

Assessing Algebra Readiness in Virginia

Background: Each school division in Virginia receives state funds to implement algebra readiness programs for students. However, with the adoption of new Standards of Learning in 2016, the state's Algebra Readiness Diagnostic Test is no longer aligned with math standards. To help educators identify student and program needs, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) created support documents that can be used with other diagnostic data.

The challenge: To prepare Virginia teachers to assess student algebra readiness

What we did: Staff at the ARCC collaborated with the state to

- Develop a Mathematics Vertical Articulation Tool
- Create, run, and evaluate teacher training sessions
- Use feedback from training participants to create new resources

What happened: By 2019, VDOE:

- Produced and made available the Mathematics Vertical Articulation Tool for students in grades 3-8 and those taking Algebra I courses
- Created "how-to" resources (such as instructions and videos) to help educators use the Mathematics Vertical Articulation Tool well
- Gathered feedback from educators across the state to identify additional needs