

Standards of Learning (SOL) – Online Testing

Most high schools in Virginia now administer the Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments online, rather than as paper-and-pencil tests. Online testing has become the preferred method of administering SOL assessments.

From May 9th through June 8th, high school students in Loudoun County Public Schools will be administered their SOL assessments as online tests, unless it would be in the student's best interest to instead take paper-and-pencil tests.

The Virginia Department of Education has conducted numerous studies to ensure that the online tests are comparable to paper-and-pencil tests. That is, students would earn approximately the same score, regardless of whether they took the test on a computer or with paper-and-pencil. Also, students will have a number of different training experiences prior to actually taking an SOL test online. However, for students or parents who are uncomfortable with online SOL testing, a paper-and-pencil version of the tests will be made available.

If you would like more information about online SOL testing, you can download to your home computer a "tutorial." This is about a 10 minute "video," with either accompanying sound or on-screen text, that provides an overview of online SOL testing in a variety of different subjects. From the Loudoun County Public Schools' Internet Home Page (www.lcps.org), follow the path:

Quick Links > Testing > SOL Online Testing

Unless we hear from you otherwise, we will provide your son/daughter with online SOL tests. We will only offer a paper-and-pencil test if we are notified by **April 15th** that you or your son/daughter would prefer the paper-and-pencil version of the SOL test.

If you have any questions, I can be contacted at **(571) 252-2200 X 82044**.

Sincerely,

Tammy Conover
School Testing Coordinator