

What are the Common Core Essential Elements (CCEE)?

The Common Core Essential Elements are descriptions of what students with significant cognitive disabilities are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level from Kindergarten through 12th grade. They are essential skills that are linked to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) grade-level specific expectations.

What are the Common Core State Standards?

The Common Core State Standards list the things that students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level from Kindergarten through 12th grade. The Common Core State Standards are for the content areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics.

Why are there different standards for students with significant cognitive disabilities?

All students deserve and have a right to a quality education. This right includes the opportunity as much as possible for students with significant cognitive disabilities to be involved in and meet the same challenging expectations as other students.

Sometimes, students with significant cognitive disabilities cannot meet the standards in the same way or to the same degree as other students. Wisconsin educators worked with educators from 12 other states to create alternate academic achievement standards that line up with the Common Core State Standards. These alternate academic achievement standards are called the *Wisconsin Common Core Essential Elements (CCEE) in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics*.

How are the Common Core Essential Elements (CCEE) used?

Teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities use the CCEE to plan what is taught and how it is taught so that their students can learn as much as possible. The CCEE are also used to help the teacher develop good ways to measure student progress.

What do the Common Core Essential Elements (CCEE) look like?

The CCEE provide teachers, parents and students information about how students learn and grow in the academic areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. They answer the question “What should my child be learning?”

Here are a few examples:

CCEE English Language Arts – Reading Literature -Grade 3:

Determine the beginning, middle and end of a story.

A teaching example of this would be: Use pictures to identify an event that occurred in the beginning, middle or end of the story.

CCEE English Language Arts – Writing-Grade 7:

Produce writing that is appropriate for the task, purpose or audience.

A teaching example of this would be: Write the schedule for the day. (Students may use any access tools or devices that are necessary and routinely used by the student during instruction)

CCEE Mathematics-Geometry- High School:

Make a prediction based on knowledge of volume to identify volume of common containers (cups, pints, gallons, etc.).

A teaching example of this would be: Which will hold more than three cups, a gallon or a pint? Which is a gallon? (Choose between a teaspoon, cup, and gallon.)

Common Core Essential Elements (CCEE) and the Individualized Education Program (IEP)

IEP teams need to consider the CCEE when developing the student's IEP. The CCEE help the teacher identify the student's needs and plan grade level instruction and assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Information regarding the student's performance is included on the IEP under *Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance*.

Where can you go to find out more information?

More information and copies of the CCEE are available online at: http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/sped_assmt-ccee on the DPI website.

For more information contact:

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November 2012

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Wisconsin Common Core Essential Elements



This brochure is intended to help parents and community members understand the purpose of the Common Core Essential Elements and how the standards relate to instruction for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

All students deserve and have a right to a quality educational experience.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Tony Evers, State Superintendent