This summer, join educators from across the country for an intensive and transformative learning experience designed to improve, develop and sustain instructional excellence. Come with a team from your school, district or network and study how the standards, content and systems can improve the performance of struggling students.

New for this summer: we now offer the next series of learning sessions to deepen understanding of instructional excellence and effective implementation for returning participants. To attend these sessions, you must have attended a prior Institute.

“Last July I came to the Standards Institute for the challenge. And it was amazing – it was everything I hoped would be. I attended the training again last winter and brought with me 13 team members, including coaches and school improvement specialists. I wanted to get them engrained in this critical knowledge through Institute - because you are drenched, you are immersed in the material during the entire week. And there are so many experts and a wealth of knowledge surrounding you.... Even when you find yourself struggling in a space, you have so many people who can help and will bring you to a level of understanding.”

– District Administrator, Arkansas
First-time Participants

Mathematics Pathway

Understanding the Mathematics Standards and Their Shifts. Study the mathematical shifts of focus, coherence and rigor through the examination of standards-aligned tasks and activities to better understand the structure of the standards as well as their language and meaning. Gain a deeper understanding of prioritized content and analyze the ideas of coherence within and across grades, with a focus on identifying prerequisite standards. Examine conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and their application, and explore why rigor is critical within the context of instruction, curriculum, and student work. Examine how the shifts impact the practice of teachers and coaches.

Instructional Practice. Come to understand how students engage with the math content and practice standards and describe the connections between them. Study the Instructional Practice Guide (IPG), a free tool from Student Achievement Partners, using the perspective of the shifts and mathematical practices to better understand how the IPG can drive effective instruction. Examine the implications for role-specific practice including understanding content, lesson planning and implementation and reflection.

Deepening Content Knowledge. Deepen understanding of grade-level content through the examination of curriculum maps and materials from the EngageNY curriculum. Learn how the instructional shifts are embodied within a high level curriculum map and assessment materials. Learn ways to make effective adaptations for students who are below grade level and for English Language Learners (ELLs); practice designing adaptations using the EngageNY curriculum and annotating lessons according to the IPG.

ELA Pathway

Establishing a Solid Foundation for Instruction. Examine the relationship between the standards, shifts, and instruction to better understand how a strong scope and sequence can move students toward college and career readiness. Through work with free curricular materials, understand how to immerse students in a learning environment that engages them to build fluency, knowledge, vocabulary and comprehension in the classroom.

Instructional Planning, Delivery & Reflection. Through collaborative video study and ongoing reflection, analyze lesson planning, instructional moves, and standards-alignment in the classroom.

Complex Text and Higher Standards. Practice determining text complexity to ensure student access to grade-level complex text. Develop targeted text dependent questions that support and scaffold reading experiences for struggling students. Distinguish between close reading and a volume of reading, and understand the roles of each in and out of the classroom. Through a study of argument writing at the secondary level, learn how to engage students in writing for understanding and support their claims with text-based evidence. Learn how to work non-evaluative formative assessment into planning and instruction to achieve stronger student outcomes.

“No other organization is doing professional development like this - at this level, depth, and on this scale.”

- Director of Humanities, Teach for America

Leadership Pathway

Building High Standards Success and Leading Instructional Practice. Leading high standards implementation requires a level of instructional leadership that is entirely new for many school leaders. In-depth and hands-on learning experiences develop understanding of the standards for both ELA and math; recognizing what they look like in a classroom setting; matching instructional strategies appropriately; and developing teachers’ capacity to plan and deliver standards-aligned curriculum.

Instructional Leadership. Participate in a cycle of learning to deepen understanding of what the standards look like - and don’t look like - in practice. Spend significant time on content-specific work to better understand what to look and listen for in classrooms and how to change practice through evidence.

Development Through Observation and Feedback. Using instructional video, unpack what teachers need to know and be able to do to design and lead a standards-aligned classroom. Discuss how to provide feedback to teachers in order to move practice.

Systems and Structures. Identify the systems and structures that are essential for sound decision-making and successful implementation of standards-aligned curriculum and instruction. Address planning and making choices based on student needs, including strategies for closing gaps in knowledge or skill.

Register Here: https://www.regonline.com/summerstandardsinstitute2016
Learn more at StandardsInstitutes.org
Returning Participants

Mathematics Pathway

Focus on English Language Learners for All Pathways. Understanding and designing scaffolds for English Language Learners takes center stage through a series of large and small group sessions. Participants come to understand the latest research and thinking on supporting ELLs to meet the highest academic standards, while also getting an opportunity to apply these ideas to their own materials.

Deep Content Dive with a Practical Lens. Participants will bring a unit of instruction for deep and careful study over the course of several days. Whether from EngageNY, a different commercial publisher, or teacher-created, the unit will form the centerpiece of these sessions. Evaluate the unit for alignment to the standards and shifts, build scaffolds and adaptations for students below grade level, and even get feedback during a peer-teaching activity. The cycle of aligning, adapting, and teaching will be replicable and a structure to repeat throughout the school year.

Elective Sessions. Select an elective course from a menu of options including a closer look at how the Standards for Mathematical Practice increase access to grade-level content.

ELA Pathway

Writing for Understanding and Research. Learn about implementing the research skills addressed in the standards, and how an iterative inquiry process builds topic-specific knowledge in a systematic way. Focus on what higher standards demand for writing and how building knowledge and communicating knowledge go hand-in-hand in writing tasks.

Text Set Project. Building on the learning from prior sessions, continue learning about knowledge by developing an expert pack. The packs will contain annotated bibliographies and suggested sequencing of texts to provide a coherent learning experience for students.

ELA Practicum/Planning for the year. Participants choose to work on either a) a personal unit brought to be evaluated and revised based on the learning of the previous days b) continue work on an expert pack. For the unit work, participants will evaluate their unit for alignment to the standards and shifts, build scaffolds and adaptations for students below grade level, and get feedback during a peer-teaching activity. The cycle of aligning, adapting, and teaching will be replicable to repeat throughout the school year. For P-2, this will take the form of reviewing/evaluating literacy structure rather than specific units. For the expert pack, participants will continue working on the expert pack in order to have a practical and replicable path to topical knowledge building when they return to school.

Leadership Pathway

Writing for Understanding. Building on previous learning about the impact of knowledge and vocabulary on student learning, learn how an iterative process builds topic-specific knowledge in a systematic way. Focus on what higher standards demand for writing and how building and communicating knowledge are equal partners in writing tasks.

Alignment of Standards, Instruction & Student Tasks.
In each content area, engage in a deep examination of standards-based instructional materials, delivery and student tasks to identify points of alignment and misalignment. Through work with open educational resources (OER), instructional video and student tasks, practice recognizing when well-intended instruction becomes a barrier to students meeting standard.

Elective Sessions. Select from a menu of courses including how to use read-alouds to build knowledge and vocabulary in early grades.

90% of our participants said they learned useful information to help them in their work after each day of our Institutes.

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Learn more at StandardsInstitutes.org

“This Institute allowed me to get entrenched into the Standards and understand them at a deep level. I am better prepared to help my colleagues throughout the next year as a result.”

– Washington, D.C. school leader