an integral way, every day (NCTM, 2009).  
586 In order for students to engage in reasoning and sense-making about mathematics,  
587 explicit attention to the language needed to do so must be built into the teacher and  
588 student materials (see Moschkovich, 2012). Since mathematical competence has been  
589 shown to be dependent upon reasoning and sense-making (National Research Council,  
590 2001), curriculum is needed that provides rich opportunities for students to practice  
591 reasoning and sense-making in authentic situations.

592 The *Mathematics Framework*, chapter 4, focuses on key ideas that bring the SMPs to  
593 life. The focus is on three interrelated practices: constructing viable arguments and

594 critiquing the reasoning of others; looking for and making use of structure; and looking  
595 for and expressing regularity in repeated reasoning. By considering these practices  
596 together when developing resources, instructional materials can offer the foundations of  
597 classroom experiences that center exploring, discovering, and reasoning with and about  
598 mathematics. This vision for teaching and learning mathematics comes out of a several  
599 decades-long national push in mathematics education to pay more attention to  
600 supporting kindergarten through grade twelve students in becoming powerful users of  
601 mathematics to help make sense of their world. Throughout the chapter, the framework  
602 explores the practices across the elementary, middle, and high school grade bands.  
603 The framework emphasizes students' progression in socializing into the mathematical  
604 practices, including some ways in which contexts for learning and doing mathematics  
605 and the practices themselves might evolve over the grades.

606 Across the grades, students use everyday contexts and examples in order to explore,  
607 discover, and reason with and about mathematics. At the early grades, everyday  
608 contexts might come from familiar activities that children engage in at home, at school  
609 and within their community. These contexts might include imagined play or familiar  
610 celebrations with friends, siblings, or cousins; and familiar places such as a park,  
611 playground, zoo, or school itself. As teachers get to know their students and their  
612 students' communities, the contexts that matter to young children come to the fore.

613 In the middle grades, the contexts that are relevant to students continue to include, but  
614 increasingly go beyond, local everyday activities and interactions. Middle-school  
615 students might begin to explore publicly available datasets on current events of interest,  
616 use familiar digital tools to explore the mathematics around them, and explore  
617 mathematical topics within everyday contexts like purchasing snacks with friends,  
618 playing or watching sports, or saving money. By high school, students have available a  
619 wide array of contexts to explore, increasingly understanding society and the world  
620 around them through explorations in data, number, and space.

621 As noted in the CA CCSSM, the SMPs remain the same across the entirety of  
622 kindergarten through grade twelve. They develop in relation to progressions in

623 mathematics content. At the elementary level, students work with numbers with which  
624 they are currently familiar, and begin to explore the structure of place value, patterns in  
625 our base-ten number system (such as even and odd numbers), and mathematical  
626 relationships (such as different ways to decompose numbers or relationships between  
627 addition and multiplication). Through these explorations, young students conjecture,  
628 explain, express agreement and disagreement, and come to make sense of data,  
629 number, and shapes.

630 Students in middle school build on these early experiences to deepen their interactions  
631 with mathematics and with others as they do mathematics together. During the  
632 elementary grades, students typically draw on contexts and on concrete manipulatives  
633 and representations in order to engage in mathematical reasoning and argumentation.  
634 At the middle school level, students continue to reason with such concrete referents,  
635 and also begin to draw on symbolic representations (such as expressions and  
636 equations), graphs, and other representations which have become familiar enough that  
637 students experience them as concrete. Middle-school students deepen their  
638 opportunities for sense-making as they move into ratios and proportional relationships,  
639 expressions and equations, geometric reasoning, and data.

640 By high school, students continue to build on earlier experiences as they make sense of  
641 functions and ways of representing functions, relationships between geometric objects  
642 and their parts, and data arising in contexts of interest. As students build on years of  
643 making sense of and communicating about mathematics with one another and the  
644 teacher, the same practices that cut across transitional kindergarten through grade  
645 twelve emerge at developmentally and mathematically appropriate levels.

## 646 **Conclusion**

647 Instructional materials that are adopted by California help teachers to present and  
648 students to learn the content and practices set forth in the CA CCSSM. As publishers  
649 develop these materials, the three critical concepts to keep in mind are content  
650 coverage, content depth, and content delivery. In keeping with this framework, materials  
651 should strongly emphasize student engagement and provide the foundation for



652 classroom experiences that center exploring, discovering, and reasoning with and about  
653 mathematics. Materials should also provide guidance to teachers on impactful  
654 classroom instruction, using the principles of focus, coherence, and rigor, as embedded  
655 in this framework.

656 This chapter has spelled out the criteria the state will use when evaluating materials for  
657 adoption. Of particular importance is attending to this framework's lens of equity when  
658 developing lessons and units to serve California's diverse student population.

California Department of Education, October 2023