



## What College and Career Ready Means for DoDEA Schools and DoDEA Students

**For DoDEA students**, the implementation of College and Career Ready Standards (CCRS) in the areas of mathematics and literacy sets a foundation for even greater student success and growth. The CCRS, based in large part on the Common Core State Standards, set grade-by-grade learning expectations for students in grades pre-K through 12. This supports a cohesive education for the highly-mobile military-connected student.

While DoDEA and state school systems have had standards for more than 15 years, the CCRS are nearly identical in the majority of states. They establish clear, consistent and high learning goals and are more focused on preparing students for success in college and career. As our extremely mobile students move into, out of, and around our school system, the continuity of standards present an extraordinary opportunity for providing a continuity of education to students. No matter where or when they move, our students will know that the standards and expectations have not changed.

Education standards are statements of common understanding about what students should know and be able to demonstrate at specific grade levels, by providing clear goals for measuring student learning. Education standards serve as beginning points for teachers when they make decisions about what students need to learn. For DoDEA, a significant change will be increasing expectations in all content areas for all students in grades pre-K through 12 and mathematics high school graduation requirements.

In a standards-based system, education standards serve as the foundation to which curriculum, instruction and assessment are aligned. As a school system, we periodically update our standards to reflect current research. DoDEA's CCRS for literacy and mathematics will be integrated into all subject areas.

DoDEA schools will transition to CCRS in literacy and mathematics in a phased approach over the next five years, beginning with implementing the CCRS for Mathematics in grades pre- through 5 during School Year 2015-2016. As we begin this multi-year, phased transition, we do so with access to nationally developed resources of education partners in state education systems across the United States.

The CCRS are good for DoDEA because they are designed to be relevant to the real world, allow students to master more critical-thinking and unique problem-solving skills, and to reflect the knowledge, skills and social foundations that our students need for success in both college and career.