# Superintendent’s Memo #195-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: August 9, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: End-of-Course Standards of Learning Tests in Algebra I for Students Instructed under the 2009 *Mathematics Standards of Learning*

The Virginia Board of Education adopted the [2016 *Mathematics Standards of Learning* *(SOL)*](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/mathematics/index.shtml) and the [2016 *Mathematics SOL Curriculum Framework*](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/mathematics/index.shtml) on September 22, 2016, and the 2018-2019 school year was identified as the full implementation year when school divisions were to include the 2016 *Mathematics SOL* in their written, taught, and tested curricula. New SOL tests were developed to assess the revised mathematics standards and were administered to students for the first time beginning in spring 2019.

Based on Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) policies, when new end-of-course (EOC) SOL tests have been implemented, students continue to take the EOC test associated with the version of the SOL under which they received instruction and earned their standard credit. For example, a student who passed an Algebra I course based on the 2009 *Mathematics SOL* would continue to take the SOL test assessing the 2009 standards for purposes of earning a verified credit or meeting federal accountability requirements. Students would take the test based on the 2016 *Mathematics SOL* only if they re-took the class taught under the newer version of the standards.

Recently school divisions have requested that students who received a standard credit in Algebra I based on the 2009 *Mathematics SOL* be allowed to complete the EOC Algebra I test based on the 2016 *Mathematics SOL* without having to re-take the entire Algebra I course. In response to this request, the VDOE is providing guidance that students instructed under the 2009 *Mathematics SOL* may be administered the EOC Algebra I test based on 2016 *Mathematics SOL* only after the school division ensures that students have been taught all of the content included in the new Algebra I standards. The document, [Algebra I - Expanded Crosswalk: 2009 and 2016 *Mathematics Standards of Learning* and *Curriculum Framework*](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/mathematics/2016/crosswalk/algebra-1-expanded-crosswalk.docx), details the differences between the two versions of the *Mathematics SOL* to assist school divisions as they plan remediation for these students.

If you have questions regarding mathematics assessments, please contact the student assessment staff at Student\_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov or (804) 225-2102. If you have questions regarding mathematics instruction, please contact the mathematics instructional staff at mathematics@doe.virginia.gov or (804) 225-4849.

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