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# COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS INITIATIVE

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# Overview of the Initiative

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- State-led and developed common core standards for K-12 in English language arts and math that can be adopted by states
- To maintain the integrity of the common core, ongoing and regular revisions and adjustments will be necessary
- [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org)

# Why is this important now?



- Disparate standards across states
- States are ready and able for collective action
- Global competition
- Today's jobs require different skills
- Supportive political climate

## Why is this good for students, educators, & states?



- Prepares students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in college and careers
- Ensures consistent expectations regardless of student's zip code
- Provides educators clear, focused guideposts
- Offers economies of scale

What momentum is there for the initiative?



- 48 states and 3 territories have signed on to the Common Core State Standards Initiative process

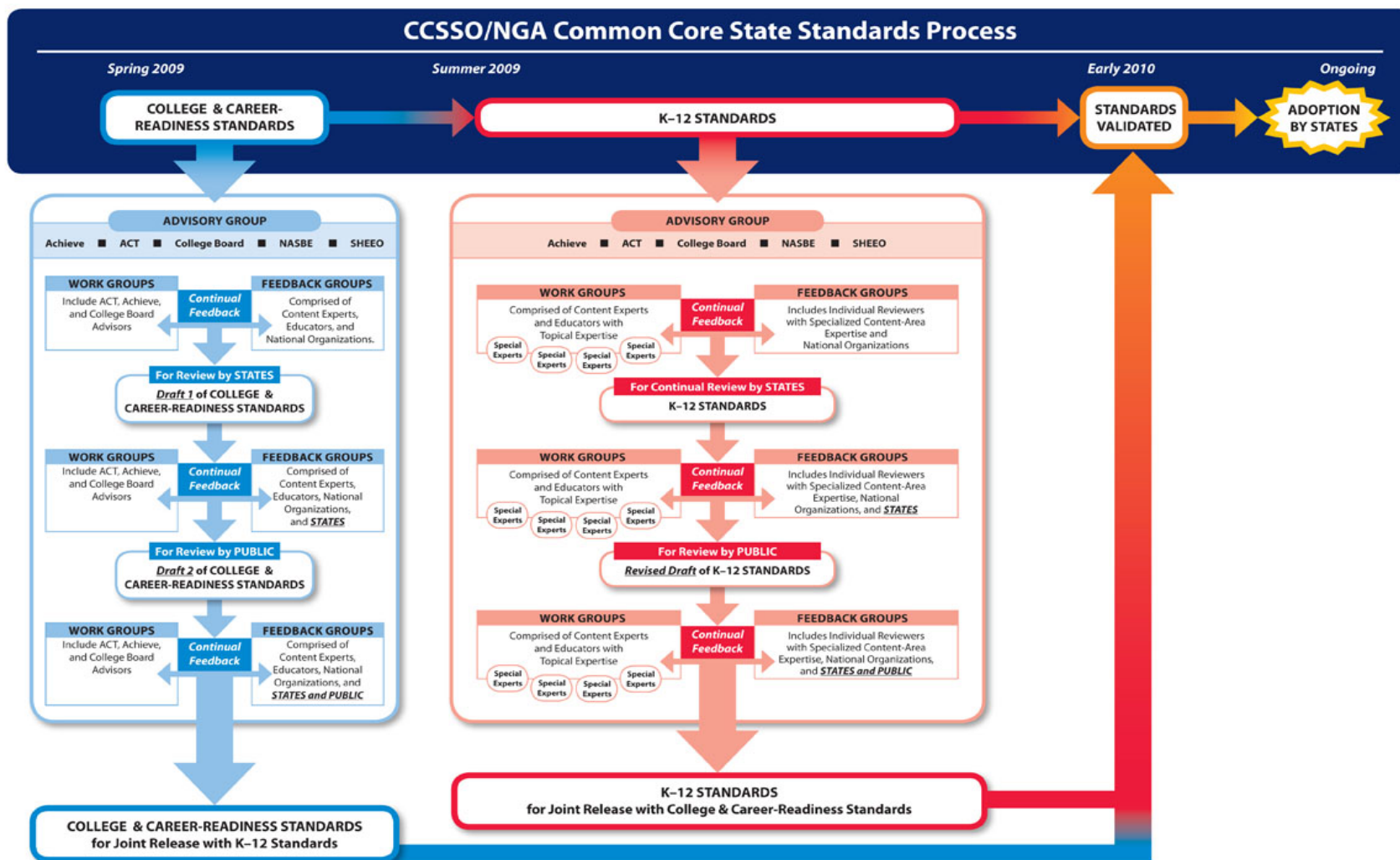
# Overview: Standards Criteria

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- Fewer, clearer, and higher
- Aligned with college and work expectations
- Include rigorous content *and* application of knowledge through high-order skills
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards
- Internationally benchmarked, so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society
- Must be evidence and/or research based

# Process Overview

<http://www.corestandards.org/Files/CCSSIProcess.pdf>



# College- and Career-Readiness Standards

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- Purpose of college- and career-readiness standards
- Definition of college- and career-readiness
- Public comment received and considered by work group for final version of the standards
  - Summary document available at <http://www.corestandards.org/Files/CorePublicFeedback.pdf>

# K-12 Standards

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- **Development**
  - Parallel structure to the college- and career-readiness standards development process
  - Extensive feedback from states and national organizations representing educators and content experts
- **Timeline**
  - Second round of state feedback underway now
  - Public comment period slated to begin in early February

# Definition of Adoption

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- 100% of the common core K-12 standards in ELA and mathematics to be adopted within 3 years
- Adoption of the common core either in its entirety or in its entirety with up to an additional 15% added (“85% rule”)
- A state will have adopted when the standards authorizing body within the state has taken formal action to adopt and implement the common core.
- States are responsible for demonstrating that they have adhered to this definition of adoption.

# Common Standards - The First Step

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The common core state standards are the first step in transforming our education system. For real systemic change to occur:

- Educators must be given resources, tools, and time to adjust classroom practice.
- Instructional materials need to be developed that align to the standards.
- Assessments must be developed to measure student progress.
- Federal, state, and district policies will need to be reexamined to ensure they support alignment of the common core state standards with student achievement.

## How can this help change what happens in the classroom?



- Educators will have more time to focus on depth of understanding and richer units of study.
- Provides the opportunity for educators to tailor curricula and teaching methods to help all children reach the standards.
- Allows for more targeted, useful pre-service and professional development

# Discussion, Comments & Questions