

Music National Standards Comparison: 1994 versus 2014

	1994 Standards	2014 NCCAS Standards	
Focus	Skills and Knowledge	Understanding / Independence ↓ Music Literacy	
Overarching Structure	9 Content Standards	Three Artistic Processes (Creating, Performing, Responding)	
		Process Components Enduring Understandings Essential Questions	
Outcomes	Achievement Standards (25–34 per level)	Performance Standards (13–19 per level)	
Elementary/Middle	Kindergarten–Grade 8 Two grade clusters (K–4 and 5–8)	Prekindergarten–Grade 8 Grade-by-Grade (i.e., 10 levels)	
High School	One set to cover all course types	Customized sets for four strands	
	Two Levels Advanced Proficient	Ensemble Guitar/Keyboard Comp/Theory Music Tech	
		Advanced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Accomplished	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Proficient	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Intermediate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (level ≈ grade 8)
Novice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (level ≈ grade 5)		
Connections	To the other arts: Content Standard 8	11 Common Anchors	
	To other content: Content Standard 9	Embedded within 3 Artistic Processes	
Assessment Tools	Separate Publications	Model Cornerstone Assessments Benchmark Student Work	
Format	Hard Copy	Online and Customizable ⁽¹⁾	
		<p>Educator-Developed Method-Neutral Voluntary</p> <p>↑ ↓</p> <p>WHAT IS SIMILAR</p> <p>Philosophical Foundations Goals Assessable Outcomes Opportunity-to-Learn Expectations Glossary</p>	

⁽¹⁾Music educators will generally find more useful the format of the music standards available at National Association for Music Education website, www.NAFME.org/standards, where members will eventually be able to access or order additional helpful resources such as knowledge and skills charts, additional assessments, and illustrative student work. Those interested in connections among the arts will find useful content at the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards website, www.NationalArtsStandards.org, which also enables users to create and save customized formats for viewing and printing standards.