

Constitution Day

This page was created to provide K-12 teachers and schools with resources for the implementation of Constitution Day activities and lessons.

Pursuant to legislation passed by Congress, educational institutions receiving Federal funding are required to hold an educational program pertaining to the United States Constitution on September 17 of each year. This Congressional initiative is authorized by Section 111 of Division J of Pub. L. 108-447, the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005," Dec. 8, 2004; 118 Stat. 2809, 3344-45 (Section 111).

Section 111(b) states "[e]ach educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17 of such year for the students served by the educational institution."

Section 111 requires that Constitution Day be held on September 17 of each year, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) does not mandate or prescribe particular curricula or lesson plans. The information below contains links to learning resources created and maintained by other public and private organizations. This information is provided for your convenience and as examples of resources on Constitution Day that you might find helpful.

[The National Archives: Observing Constitution Day](#)

This site contains links to numerous sources of information, activities, simulations, and lessons concerning the Constitution.

[The National Archives: America's Founding Documents](#)

This site provides a transcript of the Constitution, as well as imagery of the document itself.

[The National Constitution Center](#)

This site offers a variety of resources for exploring the Constitution and how it relates to our daily lives. These resources include live classes, virtual town halls and a media library containing videos, podcasts and blog posts.

[Library of Congress: Constitution Day Resources](#)

This site offers resources for teachers, including a free Constitution E-book for teachers and students, primary source sets, activities and lesson plans.

[National Endowment for the Humanities: Commemorating Constitution Day](#)

Resources, educational games and lesson plans related to Constitution Day are provided.

[Center for Civic Education: Constitution Day Lessons](#)

The Center for Civic Education is a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational corporation dedicated to fostering the development of informed, responsible participation in civic life by citizens committed to the values and principles fundamental to American constitutional democracy. This site offers lessons and activities related to Constitution Day.

[Annenberg Classroom: Free classroom resources for teaching the Constitution](#)

Resources offered include videos on Constitutional concepts and Supreme Court cases, games, lesson plans, timelines, downloadable books, a glossary and a Constitution guide.