



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

DATE: February 2, 2018
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Steven M. Constantino, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: Spring 2018 Professional Development on the Implementation of Performance Assessments

As initially referenced in [Superintendent's Memo No. 135-17](#), the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) will be providing professional development for all school divisions in 2018 regarding the implementation of performance assessments. VDOE will convene four regional two-day events focusing on the Virginia Quality Criterion Tool for Performance Assessments and the use of rubric scoring. The current version of the [Virginia Quality Criterion Tool for Performance Assessments](#) is available online. The events are funded by [a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation](#) to support the implementation of performance assessments and are supported by Jobs for the Future (JFF), a national nonprofit organization focused on broadening educational and economic opportunity, and Envision Learning, formerly the Stanford Center for Assessment, Language and Equity or SCALE.

The intended audience for the two-day events includes division-level instruction and assessment leaders who are responsible for ensuring the implementation of performance assessments in their school division and supporting teachers and principals throughout this work. Participants will work with performance assessment materials for middle and high school history and social science and English writing; and for elementary school science, history and social science, and English writing. Opportunities also will be provided for school division networking and sharing of current performance assessment work to help support professional collaboration.

Each school division should plan for three staff members to attend the same two-day event based on the location closest to their division. Registration at other locations will be dependent on the availability of space on those dates. One night of lodging will be provided for the three participants as well as breakfast and lunch on each day of the event. Requests for larger divisions to have more than three leaders attend will be considered on a space-available basis; however, lodging can only be provided for three participants.

Registration details will be provided to school division superintendents during the last week in February to register their team for an event and to request hotel accommodations. The scheduled dates and locations for events are as follows:

- **May 7-8, 2018: Fredericksburg, VA**
University of Mary Washington – Stafford Campus
- **May 10-11, 2018: Staunton, VA**
Stonewall Jackson Hotel & Conference Center
- **June 4-5, 2018: South Boston, VA**
Berry Hill Resort & Conference Center
- **June 7-8, 2018: Abingdon, VA**
Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center

For questions regarding this information, please email [Kim Dockery](#), VDOE Performance Assessment Coordinator.

SMC/KPD/oml

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