

Geography Education National Implementation Project: Colorado

Number of Teachers: 53,179

Number of Social Studies Teachers: 2,459

I. Teacher Preparation

What is the name of the state educator examination program?	Praxis and Place
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A. Geography and Social Studies Teacher Licensure Requirements

Question 4: Is a social studies examination required for social studies licensure?	
a. K-5 Grades	Yes
b. 6-8 Grades	Yes
c. 7-12 th Grades	Yes
d. Other	Elementary in Colorado is a separate endorsement, 24 hour course content in social studies is required.

Question 5: Is Geography part of the social studies requirement?	
a. K-5 Grades	No
b. 6-8 Grades	Yes, some geography is included in the social studies requirement
c. 7-12 th Grades	Yes, some geography is included in the social studies requirement

Question 6: Is a stand-alone geography content examination required for social studies licensure?	
a. K-5 Grades	No
b. 6-8 Grades	No
c. 7-12 th Grades	No

Question 7: Is there a stand-alone geography content examination required for geography only licensure?	
a. K-5 Grades	No
b. 6-8 Grades	No
c. 7-12 th Grades	No

Question 8: What is the minimum number of geography courses a pre-service teacher must take during their educator preparation program?	
a. K-5 Grades	None
b. 6-8 Grades	3-5 courses
c. 7-12 th Grades	3-5 courses
d. Other	Elementary in Colorado is a multi-subject endorsement

Question 9: Additional information about how teachers become certified in your state?	www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof
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B. Professional Development

Question 10: Can in service teachers receive certification credit for professional development courses or programs in geography?	Only if related to content area
Question 11: Does the state education agency (SEA) provide professional development in geography?	Unknown

II. Curriculum

Question 15: What is the name of the state standards?	Colorado Academic Standards
Question 16: How are the state standards presented by grade level?	State standards are presented by individual grade levels
Question 17: When were the standards last revised?	7-10 years
Question 18: Are there plans for revision to the state standards?	Within 5 years
Question 19: Is geography included in the state standards?	Yes
Question 20: How are the geography standards organized?	Geography standards are organized by strand
Question 21: What framework and/or documents were used?	A. Geography for Life (1994) B. Five Themes in Geography C. Other states' standards

Question 22: What general topics are included?

- A. Spatial Thinking and/or Mental Maps
- B. Mapping (map projections, use of maps)
- C. Human-environment interaction
- D. Places and/or regions
- E. Culture
- F. Geopolitics
- G. Population and Settlements
- H. Movement of people, goods and/or ideas
- I. Uses of geography and/or careers in geography
- J. Learning about geospatial technologies
- K. Using geospatial technologies

Question 23: What is the total number of credit hours required for high school graduation?	Unknown
Question 24: What is the total number of social studies credit hours required for high school graduation?	0.5 credit hours
Question 25: What is the total number of geography credit hours required for high school graduation?	None

Question 26: What geography courses will students typically experience?	
a. K-5 Grades	Varies locally
b. 6-8 Grades	Varies locally
c. 7-12 th Grades	Varies locally

Question 26a: What is the name of the courses?

- A. Geography and World History
- B. Advanced Placement Human Geography

III. Student Assessment

Question 28: What is the name of the K-12 assessments in your state?	Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS)
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Question 29: Is a social studies exam required during K-12?	
a. K-5 Grades	No data
b. 6-8 Grades	No data
c. 9-12 th Grades	No data

Question 30: Is geography part of the statewide social studies exam?	
a. K-5 Grades	Yes
b. 6-8 Grades	Yes
c. 9-12 th Grades	Yes

Question 31: Are there any plans for revising the social studies assessment?	No revision planned
Question 32: Are student results on the state social studies exam used for teacher evaluation?	Local issue

Disclaimer: Data for this state was collected from public state education websites and through a survey to state education officers or other educators. Education data for each state changes almost yearly depending on enrollments, adoption cycles for standards, K-12 assessment requirements, and state certification requirements for teacher education. This data represents a snapshot for this state, but may not contain the most recent data. It represents the clearest snapshot of geography’s role within K-12 education during 2015-2016.