



ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT REVIEW FINDINGS REPORT

Edmentum EdOptions Academy

DECEMBER 2015

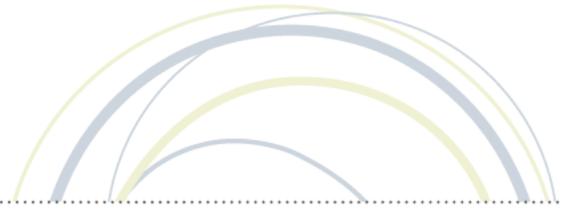
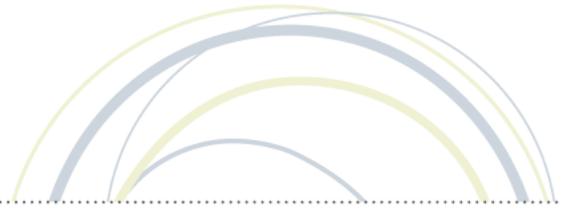


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ABOUT

ABOUT ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is the premier nonprofit membership organization serving educators and education leaders. ISTE is committed to empowering connected learners in a connected world and serves more than 100,000 education stakeholders throughout the world.

As the creator and steward of the definitive education technology standards, our mission is to empower learners to flourish in a connected world by cultivating a passionate professional learning community, linking educators and partners, leveraging knowledge and expertise, advocating for strategic policies, and continually improving learning and teaching

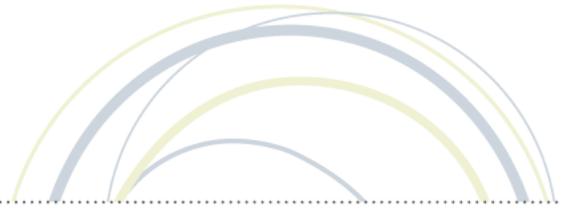
ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT

Resources and products designed with the ISTE Standards in mind are choosing to demonstrate their commitment to support critical digital age learning skills and knowledge. Regardless of a solution's intended grade level, purpose or content area, by addressing the ISTE Standards and earning a Seal of Alignment, a solution is shown to consciously, purposefully and meaningfully support best practices for digital age teaching and learning.

ISTE considers a solution aligned to the ISTE Standards only after an extensive review conducted by trained ISTE Seal of Alignment reviewers, and it has been determined to meet all critical elements of a particular standard indicator in accordance with specific review criteria.

By earning a Seal of Alignment, ISTE verifies that this product:

- Promotes critical technology skills
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways 
- Contributes to the pedagogically robust use of technology for teaching and learning
- Aligns to the ISTE Standards in specific ways as described in the review finding report



RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS THE EDMENTUM EDOPTIONS ACADEMY PROGRAM?

Edmentum EdOptions Academy is an accredited virtual school that offers more than 270 online courses in content areas that include English, Science, Health, Math, Computer Programming, Government, and Electronic Communication to students in grades 6-12.

Courses are facilitated by certified teachers employing a “flipped” instructional model, where students work independently through online material and consult with instructors around specific assignments for guidance and assistance.

Courses are structured around online tutorials that include slides with embedded text, graphics, and audio video clips, and students navigate through tutorials to complete activities and unit projects.

ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT REVIEW

Product: EdOptions Academy

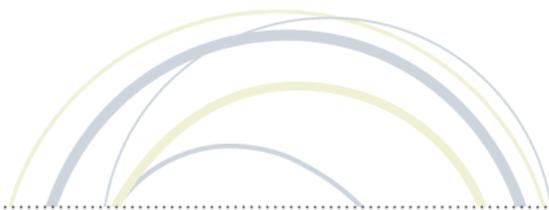
Company: Edmentum

Date of Award: December 2015

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal of Alignment reviews are conducted by a panel of education and instructional experts. Reviewers use data collected both separately and collectively to determine how a solution addresses specific elements described in each of the indicators of the ISTE Standards. Special instruments are used by reviewers to collect data on potential alignment across all resource materials. Alignment is determined based on the extent to which all or some of specific elements are addressed within the materials. Reviewers conduct regular calibrations to assure the validity and reliability of the results and final review findings are combined for an overall score for alignment on each individual indicator.

The Edmentum EdOptions Academy resource was reviewed for alignment against the ISTE Standards for Students, at the Readiness level. Readiness level reviews examine how a resource instructs and/or assesses specific skills and knowledge that have been identified as foundational to the elements of the ISTE Standards.



