

Dear Parents,

Standards of Learning (SOL) tests continue to be required by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and the United States Education Department (USED) for the 2020-2021 school year. Elementary and middle school students will test as required by their enrolled grade level and high school students will test according to the verified credits they require for graduation. In accordance with VDOE guidelines, all tests must take place in-person. If a student is enrolled in full-time virtual instruction throughout a division testing window, their school regarding testing and transportation details will contact them.

Testing Schedule

Writing SOL tests will be administered throughout March for all students enrolled in English 11 and any re-testers who continue to require a writing verified credit in high school. Reading, Mathematics, Science, and History tests will be administered May 10th through June 4th for students in grades 3-EOC (high school). Each school will communicate their detailed testing schedules with families as they are developed. Below are the division SOL testing windows.

Division Spring 2021 SOL Test Windows by Content Area and Grade Level

Testing Window	Testing Grades	SOL TEST(S) ADMINISTERED
March	Grade 8	No SOL Test- for the 20-21 SY Only Local Alternative Assessments for Grade 8 Writing (assessment is given virtually)
March	EOC	Writing SOL
May 10 th to June 4 th	Grades 3-EOC	Reading SOL
May 10 th to June 4 th	Grades 3-EOC	Math SOL, including EOC tests (Algebra I, Geometry, & Algebra II)
May 10 th to June 4 th	Grades 5, 8 (select 7), & EOC	Science SOL including EOC tests (Earth Science, Biology, & Chemistry)
May 10 th to June 4 th	Grades 5, 8 (select 7), & EOC	History/Social Science SOL including EOC tests (World Geography, World History I, World History II, & Virginia & US History)

Expedited Retakes

The results of the 2020-2021 SOL tests will be used to evaluate the impact of the pandemic on student learning as well as a means to establish a new baseline for measuring future student growth. For the 2020-2021 school year, NPS will discontinue the administration of expedited retakes for grades 3 through 8 SOL tests. Retakes for EOC tests will continue as needed for those students who require the verified credit for graduation. This will allow our schools to focus on resuming in-person instruction and prioritize the social, emotional, and physical well-being of students and staff.

Please contact your child’s school to address any concerns you may have with your child participating in SOL testing for the 2020-2021 school year.