How Public Utilities Work

Standards Alignment & Independent Recognition

Grades 5–12 · 34 lessons across 5 units · Utility Campus, LLC · 2026

Independent Recognition

How Public Utilities Work has been independently reviewed and recognized by STEM.org Educational Research. These are third-party designations, not self-assessments.

STEM.org Reviewed™

Best In STEM™ · 2026–2027

STEM.org Reviewed™. A curriculum-level designation conferred by STEM.org Educational Research after review of instructional design, content accuracy, and real-world relevance.

Best In STEM™ (2026–2027). A top-five-percent recognition for programs implementing novel STEM education initiatives.

STEM.org Accredited™ Educational Experience. An organization-level trustmark held by Utility Campus, LLC, the curriculum's publisher.

National Standards Frameworks

How Public Utilities Work is built around the national frameworks below. This is a framework-level overview: it identifies the strands the curriculum draws on across grades 5 to 12, rather than asserting that every lesson fully meets every standard.

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Lessons on generation, transmission, distribution, and the grid draw on ESS3 (Earth and Human Activity) and PS3 (Energy). Lessons on safety, emergencies, and efficiency connect to ETS1 (Engineering Design) and PS3, across the Grade 5, Middle School, and High School bands.

C3 Framework for Social Studies. Dimension 2 (Economics and Civics, with selected Geography and History) and Dimension 4 (communicating conclusions and taking informed action). The emphasis on rate cases, consumer rights, and regulatory institutions, especially in Unit 4, makes the curriculum strong on Economics and Civics.

Common Core ELA. Reading of informational and technical text, Writing (argument and explanatory), and Speaking and Listening, grades 5 to 12. Every lesson includes reading passages, analytical questions, and writing or discussion prompts.

Common Core Math. Where lessons involve calculation or data: unit rates, percentage, ratio, graphing, and data interpretation. Examples include meter reading and kilowatt-hours (Lesson 5), electric bill calculations (Lesson 8), efficiency decisions (Lessons 9 to 13), and rate arithmetic (Lesson 24).

Career and Technical Education (CTE). A Career Spotlight in every lesson profiles real utility-industry roles. Across the curriculum, more than thirty careers are profiled, supporting CTE pathways in the Energy, Environmental, and Public Utility industries.

Detailed Crosswalks on Request

This overview is intended for a first look during curriculum review. Districts and states in active adoption can request a detailed, lesson-by-lesson crosswalk with specific standard codes by emailing contact@utilitycampus.com.

State and Local Alignment

State and local standards vary. This document maps to the major national frameworks; districts should review alignment against their own local requirements as part of adoption. For state-specific alignment requests, contact contact@utilitycampus.com.

On the Limits of Standards Alignment

Standards alignment is necessary for adoption, but it is not the whole story. Almost any curriculum can be crosswalked with enough effort. The more important question is whether students actually learn the material. We describe alignment honestly and at the framework level, and we let the curriculum's independent recognition speak to its quality.