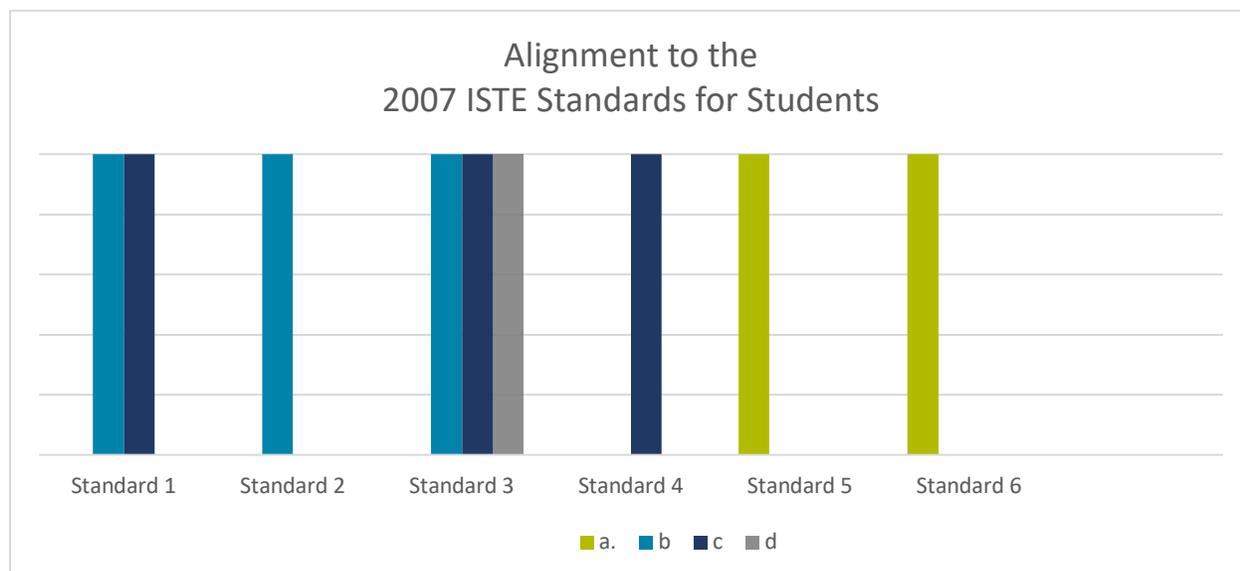
SCOPE OF REVIEW

During the review process for the Edmentum EdOptions Academy program, reviewers:

- collected data on when and how each activity addressed specific skills and knowledge described in the ISTE Standards for Students.
- compiled findings to determine overall alignment across all ISTE Student standards and indicators.
- used aggregate findings to form the basis of the overall alignment results.

REVIEW FINDINGS

The Edmentum EdOptions Academy resource supports the following indicators of the 2007 ISTE Standards for Students:



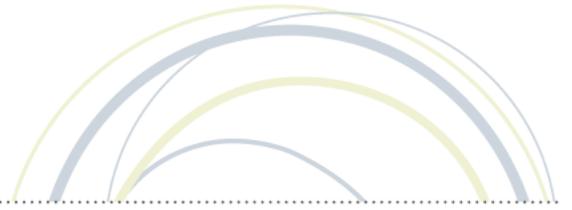
1. Creativity and Innovation

1.b. Create original works as a means of personal or group expression.

1.c. Use models and simulations to explore complex systems and issues.

2. Communication and Collaboration

2.b. Communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of



media and formats.

3. Research and Information Fluency

3.b. Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.

3.c. Evaluate and select information sources and digital tools based on the appropriateness to specific tasks.

3.d. Process data and report results.

4. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

4.c. Collect and analyze data to identify solutions and/or make informed decisions.

5. Digital Citizenship

5.a. Advocate and practice safe, legal and responsible use of information and technology.

6. Technology Operations and Concepts

6.a. Understand and use technology systems.

CONCLUSION

The EdOptions Academy courses are cleanly designed, easy to navigate and use, with high quality media content. Information is clearly presented, and with the combination of text and media elements, courses are engaging and grade-appropriate. As expected with an online delivery system, technology use is pervasive and inescapable within every course. In addition to a wide variety of tools that are available for student use (i.e. language translator, calculator, dictionary, graphing tools, notebook, table maker, discussion forum, word processor, etc.) students are also expected to use technology in order to complete course assignments, lessons, and unit projects.

Even though the development of student technology skills is not a deliberate focus, student technology use throughout is sufficiently wide, deep, and meaningful that ISTE reviewers determined that the EdOptions Academy helps build and foster a useful foundation of technology skills for students.