# Superintendent’s Memo #218-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: September 6, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: Virginia Preschool Initiative Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program

To support high-quality instruction, improve teacher-child interactions, and improve kindergarten readiness in Virginia’s preschool classrooms, the 2019 Virginia General Assembly appropriated funds to support well-prepared teachers for children served through the Virginia Preschool Initiative. The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is pleased to announce the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program. This program provides funding up to $30,000 per school division and up to $6,000 per teacher to offer financial incentives (i.e., course tuition and associated fees) to provisionally licensed teachers who are actively engaged in coursework with the goal of becoming fully licensed to teach young learners. To qualify for the incentives, teachers must:

* teach VPI students, this includes provisionally licensed Early Childhood Special Education teachers that are responsible for providing instruction to VPI students;
* hold an active, **provisional** Virginia teaching license; and
* be actively engaged in taking coursework to satisfy licensure requirements reflected in the [*Code of Virginia* § 22.1-299](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter15/section22.1-299/). (The license that is being sought must include an appropriate endorsement in preK-3, preK-6, or Special Education Early Childhood.)

Additional information about VPI Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program grants and how to apply may be found in the 2019-2020 VPI Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program Application, Attachment A and in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), Attachment B of this memorandum. A school division interested in submitting an application must identify a representative to complete the application and communicate directly with eligible teachers. The grant application is due by 4 p.m. on October 11, 2019. VDOE will make official, hardcopy Grant Award Notifications to successful school division applicants no later than December 6, 2019.

If you need additional information or have questions about the VPI Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program, please contact Kim Powell, Grants and Reports Manager, Office of STEM and Innovation, by email at Kim.Powell@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-3609 or Dr. Mark R. Allan, Early Childhood Education Project Manager, Office of Early Childhood, by email at Mark.Allan@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-3665.

JFL/MRA/lh

### Attachments

### A: [Virginia Preschool Initiative Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2019/218-19a.docx) (Word)

### B: [Virginia Preschool Initiative Provisionally Licensed Teacher Incentive Program Frequently Asked Questions](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2019/218-19b.docx) (Word)