



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
Department of Education

May 15, 2015

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: Virginia Standards of Learning Test Administration Schedule for 2015-2016**

The state schedule for the Standards of Learning (SOL) tests for the 2015-2016 school year is available on the Department of Education's Web site at [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/test\\_administration/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/test_administration/index.shtml). Please share these dates with appropriate personnel so that SOL testing and other activities for the 2015-2016 school year may be scheduled without conflicts.

**Fall 2015 Online SOL Writing Tests:**

The fall 2015 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, October 19, 2015 to Friday, November 6, 2015**. In August 2015, each division director of testing (DDOT) will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the fall 2015 grade 8 and End-of-Course (EOC) SOL Writing tests online within the statewide test window.

Term Graduate students scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2016, and Project Graduation students may have an additional online testing opportunity if they are not successful on their first attempt. The first online test opportunity for Term Graduate and Project Graduation students must be administered between **Monday, October 19, 2015 and Friday October 30, 2015**. If a Term Graduate/Project Graduation student fails the first attempt, the student may be administered a second online EOC Writing test during the Term Graduate/Project Graduation second attempt test window scheduled from **Monday, November 16, 2015 to Friday, December 11, 2015**.

**Fall 2015 Paper/Pencil SOL Writing Tests:**

Students with a documented need for a paper/pencil test who are scheduled to take the fall 2015 SOL Writing test *and* those students needing to retake the EOC English: Writing test based on the 2002 English SOL (2002 SOL) should be administered paper/pencil versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test during the week of October 19, 2015. The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil SOL Writing tests will be administered on either **Monday, October 19, 2015 or Tuesday, October 20, 2015**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests must be administered statewide on **Wednesday, October 21, 2015**. Students who are absent on the date of the statewide paper/pencil short-paper component will respond to a different writing prompt, the alternate prompt, during the make-up period. Term Graduate and Project Graduation students completing paper/pencil tests will be provided two testing opportunities. All paper/pencil SOL Writing tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, November 6, 2015**.

**Fall 2015 SOL Non-Writing Tests:**

The fall 2015 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, November 30, 2015** to **Friday, February 26, 2016**. School divisions will continue to have flexibility in determining their testing windows for grades 6 through 8, Content Specific History (CSH), and EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the fall. The VMAST grade 8 Reading and Mathematics tests and VMAST Algebra I and EOC Reading tests also will be available for administration in fall 2015 to eligible students who need to pass these tests for graduation. In August 2015, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the fall 2015 Non-Writing SOL tests within the statewide test window.

### **Spring 2016 Online SOL Writing Tests:**

The spring 2016 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, February 29, 2016** to **Friday, April 1, 2016**. In November 2015, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the spring 2016 grade 8 and EOC SOL Writing tests online within the statewide test window.

Term Graduate students scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2016, and Project Graduation students may have an additional online testing opportunity if they are not successful on their first test attempt. The first online test opportunity for Term Graduate and Project Graduation students must be administered between **Monday, February 29, 2016 and Friday, March 11, 2016**. If a Term Graduate/Project Graduation student fails the first attempt, the student may be administered a second online EOC Writing test during the Term Graduate/Project Graduation second attempt test window scheduled from **Monday, April 4, 2016 to Friday, April 22, 2016**.

### **Spring 2016 Paper/Pencil SOL Writing Tests:**

Students with a documented need for a paper/pencil test who are scheduled to take the spring 2016 grade 8 and EOC SOL Writing test should be administered paper/pencil versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test. In November 2016, each DDOT will be asked to identify one test window for the division from three possible paper/pencil test window options as follows:

- Option 1 (also Term Graduate and Project Graduation test window): The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil SOL Writing tests will be administered either **Monday, February 29, 2016 or Tuesday, March 1, 2016**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests will be administered **Wednesday, March 2, 2016**. All tests, including any make-up tests, must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 15, 2016**.
- Option 2: The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil SOL Writing tests will be administered either **Monday, March 7, 2016 or Tuesday, March 8, 2016**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests will be administered **Wednesday, March 9, 2016**. All tests, including any make-up tests, must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 22, 2016**.
- Option 3: The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil SOL Writing tests will be administered either **Monday, March 14, 2016 or Tuesday, March 15, 2016**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests will be administered **Wednesday, March 16, 2016**. All tests, including any make-up tests, must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 22, 2016**.

Term Graduate students scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2016, and Project Graduation students with a documented need for a paper/pencil test or needing to retake the EOC English: Writing (2002 SOL) test will be provided two testing opportunities. The paper/pencil versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test will be administered during the Term Graduate and Project Graduation test window, also Option 1, as described above. These tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 15, 2016**, to ensure the availability of test results prior to spring graduation.

### **Spring 2016 Online and Paper SOL Non-Writing Tests:**

The spring 2016 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, April 11, 2016** to **Friday, June 24, 2016**. School divisions will continue to have flexibility in determining their testing windows for grades 3 through 8, CSH, and EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the spring. The VMAST grade 8

Reading and Mathematics tests and VMAST Algebra I and EOC Reading tests also will be available for administration in spring 2016 to eligible students needing to pass these tests for graduation. In January 2016, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the spring 2016 Non-Writing SOL tests to Term Graduate students and other students taking EOC, grades 3 through 8, and CSH tests within the statewide test window.

### **Summer 2016 Online SOL Writing Tests:**

The summer 2016 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, July 11, 2016 to Friday, July 29, 2016**. In April 2016, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the summer 2016 EOC SOL Writing tests online within the statewide test window.

In summer 2016, two online EOC Writing test opportunities will be available to Term Graduate and Project Graduation students, but in contrast to the fall 2015 and spring 2016 online SOL Writing test administrations, test results from the first test attempt will not be available prior to the administration of a second online test attempt. The two online Writing test attempts will be administered to Term Graduate and Project Graduation students during the summer online SOL Writing test window (July 11, 2016 – July 29, 2016).

### **Summer 2016 Paper/Pencil SOL Writing Tests:**

Students with a documented need for a paper/pencil test who are scheduled to take the summer 2016 SOL Writing test *and* students needing to retake the EOC English: Writing (2002 SOL) test should be administered paper/pencil versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test during the week of July 11, 2016. The multiple-choice component of the paper/pencil SOL Writing tests will be administered on either **Monday, July 11, 2016 or Tuesday, July 12, 2016**. The short-paper component of the paper/pencil tests must be administered statewide on **Wednesday, July 13, 2016**. Students who are absent on the date of the statewide paper/pencil short-paper component will respond to a different writing prompt, the alternate prompt, during the make-up period. Term Graduate and Project Graduation students completing paper/pencil tests will be provided two EOC Writing test opportunities during the SOL Writing test window. All paper/pencil SOL Writing tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, July 22, 2016**.

### **Summer 2016 Online and Paper SOL Non-Writing Tests:**

The summer 2016 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, June 13, 2016 to Friday, September 16, 2016**. School divisions will continue to have flexibility in determining their testing windows for EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the summer. The grade 8 Reading and Mathematics tests, VMAST grade 8 Reading and Mathematics tests, and VMAST Algebra I and EOC Reading tests also will be available for administration in summer 2016 to eligible students who need to pass these tests for graduation. In April 2016, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the summer 2016 Non-Writing SOL tests for Term Graduate students and other students tests within the statewide test window.

Questions concerning the schedule for the state assessment program should be directed to student assessment staff at [Student\\_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Student_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov) or by phone at (804) 225-2102.

SRS/SLR/cd