




# Context and Proposals for Revising the College and Career Readiness Standard

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION | November 9, 2023

Presented By | Phil Lasser, Office of the State Superintendent



- 
1. Background on the CCR Standard and Research Study
  2. Proposals for Revising the CCR Standard

# Background on the CCR Standard and Research Study

*Review of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future's vision for a CCR Standard, the research study, and the timelines of stakeholder engagement.*

# CCR Standard: Blueprint Statutory Context

- The Blueprint requires a new **College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standard** be set that allows graduates to **succeed in entry-level credit-bearing college courses**. The goal is for all students to meet the standard by the end of their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year and no later than graduation.
  - The Blueprint directs the State Board to adopt a **CCR Standard that reflects the results of the empirical research study**, once complete.
- **Meeting the CCR Standard enables students to:**
  - **Enter into a Post-CCR Pathway** (AP, IB, dual enrollment, early college, Career and Technical Education (CTE), etc)
  - **Enroll in credit-bearing courses in Maryland community colleges**

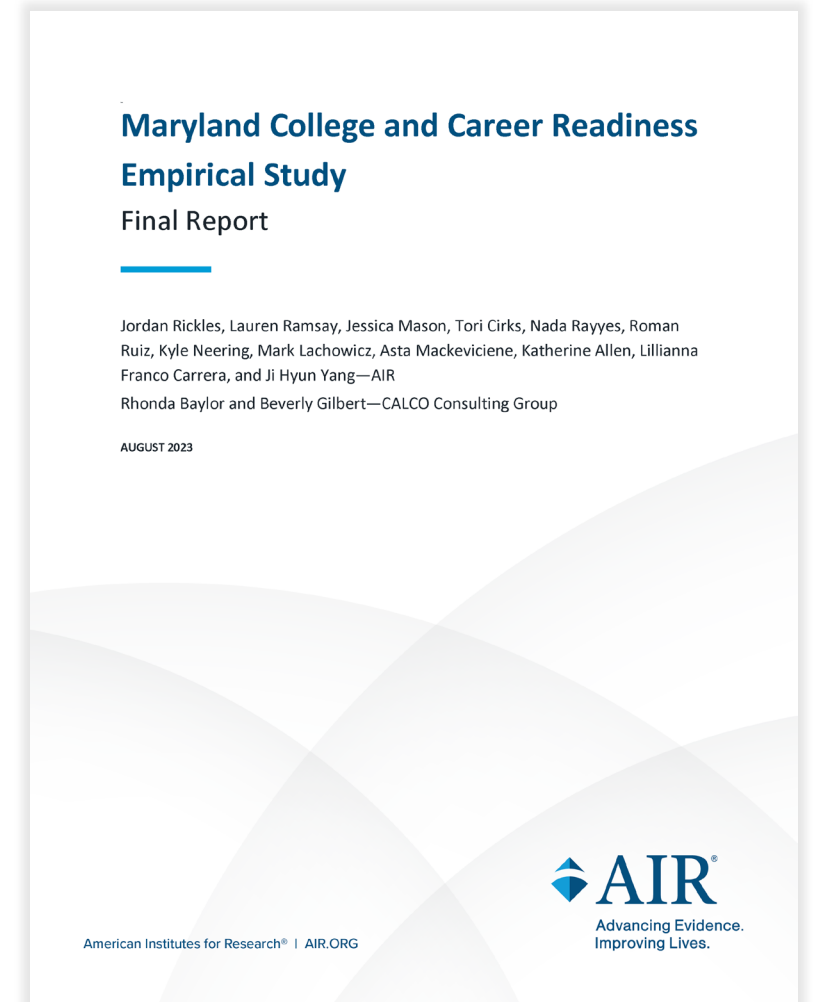
**Blueprint Statute Excerpts:**

- *“A student shall meet the CCR standard when the student meets a standard in English language arts, mathematics, and, when practicable, science that enables the student to be successful in entry level credit bearing courses or postsecondary education training at a State community college.”*
- *“After the study conducted [...] is complete, and periodically thereafter, the State Board shall adopt a new CCR standard.” “After the empirical study required [...] is complete, the CCR standard shall reflect the results of that study.”*
- *“Each community college and other open-enrollment public institution of higher education shall accept for enrollment in credit-bearing courses any individual who has achieved college and career readiness according to the standard adopted by the State Board.”*
- *“When the Accountability and Implementation Board determines that the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future has been fully implemented, post-CCR pathways shall be available only to students who have met the CCR standard, except under limited circumstances determined by the Board.”*
- *“Subject to [the paragraph above], beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, [implementation] may not preclude enrollment in the initial stages of one or more post-CCR pathways [...], including the opportunity to make progress towards a CTE credential.”*

