



**Educators for Quality and Equality**

**Laws, Standards, and Guidelines Related to Critical Race Theory in California K-12 Education**

The following table lists laws, standards, and guidelines related to critical race theory in California K-12 education.

Laws, Standards, and Guidelines	Citation
<p><b>Discrimination Based on Religion/Race/Ethnicity: Not Permitted</b></p>	<p><b><u>US Constitution</u></b>            Article I, Section 4: Free exercise and enjoyment of religion without discrimination or preference are guaranteed.</p> <p><b><u>Federal Civil Rights Act</u></b>            42 U.S.C. Section 2000d. No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color or national origin be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.</p> <p><b><u>California Constitution</u></b>            Article I, Section 31(a) The State shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race..., ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of... public education...[(f)...'State' shall include... school district...]</p> <p><b><u>California Education Code</u></b>            Section 220. No person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of ... nationality, race or ethnicity, religion...in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance...</p> <p>Section 51500. A teacher shall not give instruction and a school district shall not sponsor any activity that promotes a discriminatory bias on the basis of race or ethnicity, ...religion...nationality...</p>
<p><b>Instruction and Instructional Materials: Must Promote Harmonious Relations, Be Accurate, Be Objective, Be Suited to Students' Needs &amp; Not Reflect Adversely on Religion/Race/Ethnicity</b></p>	<p><b><u>California Education Code</u></b>            Section 233.5 (a) Each teacher shall endeavor to impress upon the minds of the pupils ...the promotion of harmonious relations...</p> <p>Section 60010(h) "Instructional materials" means all materials that are designed for use by pupils and their teachers as a learning resource.</p> <p>Section 51501. The state board and any governing board shall not adopt any ...instructional materials for use in the public schools that contain any matter reflecting adversely upon persons on the basis of race or ethnicity, ...religion...nationality...</p>

	<p>Section 60044. A governing board shall not adopt any instructional materials for use in the schools that, in its determination, contain (a) any matter reflecting adversely upon persons on the basis of race or ethnicity,...religion ...nationality...</p> <p>Section 60045. All instructional materials ...shall be...accurate, objective, and current and suited to the needs and comprehension of pupils.”</p>
<p><b>The State Board of Education Approved Standards &amp; Guidelines</b></p>	<p><b><u>Social Content Standards</u></b> <i>(approved by the State Board of Education May 2013)</i></p> <p>“Intended to help end stereotyping in instructional materials by showing diverse people in positive roles contributing to society.”</p> <p>“Instructional materials used by students in California public schools should never portray in an adverse or inappropriate way the groups referenced in the laws.”</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Adverse reflection. Descriptions, depictions, labels, or rejoinders that tend to demean, stereotype, or patronize minority groups are prohibited”</p> <p>“The standards enable all students to become aware and accepting of religious diversity while being allowed to remain secure in any religious beliefs they may already have....without displaying bias toward or prejudice against any of those beliefs or religious beliefs in general.”</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Adverse reflection. No religious belief or practice may be held up to ridicule and no religious group may be portrayed as inferior.”</p> <p><b><u>Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum Guidelines</u></b> <i>(approved by the State Board of Education July 2018)</i></p> <p>The Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Include accurate information based on current and confirmed research”</li> <li>● “Encourage cultural understanding of how different groups have struggled and worked together”</li> <li>● "Be inclusive”</li> </ul>