

SOL Information and Student Impact

Elementary School

Virginia Department of Education regulations require students to take Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments in grades 3, 4, and 5. The 2014 Acts of Assembly eliminated three SOL assessments at the elementary school level: (1) Grade 3 History, (2) Grade 3 Science, and (3) Grade 5 Writing. However, school divisions are required to teach and assess the curricula in these eliminated SOLs. All divisions in the State will be developing and administering alternative assessments during the 2014-2015 school year.

Thus, beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, students in grades 3 take SOL assessments in Reading and Mathematics. Students in grade 4 take SOL assessments in Reading, Mathematics, and History. Students in grade 5 take SOL assessments in Reading, Mathematics, and Science. The scores range from 0 to 600 with 400 to 499 being Pass Proficient and 500 to 600 being Pass Advanced. Students who do not pass an SOL assessment may be considered for remediation programs and/or summer school. Failing an SOL assessment may also be used as one of many criteria for retention.

SOL Assessment Given at Each Elementary School Grade Level

Grade	Reading	Writing	Math	History	Science
3	X		X		
4	X		X	X	
5	X		X		X

Middle School

Virginia Department of Education regulations require students to take Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments in middle school. In Montgomery County the SOL assessments are given in the spring of each year in grades 6, 7, and 8. The 2014 Acts of Assembly eliminated two SOL assessments at the middle school level: (1) US History I—Grade 6 and (2) US History II—Grade 7. However, school divisions are required to teach and assess the curricula in these eliminated SOLs. All divisions in the State will be developing and administering alternative assessments during the 2014-2015 school year.

Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, students in grades 6 and 7 take Reading and Mathematics. Students in grade 8 take SOL assessments in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Civics and Economics, and Science. The scores range from 0 to 600 with 400 to 499 being Pass Proficient and 500 to 600 being Pass Advanced. Students who do not pass an SOL may be considered for remediation programs and/or summer school. Failing an SOL assessment may also be used as one of many criteria for retention. Students who fail the Reading and/or Mathematics SOL assessments in grade 8 will have an opportunity to retake the test the following year.

Additionally, students who enroll in a high school credit-bearing course with an accompanying SOL assessment, such as Algebra I and Geometry must take the SOL assessment upon conclusion of the course. Students who do not pass one of the SOL assessments at the high-school level will be considered for remediation programs and will be given the opportunity to retake the SOL assessment at each available opportunity.

SOL Assessment Given at Each Middle School Grade Level

Grade	Reading	Writing	Math	History	Science
6	X		X		
7	X		X		
8	X	X	X	X	X

High School

Virginia Department of Education regulations require students to take and pass Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments in order to graduate from high school with a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma. When students pass a high school course **and** pass the SOL assessment associated with that course, the student earns a *verified credit*. Verified credits can be earned in the following courses:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English: Reading/Literature/Research • English: Writing • Algebra I • Geometry • Algebra II • US & Virginia History | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History I • World History II • Earth Science • Biology • Chemistry |
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To earn a Standard Diploma, students must earn six verified credits. These verified credits are as follows:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 in English: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reading <input type="checkbox"/> Writing • 1 in Mathematics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 in History/Social Science • 1 in Science • 1 other of the student's choosing |
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To earn an Advanced Studies Diploma, students must earn nine verified credits. These verified credits are as follows:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 in English: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reading <input type="checkbox"/> Writing • 2 in Mathematics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 in History/Social Science • 2 in Science • 1 other of the student's choosing |
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Students with an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) pursuing the Modified Standard Diploma (available to students entering the 9th-grade for the first time *prior* to the 2013-2014 school year only) must meet Literacy and Numeracy requirements. To meet the Literacy requirements students must meet the cut score on the grade 8 English Reading SOL assessment. To meet the Numeracy requirements, students must meet the cut score on either the grade 8 Mathematics, Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II SOL assessment.

Students who do not pass one of the SOL assessments at the high-school level will be considered for remediation programs and will be given the opportunity to retake the SOL assessment at each available opportunity.

EOC Courses with an Accompanying SOL Assessment

English	Mathematics	History	Science
Reading	Algebra I	World History I	Earth Science
Writing	Geometry	World History II	Biology
	Algebra II	VA & US History	Chemistry