MD Code, Education, §15-126; §7-205.1

# CCR Standard Research Study

- The **American Institutes for Research (AIR)**, a nonpartisan, not-for-profit research organization was chosen to complete the Blueprint-required empirical research study.
- **Report Timeline**
  - December 1, 2022 – Official kickoff of the research study.
  - May 23, 2023 – The **interim report on the predictive validity study** was released and presented to the State Board.
  - July 25, 2023 – The **interim report on the content and standards alignment study** was released and presented to the State Board.
  - September 1, 2023 – As specified in the Blueprint, **AIR submitted the final research report** to the Governor, the Maryland General Assembly, the AIB, and MSDE.
  - September 26, 2023 – Researchers from **AIR presented their findings of the full report to the State Board.**



More information, the full report, as well as related resources are available at:  
[blueprint.marylandpublicschools.org/ccr-research-study/](https://blueprint.marylandpublicschools.org/ccr-research-study/)

# Revised CCR Standard Adoption Timeline

- October 24, 2023
  - MSDE staff presented **initial proposal**
  - **State Board amends proposal to include ‘Math Mastery’ component**

## Public Input Period

- October 25, 2023 – November 30, 2023
  - **Online Feedback Survey Open**
- November 9, 2023, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
  - **Virtual Public Hearing**
- December 5, 2023, State Board of Education Meeting
  - **Planned vote to adopt CCR Standard**

# Stakeholder Engagement (1 of 2)

Stakeholder engagement for the CCR research study consisted of four phases.

## Phase I Prior to the Study

MSDE and AIR engaged various stakeholders in the design of the study, including:

- Maryland Higher Education Commission
- Maryland Association of Community Colleges
- University System of Maryland

## Phase II As Part of the Study

AIR conducted focus groups and surveys of stakeholders in Maryland on their perceptions of college and career readiness from:

- K-12 instructional leaders: 1 focus group session + follow-up survey
- Higher education
  - Faculty at Maryland IHEs: 5 focus group sessions + follow-up survey
  - Maryland community college faculty and administrators: Programmatic survey
- Workforce representatives: 2 focus group sessions + follow-up survey

# Stakeholder Engagement (2 of 2)

Stakeholder engagement for the CCR research study consisted of four phases.

## Phase III After the Release of Each Interim Report

MSDE and AIR held **10 listening sessions attended by over 220 stakeholders** including:


- Higher education leaders
- Maryland Association of Community Colleges
- Maryland Higher Education Commission
- Governor’s office staff
- LEA Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents of Instruction/Chief Academic Officers, and Accountability Coordinators

## Phase IV Following the Release of the Final Report

MSDE continues to share the study’s findings and recommendations and gather feedback. Engagement sessions thus far have included:

- Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE)
- Maryland Council of Community College Chief Academic Officers (M4CAO)
- LEA Assistant Superintendents of Instruction/Chief Academic Officers, and Accountability Coordinators



- 
1. Background on the CCR Standard and Research Study
  2. **Proposals for Revising the CCR Standard**

# Proposals for Revising the CCR Standard

*Proposals for a revised CCR standard, based on the results and recommendations of the empirical research study, feedback from stakeholders, and best practices.*



# Study Recommendations

- In its empirical research study final report, AIR made policy recommendations that included that Maryland should **revise the CCR standard to assess CCR more accurately and equitably**. Specifically, AIR recommends that Maryland:
  - **Provide multiple measures** for students to demonstrate college and career readiness, **including a GPA measure**. This recommendation was a result of findings from:
    - Postsecondary stakeholders
    - Literature on bias in assessments
    - Prior research on predictive validity of measures
    - Predictive validity of the interim standard and alternative standards
  - If a GPA option is included in the CCR standard, **provide guidance to local education agencies** to better standardize and align grading practices across the state.

