



**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:** **Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports (VTSS) Cohort 5 Application**

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) invite school divisions to apply for Cohort 5 of the Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports (VTSS). The VTSS is a coordinated, tiered approach to improving educational outcomes through a continuum of evidence-based academic, behavioral, and mental wellness supports for all students. Through this initiative, VDOE will provide training and technical assistance to school divisions in the implementation of VTSS. Participation in VTSS Cohort 5 is open to all Virginia school divisions not currently participating in a VTSS cohort.

The VTSS provides a framework for organizing evidence-based practices to address the continuum of student needs in a school. Professional development will be provided to support implementation of evidence-based practices with fidelity. The goal of VTSS is to enable schools to establish learning environments characterized by positive behavior and fidelity of instruction to impact student outcomes. This initiative is funded through the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) program, a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education (Federal Award #H323A170018).

Divisions interested in participating in VTSS Cohort 5 should review the application instructions (Attachment A) and submit a completed application (Attachment B) no later than June 13, 2018. Divisions interested in learning more about the application process should attend the VTSS Cohort 5 Application Webinar on Wednesday, May 30, 2018, at 3 p.m. Those interested in participating in the webinar are directed to complete the registration at: [link: https://redcap.vcu.edu/surveys/?s=JCFFPNXTEJ](https://redcap.vcu.edu/surveys/?s=JCFFPNXTEJ) ➔

Questions regarding the VTSS Cohort 5 application process or the application webinar event should be directed to Ms. Maribel Saimre, Associate Director, Office of Student Services, via email at [Maribel.Saimre@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Maribel.Saimre@doe.virginia.gov) ✉, or by telephone at (804) 692-0396.

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**Attachments:**

- A. [VTSS Cohort 5 Overview and Application Instructions](#) (Word)
- B. [VTSS Cohort 5 Application](#) (Word)
- C. [Division Exploration Activities](#) (Word)