



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

DATE: May 11, 2018
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Steven M. Constantino, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2019 Planning and Start-up Grants for Extended School Year or Year-Round School Programs

Since fiscal year 2014, the Appropriation Act has included funding for planning grants and start-up grants to school division interested in planning to establish extended year or year-round school programs or in implementing year-round or extended year programs in support of the findings from the 2012 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) report, *Review of Year-Round Schools*. **State Funding for fiscal year 2019 programs is contingent upon the availability of funds via General Assembly appropriation.**

Planning Grant funds: School divisions may apply for grants of no more than \$50,000 each for the division or individual schools to pursue the creation of new year-round or extended year school programs. The Appropriation Act requires priority to be given to schools based on need, relative to the state accreditation ratings or similar federal designations. Applications must include evidence of commitment to pursue implementation in the subsequent 2019-2020 school year. If balances exist in planning grant funds, existing extended school year programs may be eligible to apply for remaining funds or funds may be dispersed as grants to school divisions to support innovative approaches to instructional delivery or school governance models.

Start-up Grant funds: Annual start-up grants of up to \$300,000 per extended school year or year-round school may be awarded for a period of up to two years after the initial implementation year to implement new extended year or year-round school programs in either the 2018-2019 or 2019-2020 school year. In addition, funds awarded may be spent over two years. The annual per school amount may be up to \$400,000 in the case of schools denied accreditation. If funds remain after grants have been awarded, funds may be dispersed as grants to school divisions to support innovative approaches to instructional delivery or school governance models.

Recipients of either a planning or start-up grant, except for school divisions with schools in denied accreditation status, must provide a twenty percent local match to the state grant amount awarded. For start-up grants, subsequent to the third consecutive year of successful participation, an eligible school's grant amount (including accreditation denied schools) shall be based on a shared split of the grant between the state and the participating school division's using the division's local composite index. In the case of any school division with schools in denied accreditation status that apply for funds, the school division must consult with the Superintendent of Public Instruction or designee on all recommendations regarding instructional programs or instructional personnel prior to submission to the local school board for approval.

To be considered for selection for either a planning grant or a start-up grant, applicants must submit a complete response addressing all application requirements. You will find links for the instructions and applications below. Planning grant applicants should refer to Attachments A and B; start-up grant applicants should refer to Attachments C and D.

All school divisions applying for either a planning grant or a start-up grant must submit a completed PDF file of the relevant application **by 5 p.m. on July 6, 2018**, to Meg Foley (meg.foley@doe.virginia.gov ✉) at the Virginia Department of Education, Division of Instruction. Applications that are not received by the deadline will not be considered. **Recipients of start-up grant funds must apply each fiscal year in order to continue receiving start-up grant funds each fiscal year.** See the start-up grant instructions for details.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Meg Foley (meg.foley@doe.virginia.gov ✉) at the Virginia Department of Education, Division of Instruction, or at (804) 786-0877.

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Attachments:

- A. [FY2018-2019 Planning Grant Instructions for Extended School Year, Year-Round School Grant](#) (Word)
- B. [FY2018-2019 Planning Grant Application for Extended School Year, Year-Round School Grant](#) (Word)
- C. [FY2018-2019 Start-up Grant Instructions for Extended School Year, Year-Round School Grant](#) (Word)
- D. [FY2018-2019 Start-up Grant Application for Extended School Year, Year-Round School Grant](#) (Word)