# Proposed Implementation Timeline

As part of the new CCR Standard proposal, the revision may be implemented with this proposed timeline:

- **Student Identification**
  - Based on data up to and including the 2023-2024 school year, eligible 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> students will be identified as meeting the new CCR Standard for the 2024-2025 school year.
- **Funding**
  - CCR per-pupil funding amounts beginning with FY26 will be based on the new CCR Standard.
- **Engagement with LEAs**
  - MSDE will continue to engage with Local Accountability Coordinators and others at the LEAs to provide detailed guidance and technical assistance as the policy is implemented.

# CCR Interim Standard (Current)

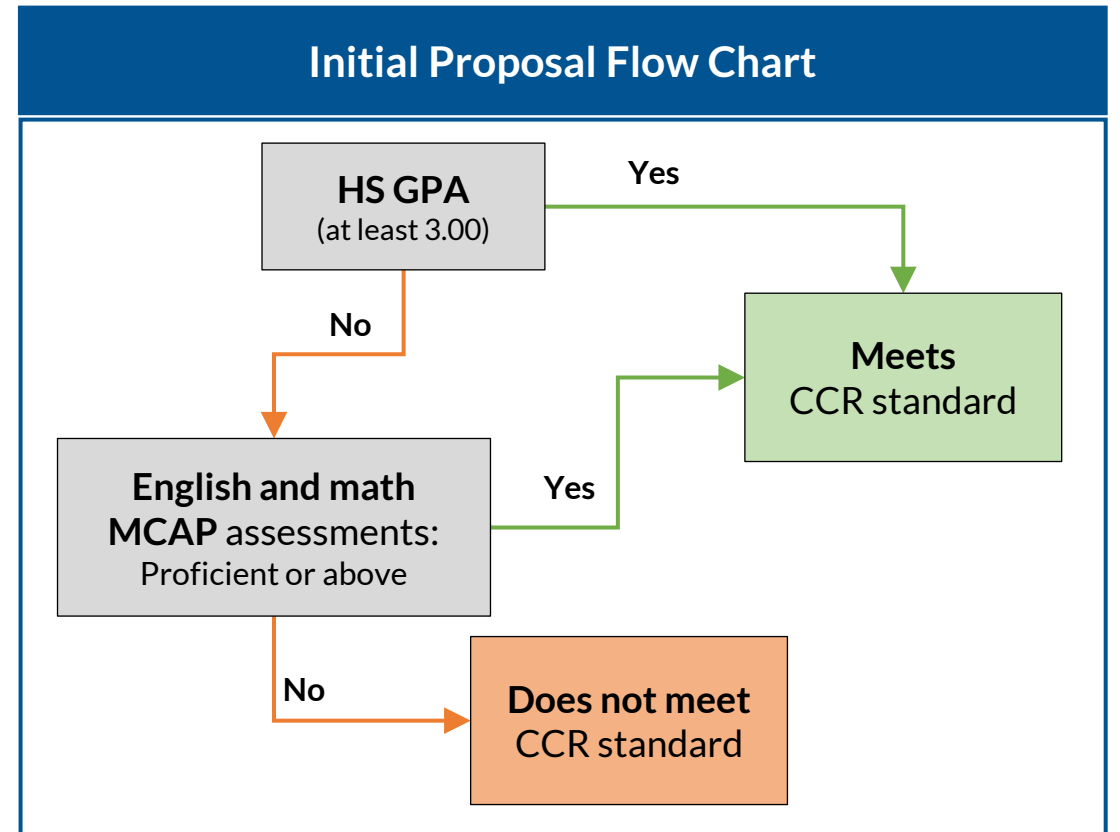
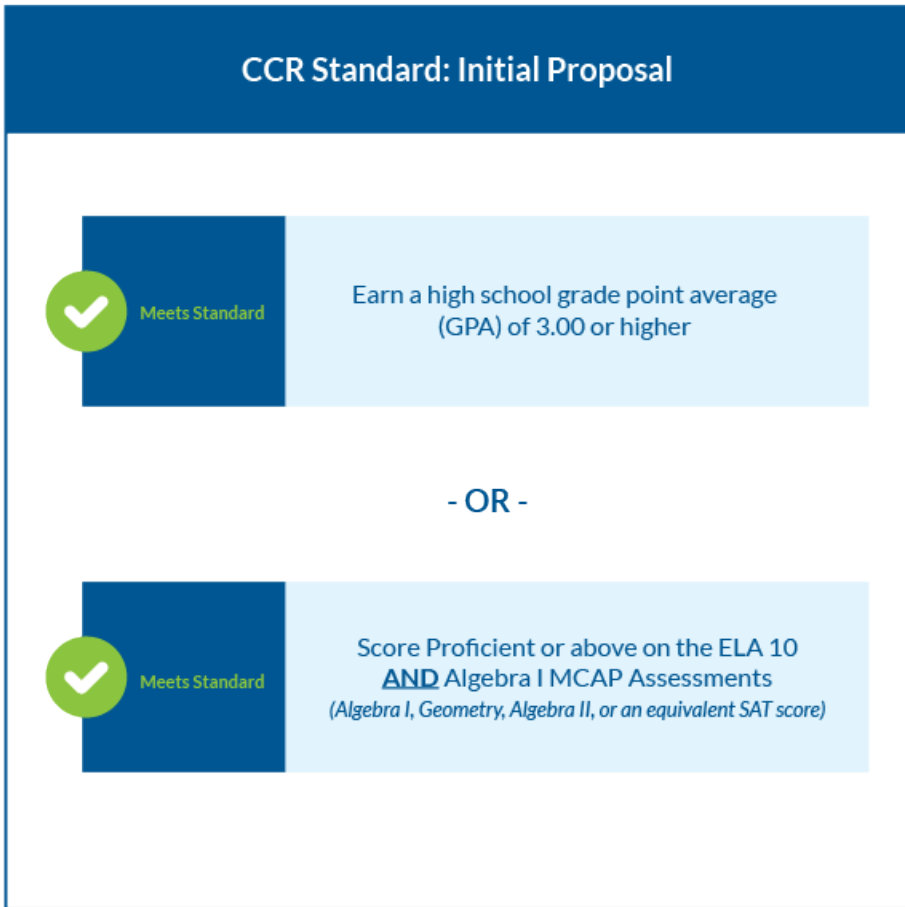
- The **CCR interim standard**, that is in effect now, was **specified in the Blueprint legislation and adopted by the State Board of Education** in February 2022.
- A student meets the interim CCR Standard if **they meet or exceed the standards on the state assessments in both English and math.**

