High Quality Instructional Materials in Math

Model Policy | Frequently Asked Questions | 2024

What are high quality instructional materials (HQIM)?

High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) are curricula, textbooks, supplemental materials, and teacher guides that are rooted in evidence-based approaches to teaching math that improve student outcomes and help all students achieve grade-level math learning goals.

What are the benefits of HQIM?

Investing in and adopting HQIM gives teachers access to quality content and quality assignments, significantly reducing the need to search for or create assignments that may be lower-quality and disconnected from state standards.

How do states know whether instructional materials are high quality?

High Quality Instructional Materials should:

- Align to state math content standards that build **math knowledge and skills,**
- Include intervention materials,
- Simultaneously develop all aspects of mathematical proficiency: procedural fluency (the ability to perform math procedures with speed, accuracy, efficiency, and flexibility), conceptual understanding (knowing how and why math "works"), real-world problem-solving skills (connect math to student's lives and encourage critical thinking), and productive disposition (seeing math as relevant and useful).
- Develop age-appropriate grit and perseverance and
- Be accompanied by professional development that increases teacher knowledge of high-leverage best practices for using the materials to teach math.

Spotlight on Maryland

Recognizing the impact that HQIM has on teacher efficacy and student outcomes, Maryland's State Department of Education has developed a **Framework for Math HQIM** that outlines the evidence-based requirements instructional materials must meet to be considered high quality.

Spotlight on Mississippi

Mississippi has developed **rubrics** that are used yearly to evaluate mathematics instructional materials and provide districts with a list of state approved curricula for adoption.

Spotlight on Texas

Texas House Bill 1605 improved the process for the State Board of Education to approve HQIM, provide information about HQIM and provide financial incentives for districts who adopt HQIM for math materials in grades Kindergarten through grade 8. Instructional materials for several content areas including math are evaluated regularly by a committee of experts and practitioners and are based on alignment to Texas state math standards (TEKS). **Texas House Bill 1605** incentivizes the adoption of HQIM by providing additional funding for schools and districts who choose to use materials from the HQIM approved list. Most recently, Texas has **created OER curricular materials** that are available at no additional cost to districts and are incentivized should Texas districts choose to adopt.

Learn More

ExcelinEd **Comprehensive K-8 Mathematics Policy**

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