



**#217-22**

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Education  
Superintendent's Memo #217-22**

DATE: September 16, 2022  
TO: Division Superintendents  
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
SUBJECT: Nominations for the 2024 Mary V. Bicouvaris Teacher of the Year Program

All public and accredited nonpublic schools are invited to participate in the **2024 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Program**. This award honors teachers who represent the best in teaching in the Commonwealth of Virginia and across the nation.

Since 1964, Virginia has participated in the National Teacher of the Year Program, a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). In 2006, Virginia's Teacher of the Year Program was renamed in honor of the 1989 Virginia and National Teacher of the Year, Dr. Mary V. Bicouvaris.

The program is open to all teachers in pre-kindergarten through grade 12, including school librarians, guidance counselors, and reading specialists, who hold a current renewable Virginia teaching license in the assigned teaching area. Teachers must be employed in a Virginia public or accredited nonpublic school. Candidates should be dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled, and plan to continue in an active teaching role. Candidates must hold a five- or ten-year renewable Virginia license issued by the Virginia Board of Education. Teachers holding provisional, provisional (special education), provisional (career switcher), eligibility, or international educator licenses are not eligible to participate in the program. **Attachment A** includes general information about the application and procedures and **Attachment B** is the application.

## Cycle Adjustment and New Timeline

As mentioned in the call for 2023 Teacher of the Year applications (March 2022), the Virginia Department of Education is adjusting the timeline for applications based on feedback from previous Teachers of the Year and division leaders. Applications will now be due by **4 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2023**, and should be submitted by email to [Teacher.Education@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Teacher.Education@doe.virginia.gov). This change in the timeline will permit the selection panel to announce the Regional Teachers of the Year in the spring of 2023, which will give the selected Virginia Teacher of the year more time to prepare for the national-level application process. As such, schools and divisions are asked to plan their selections earlier in the school year. A sample timeline is included in **Attachment A**.

### For more information

Please direct any questions or requests for additional information to Dr. Meg Homer at [Meghan.Homer@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Meghan.Homer@doe.virginia.gov).

JB/jbj/mkh

- A. Attachment: [2024 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year General Information and Procedures](#) (DOCX)
- B. Attachment: [2024 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Application](#) (DOCX)