## Blueprint Interim CCR Standard (Currently in Effect)

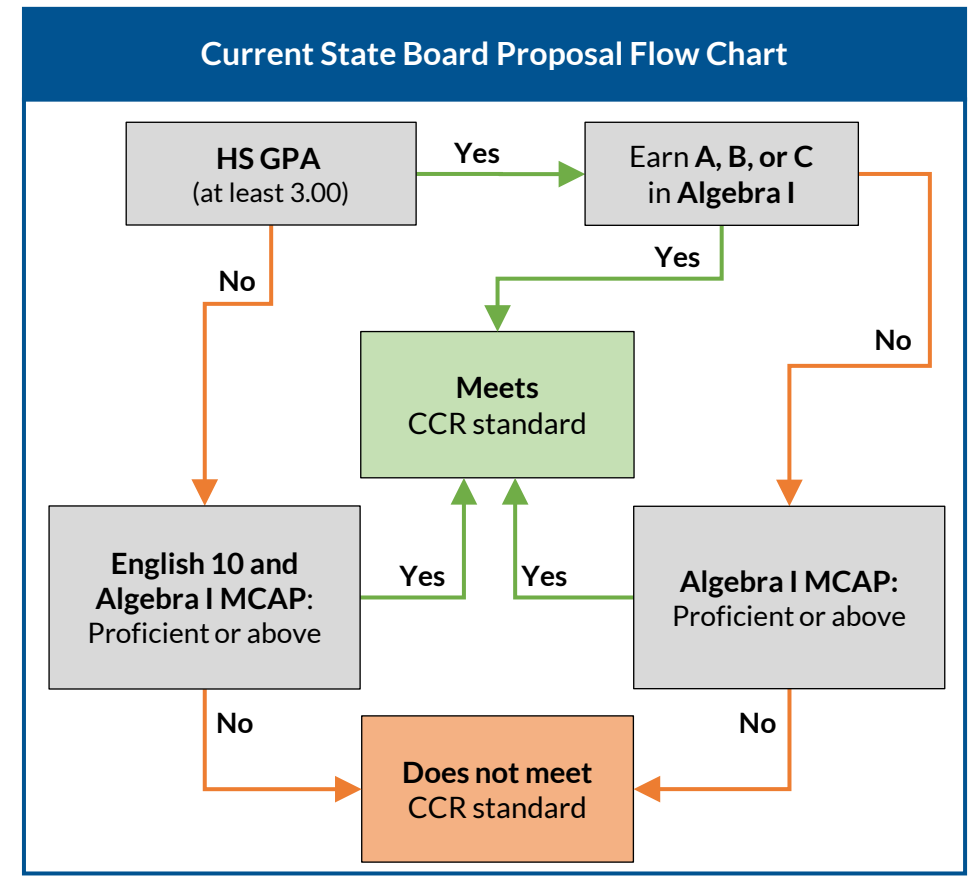
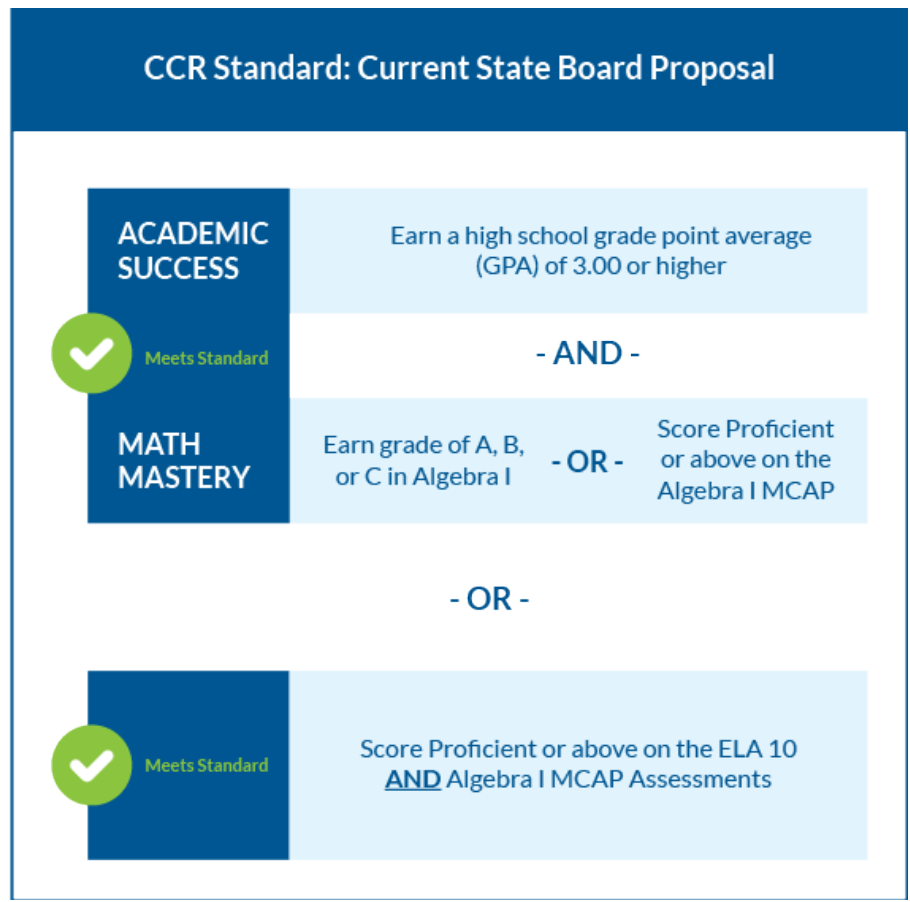
<p><b>English</b></p> <p><b>English 10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Score 3 or 4 on Fall or Spring MCAP (2022 – present)</b></li> <li>• <b>Score 2 or 3 on early Fall 2021 MCAP</b></li> <li>• <b>Score 4 or 5 on the PARCC (2015 - 2019)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>AND</u></b></p>	<p><b>Math</b></p> <p><b>Algebra I, Algebra II, or Geometry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Score 3 or 4 on Fall or Spring MCAP (2022 – present)</b></li> <li>• <b>Score 2 or 3 on early Fall 2021 MCAP</b></li> <li>• <b>Score 4 or 5 on the PARCC (2015 - 2019)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Or score 520 on the Math SAT</b></p>
---	--------------------------	---

The Maryland State Board of Education adopted the interim standard on February 22, 2022, based on Blueprint Statute.

# CCR Standard: Initial Proposal, Based on AIR Study



# CCR Standard: Current State Board Proposal Under Consideration



# Questions

The Feedback Survey, as well as more information, including AIR's final report are available at:

[blueprint.marylandpublicschools.org/ccr-standard/](https://blueprint.marylandpublicschools.org/ccr-standard/)

