

What Is Readiness?



Preparing students for success at the next level is a foundational component of the School Performance and Support Framework. As the Board of Education engaged parents, students, and educators throughout the Commonwealth, they heard repeatedly of the importance of ensuring students truly were ready to move forward and succeed at the next grade, and that all students were given opportunities for early career exploration in elementary and middle school leading to high school employment, enlistment, and enrollment experiences that prepared students for sustainable pathways.

The Framework defines **Readiness** differently at each level of a student's academic career.

- In Elementary School, Readiness focuses on Attendance and the 5 C's - Critical thinking, Creative thinking, Collaboration, Communication, and Citizenship. Student attendance is a critical component of Elementary School Readiness, as students who consistently attend school perform significantly better than their peers who struggle to come on a regular basis. A focus on readiness at the elementary level using the 5 Cs creates important foundational awareness for students that will support their growth and readiness through elementary, middle, and high school, beginning with development of the Academic and Career Plan Portfolio (ACPP). As elementary students begin to learn about careers and build an understanding of "what work is", the experience culminates in a Grade 5 performance task designed to allow students to demonstrate their understanding and readiness prior to deeper experience at the middle school level.

In Elementary School, Readiness counts for 10% of the school's performance rating. Within the category, the 5 C's will count for 5%; attendance will count for 5%.

** The 5C Performance Tasks will be developed and have field testing in the 2024-25 school year. In the first year of the Framework, attendance will count for the full 10% of a Readiness index score.*

- In Middle School, Readiness becomes even more critical. Attendance continues to play a critical role in a child's success. In addition to attendance, students engage in more concrete career exploration activities with greater focus as interests flourish and begin to connect with high school preparation in the form of thoughtful course selection and exploration experiences to prepare students for 3E high school outcomes. Middle school students will complete another performance task that incorporates the required career exploration and academic career planning with the 5 Cs in Grade 8. Additionally, students who score proficient/advanced will be incentivized to participate in advanced coursework. These opportunities will be incorporated into the Readiness calculations.

In Middle School, the Readiness index score accounts for 20% of the school's performance rating. The component is made up of a student's taking Advanced Coursework for 7.5% of the rating, career exploration and the 5 C's performance task for 7.5%, and attendance for 5%.

** In the 2024-25 school year, attendance and Advanced Coursework will each count as 10% of the 20% Readiness index score. Also, Advanced Coursework will only include mathematics in year one.*

- In High School, the Readiness category ensures graduating students have 3E (employment, enlistment, enrollment) outcomes that prepare them for success post-graduation. Schools are recognized for ensuring students have experiences in all 3E areas including employment in the form of high-demand industry credential attainment; enlistment in the form of ASVAB/AFQT score achievement correlating to tiers of careers in the military, acknowledging Virginia's heavy military career presence as the nation's second largest active duty population; and enrollment in the form of college-ready, transferable post-secondary credits, including dual enrollment, AP, IB, Cambridge, and CLEP exams, with the highest points being awarded for earning of an associate's degree. [A more detailed overview of the 3E Readiness Framework is available for further explanation.](#)

Readiness counts as 35% of a school's performance rating in High School. This Readiness index score includes attendance (5%), the school's 6 year adjusted graduation rate (5%), and the 3E Readiness Framework (25%).