



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

DATE: October 19, 2018

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)* - Approval of State Plan Amendment and Release of U. S. Department of Education (USED) Guide for Parents

The Virginia Department of Education has received approval from the U.S. Department of Education (USED) on an amendment to its [ESSA State Plan](#). As described in [Superintendent's Memo 240-18](#), the purpose of the amendment was to change a procedural step in the process for identifying schools for comprehensive support and improvement. The last step of Virginia's identification process was revised so that Title I schools that are identified using steps one through three of the identification process are ranked by reading and mathematics performance to identify the lowest five percent of schools. This change is effective beginning with the 2018-2019 accountability year. The list of schools identified for support and improvement under ESSA for the 2018-2019 accountability year is provided on the [Federal Accountability website](#).

The USED released an ESSA guide for parents on the [USED ESSA Resources website](#). The guide is available in English and Spanish.

Questions about this information should be directed to ESSA@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/lis

Links:

- [Federal Accountability website](#)
- [Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 \(ESSA\)](#)
- [Superintendent's Memo 240-18](#)
- [USED ESSA Resources website](#)
- [Virginia's ESSA State Plan](#)
- [Virginia's ESSA website](#)