

Crosswalk of Alternative and Alternate Assessments for Students with Disabilities in Virginia



Virginia Department of Education

Note: Please consider all relevant accommodations on SOL assessments for a student before considering an alternate or alternative assessment.

	VAAP Virginia Alternate Assessment Program	VGLA Virginia Grade Level Alternative Assessment	VSEP Virginia Substitute Evaluation Program
DESCRIPTION OF ASSESSMENT	<p>The Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) is the measurement of student performance for individuals with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to participate in statewide SOL testing, even with accommodations.</p> <p>The VAAP will measure the student’s individual achievement of the Aligned Standards of Learning in the areas of reading, math, science and history/social science. Aligned Standards of Learning represent the academic skills that will serve as the framework for the academic curriculum for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The Aligned Standards of Learning are based on SOL skills that have been reduced in depth and complexity.</p> <p>Additionally, students will demonstrate communication skills related to the selected Aligned Standards of Learning across the domains of context, settings, socialization and communication support.</p> <p>Student performance and supporting evidence are called a collection of evidence (COE)</p> <p>Evidence that supports the Aligned Standards of Learning is collected October through March</p>	<p>The Virginia Grade Level Alternative Assessment (VGLA) provides students in grades 3 through 8 the opportunity to participate in state assessments whose nature and level of disability prevents them from participating in SOL test(s)</p> <p>VGLA allows a student to demonstrate individual achievement of Virginia SOL content for a specific grade level through another means. It is designed for students who do not qualify for the VAAP and cannot demonstrate individual achievement on the Virginia SOL test(s), even with accommodations.</p> <p>Used as an “alternative” to paper and pencil and/or online administrations of the SOL tests</p> <p>The VGLA measures the same on-grade level SOL as are measured by the multiple choice test. On-grade level meaning the grade in which the student is enrolled.</p> <p>Participants in the VGLA are expected to submit a collection of evidence to demonstrate individual achievement on Virginia’s SOL for a given content area.</p>	<p>The Virginia Substitute Evaluation Program (VSEP) is designed for students with disabilities who have attained the knowledge and skills addressed by the Virginia Standards of Learning, but are unable to <i>access</i> the assessment(s) due to the nature of their disabilities <u>and</u> type of accommodations they use to access content and/or assessments.</p> <p>Student performance and supporting evidence are called a Course Work Compilation (CWC). A CWC is a selection of student work that demonstrates to the review panel that the student has demonstrated proficiency in the Standards of Learning for a specific course/content area.</p> <p>The VSEP measures the same End of Course SOL as are measured by the multiple choice test. VSEP may also be used to demonstrate literacy and/or numeracy certification for students seeking a Modified Standard Diploma and meeting VSEP participation criteria.</p>

PARTICIPATION CRITERIA

VAAP

Students participating in VAAP must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. The student has a current IEP or one is being developed.
2. The student demonstrates significant cognitive disabilities.
3. The student's present level of performance indicates the need for extensive, direct instruction and/or intervention in a curriculum framework based on Aligned Standards of Learning. The present level of performance or student evaluation may also include personal management, recreation and leisure, school and community, vocational, communication, social competence and/or motor skills.
4. The student requires intensive, frequent, and individualized instruction in a variety of settings to show active interaction and achievement.
5. If in High school, the student is working toward educational goals other than those prescribed for a Modified Standard, Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma.

VGLA

Students participating in VGLA must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. The student has a current IEP or Section 504 Plan
2. The student demonstrates his/her individual achievement of SOL content through means other than multiple-choice formats.
3. As a result of a disability, the student is unable to demonstrate his/her individual achievement on the SOL test for the assigned course or grade level using available standard and/or non-standard accommodations and/or formats.

VSEP

Students participating in VSEP Must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. The student has a current IEP or 504 plan.
 2. The student is enrolled in a course that has a Standards of Learning end-of-course test and/or the student is pursuing a Modified Standard Diploma and seeking certification for having met the literacy and/or numeracy requirements.
 3. The impact of the student's disability demonstrates to the IEP team or 504 committee that the student will not be able to access the Standards of Learning assessments even with standard or nonstandard testing accommodations and therefore requires a substitute evaluation.
- In considering possible participation in VSEP, IEP team/504 committee members need to be sure that all possible standard and nonstandard accommodations have been examined within the student's program in order to provide access to content and assessment within the specific Standards of Learning course.

