



Fundamentals of Standards and Conformity Assessment

Training for all levels of government – educating
agencies on the role of standards

NIST offers interactive workshops and seminars for federal, state, and local government agencies on the fundamentals of standards, conformity assessment, and related topics. SCO can create a custom training or event tailored to meet your agency's needs.

As standards have become an increasingly vital component of many government agency programs, the need for discussion on important topics in standards setting and use has also grown. Agencies need to be familiar with the laws, regulations and guidance that collectively direct Federal agencies to participate in the development and use of standards to carry out policy objectives and meet their agency's mission. Understanding the standards development process and being prepared to effectively participate are essential.

Educating agencies on the role of standards

About the Standards Coordination Office

Your first stop for federal standards information

NIST's Standards Coordination Office (SCO) provides standards and conformity assessment expertise and services in support of government and industry. SCO staff works closely with U.S. industry, standards developers, other government agencies, and leaders in the global standards community to build a standards infrastructure that supports innovation and helps businesses thrive.

SCO offers a number of online resources and trainings to help agencies and industry navigate the standards process. Learn more at <https://www.nist.gov/standardsgov>.

Training areas include:

- Overview of standards fundamentals, development, and conformity assessment
- Trade agreements
- Effective agency participation in standards setting



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SCO in action: Standards Simulation Provides Interactive, Real-Life Learning

Setting Standards: A Simulation Exercise in Strategy and Cooperation in Standardization Processes is an exercise in which participants negotiate standards for a fictional, next-generation technology.

The simulation explores the challenges and opportunities in standards development, focusing on the politics as well as the analytical and practical skills needed to successfully engage in standards negotiations. It is an excellent skill-builder for standards development veterans and newcomers alike. While the simulation is a game, many describe it as "serious fun." It is designed to be dynamic, demanding and even frustrating – just like real life!