



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**Department of Education**

**DATE:** November 2, 2018

**TO:** Division Superintendents

**FROM:** James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: History and Social Science Standards of Learning Tests Administered in 2018-2019**

Superintendent's Memo #012-17, January 13, 2017, announced the Virginia Department of Education's (VDOE) expectation for full implementation of the 2015 *History and Social Science Standards of Learning* (SOL) for schools beginning in the fall of 2018. An attachment to Superintendent's Memo #012-17 advised school divisions that more information about the SOL testing requirements for 2018-2019 would be provided once the Virginia Board of Education completed its work on the 2017 revision of the Standards of Accreditation.

The purpose of this memo is to provide school divisions with an update regarding the SOL history and social science tests that will be administered in 2018-2019. The following tests based on the 2008 SOL will be administered in 2018-2019:

- Virginia Studies
- Civics and Economics
- World History to 1500
- World History: 1500 to the Present
- World Geography
- Virginia and United States History

Because the history and social science tests administered in 2018-2019 will be based on the 2008 SOL, Attachment B, *Assessment Supplements*, is being provided to school divisions to support the development of the local curriculum integrating the 2008 and the 2015 *History and Social Science Standards of Learning*. While pass rates for history and social science are no longer part of accreditation, the pass rates will still be reported on the School Quality Profiles (SQP).

As school divisions move towards the use of performance assessments and creating a balanced assessment program, the methods of awarding verified credits in history and social science will remain the same for the 2018-2019 school year due to language in the 2018 Appropriation Act.

If you have questions about the instructional implementation of the 2015 *History and Social Science Standards of Learning*, please contact Christonya Brown, History and Social Science Coordinator, Office

of Humanities, by email at [Christonya.Brown@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Christonya.Brown@doe.virginia.gov) or by telephone at (804) 225-2893. If you have questions about the History and Social Science SOL assessments, please contact the student assessment staff by email at [Student\\_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Student_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov) or by telephone at (804) 225-2102.

JFL/CBB/as

**Attachment**

- A. [VDOE Guidance Timeline of Implementation of the 2015 History and Social Science Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework \(Word\)](#)
- B. [History and Social Science Assessment Supplement for 2015 Local Curriculum \(Word\)](#)