

SPSF Family & Caregiver Guide

No single test or report card can capture the full story of your child’s learning, or the successes and opportunities at a school. That’s why Virginia looks at multiple measures—not just test scores—to understand how schools are helping students grow and get ready for the future. This overview provides you with a high-level understanding of how the Student Performance and Support Framework guides student learning in Virginia.

Virginia schools are measured based on a variety of factors to create a balanced picture. Each factor, or component, includes multiple measures. Depending on the grade span, the state looks at:



Mastery:

Student performance in reading, math, and science, plus English learners’ progress in acquiring English language skills, on state assessments.



Growth:

How much students improve in reading and math over the year in **elementary and middle schools**.



Readiness:

Indicators of future success, including consistent attendance, advanced **middle school** math coursework, postsecondary preparation (3E Readiness) in **high school**, and **high school graduation** within six years.



Graduation:

The percentage of **high school** students who earn a standard or advanced diploma within four years.

School Ratings

Schools earn points based on how they do in each component, and schools’ overall points place them into one of four Performance Categories:

Distinguished (90+ points):

Exceeding expectations for students.

Meets Expectations (formerly On Track) (80–89 points):

Meeting expectations for students.

Approaching Expectations (formerly Off Track) (65–79 points):

Not yet meeting expectations for students.

Needs Intensive Support (<65 points):

Schools significantly not meeting expectations for students.

How Can I Use This Information?

School Performance Categories, much like student performance on a report card, provide a snapshot of how your school is doing in meeting the state’s expectations. They do not tell the whole story of a school’s strengths and weaknesses, so it is important to ask your principal for more details.

A school can be exemplary in one area and need extra support in another. Families play a pivotal role in supporting the success of their student and school.

For data about your schools, visit School Quality Profiles at schoolquality.virginia.gov.
To learn more about the SPSF, visit the SPSF webpage at doe.virginia.gov/spsf.

How Virginia Calculates School Performance

	Mastery Overall student achievement	Growth Year-over-year student improvement	Readiness Preparation and Engagement	Graduation Preparation for post-high school
ELEMENTARY	Total Weight: 65% Reading Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 22.5% Math Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 22.5% Science Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% English Learner Progress (WIDA assessments): 10%	Total Weight: 25% Reading Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 12.5% Math Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 12.5%	Total Weight: 10% Chronic Absenteeism: 10%	N/A
MIDDLE	Total Weight: 60% Reading Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 20% Math Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 20% Science Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% English Learner Progress (WIDA assessments): 10%	Total Weight: 20% Reading Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% Math Growth (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10%	Total Weight: 20% Chronic Absenteeism: 10% Advanced Math Coursework: 10%	N/A
HIGH	Total Weight: 50% Reading Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 15% Math Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 15% Science Performance (SOL & VAAP assessments): 10% English Learner Progress (WIDA assessments): 10%	N/A	Total Weight: 35% Chronic Absenteeism: 5% 6-Year Graduation Rate with Applied Studies: 5% 3E Readiness: 25%	Total Weight: 15% Federal Graduation Indicator (4-Year Graduation Rate): 15%