

- demonstrate how to access a series of online modules designed to build teachers' capacity to understand the *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards*.
 - work with district-level and charter school leaders to develop a professional development plan for the *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards* for K-12 teachers prior to the 2012-13 school year.
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**Transforming
Professional
Development for
*Common Core
State Standards
and North
Carolina Essential
Standards***

It is recommended that district-level and charter school teams establish a professional development plan before introducing the online learning modules. Local plans will provide the framework for communication, monitoring, and evaluation of the process intended to provide teachers with knowledge, skills, and tools to implement the *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards* and to improve student achievement.

The NCDPI recommends the following as districts and charter schools develop and implement local professional development plans:

- Align *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards* professional development opportunities with existing professional development initiatives in the district/charter.
- Establish a clear communications component. This component will inform all educators in the district about available *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards* professional development including NCDPI and/or local initiatives and opportunities.
- Use professional learning communities (PLCs) to create and implement an overall plan for understanding the new standards. Communicating and sharing best practices ensures that appropriate professional development and support are offered to teachers and related personnel involved in implementing the standards. The use of an effective framework for guiding the work of a PLC is recommended. One such framework is described in the DuFour Model (http://pdonline.ascd.org/pd_online/secondary_reading/el200405_dufour.html).
- Determine a timeline for the *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards* professional development using the online modules and face-to-face workshops.
- Identify the key personnel who will facilitate the *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards* professional development sessions. These facilitators may or may not be members of the district-level or charter school team who attended the summer institute.