# Superintendent’s Memo #148-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: June 18, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: 2020-2021 Virginia Standards of Learning Test Administration Dates

The statewide [2020-2021 Virginia Standards of Learning Test Administration Dates](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/test_administration/testing_calendars/2020-2021-sol-test-calendar.docx) are now available on the Virginia Department of Education’s (VDOE) [Test Administration](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/test_administration/index.shtml#calendars) web page and detailed within this memo. VDOE staff are aware that COVID-19 may have an impact on testing schedules for the 2020-2021 school year and will provide adjustments to the testing windows if necessary. However, this testing schedule information is being provided to school divisions now so that Standards of Learning (SOL) testing and other activities for the 2020-2021 school year may be scheduled without conflicts.

### Fall 2020 Online SOL Writing Tests:

The fall 2020 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, October 19, 2020,**to**Friday, November 6, 2020**. Term Graduate students scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2021, may have an additional online testing opportunity if they are not successful on their first attempt. The first online test opportunity for Term Graduate students must be administered between **Monday, October 19, 2020,** and **Friday, October 30, 2020**. If a Term Graduate student fails the first attempt, the student may be administered a second online End-of-Course (EOC) Writing test during the Term Graduate second attempt test window scheduled from **Monday, November 16, 2020,**to**Friday, December 11, 2020**.

### Fall 2020 Paper SOL Writing Tests:

Students with a documented need for a paper test who are scheduled to take the fall 2020 SOL Writing test should be administered paper versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test during the week of October 19, 2020. The multiple-choice component of the paper SOL Writing tests will be administered on either **Monday, October 19, 2020,** or **Tuesday, October 20, 2020**. The short-paper component of the paper tests must be administered statewide on **Wednesday, October 21, 2020**. Students who are absent on the date of the statewide paper short-paper component will respond to a different writing prompt, the alternate prompt, during the make‑up period. Term Graduate students completing paper tests will be provided two testing opportunities. All paper SOL Writing tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, November 6, 2020**.

### Fall 2020 SOL Non-Writing Tests:

The fall 2020 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, November 30, 2020,**to **Friday, February 19, 2021**. School divisions 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. Prior to the test administration, each Division Director of Testing (DDOT) will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the fall 2020 Non-Writing SOL tests within the statewide test window. Divisions must select a three- to four-week test window for all first time test takers and EOC retesters. Term Graduate students may be tested in a longer window to account for the additional test attempts that may be necessary to meet verified credit requirements.

### Spring 2021 Online SOL Writing Tests:

The spring 2021 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, March 1, 2021,** to **Friday, April 2, 2021**. Prior to the test administration, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the spring 2021 grade 8 and EOC SOL Writing tests online within the statewide test window. Divisions must select a three- to four-week test window for all first time test takers and EOC retesters.

Term Graduate students scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2021, 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 students must be administered between **Monday, March 1, 2021,** and**Friday, March 12, 2021**. If a Term Graduate student fails the first attempt, the student may be administered a second online EOC Writing test during the Term Graduate second attempt test window scheduled from **Monday, April 5, 2021,**to**Friday, April 23, 2021**.

### Spring 2021 Paper SOL Writing Tests:

Students with a documented need for a paper test who are scheduled to take the spring 2021 grade 8 or EOC SOL Writing test should be administered paper versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test. Prior to the test administration, each DDOT will be asked to identify one test window for the division from three possible paper test window options as follows:

* Option 1 (also the Term Graduate test window): The multiple-choice component of the paper SOL Writing tests will be administered either **Monday, March 1, 2021,** or **Tuesday, March 2, 2021**.The short-paper component of the paper tests will be administered **Wednesday, March 3, 2021**. All tests, including any make-up tests, must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 16, 2021**.
* Option 2: The multiple-choice component of the paper SOL Writing tests will be administered either **Monday, March 8, 2021,** or **Tuesday, March 9, 2021**. The short-paper component of the paper tests will be administered **Wednesday, March 10, 2021**.All tests, including any make-up tests, must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 23, 2021**.
* Option 3: The multiple-choice component of the paper SOL Writing tests will be administered either **Monday, March 15, 2021,** or **Tuesday, March 16, 2021**. The short-paper component of the paper tests will be administered **Wednesday, March 17, 2021**. All tests, including any make-up tests, must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, March 26, 2021**.

Term Graduate students scheduled to graduate by August 31, 2021, with a documented need for a paper test will be provided two testing opportunities. The paper version of the SOL Writing test will be administered during the Term Graduate test window, also Option 1, as described above.These tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Tuesday, March 16, 2021**, to ensure the availability of test results prior to spring graduation.

### Spring 2021 Online and Paper SOL Non-Writing Tests:

The spring 2021 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, April 12,** **2021,** to**Friday, June 25, 2021**. School divisions have flexibility in determining their testing windows for grades 3 through 8, CSH, and EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the spring. Prior to the test administration, each DDOT will be asked to identify when the school division will administer the spring 2021 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. Divisions must select a three- to four-week test window for all first time test takers and EOC retesters. Term Graduate students may be tested in a longer window to account for the additional test attempts that may be necessary to meet verified credit requirements.

### Summer 2021 Online SOL Writing Tests:

The summer 2021 statewide online SOL Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, July 12, 2021,**to **Friday, July 30, 2021**. Two online EOC Writing test opportunities will be available to Term Graduate students, but in contrast to the fall 2020 and spring 2021 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 students during the summer online SOL Writing test window, July 12 – July 30, 2021.

### Summer 2021 Paper SOL Writing Tests:

Students with a documented need for a paper test who are scheduled to take the summer 2021 SOL Writing test should be administered paper versions of the appropriate SOL Writing test during the week of July 12, 2021. The multiple-choice component of the paper SOL Writing tests will be administered on either **Monday, July 12, 2021,** or **Tuesday, July 13, 2021**. The short-paper component of the paper tests must be administered statewide on **Wednesday, July 14, 2021**. Students who are absent on the date of the statewide paper short-paper component will respond to a different writing prompt, the alternate prompt, during the make-up period. Term Graduate students completing paper tests will be provided two EOC Writing test opportunities during the SOL Writing test window.All paper SOL Writing tests must be completed and answer documents shipped for scoring by **Friday, July 23, 2021**.

### Summer 2021 Online and Paper SOL Non-Writing Tests:

The summer 2021 statewide online SOL Non-Writing test window is scheduled from **Monday, June 14, 2021,** to **Friday, September 17, 2021**. School divisions have flexibility in determining their testing windows for EOC Non-Writing SOL tests administered in the summer. Divisions must select a three- to four-week test window for all first time test takers and EOC retesters. Term Graduate students may be tested in a longer window to account for the additional test attempts that may be necessary to meet verified credit requirements.

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

JFL/SLR/as