



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**Department of Education**

**DATE:** June 23, 2017  
**TO:** Division Superintendents  
**FROM:** Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
**SUBJECT: Graduate-Level Course for Educators of English Learners**

As part of the Virginia Department of Education's ongoing effort to meet the state professional development requirements for Title III under the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA), as amended, a graduate-level online course for educators of English Learners (ELs) will be offered in collaboration with George Mason University (GMU). The online graduate-level course, *EDUC 537: Introduction to Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Learners*, will convene on August 29, 2017, and will conclude on December 12, 2017. The Department will cover the costs for tuition and textbooks for all enrolled participants.

Course participation is limited to the first 25 educators who complete the online registration. To enroll, please go to: <http://bit.ly/217Rodo> and complete the information required. Once you submit the form, a message will indicate your response has been recorded. GMU will register you for the course and confirm your attendance in early August 2017.

If you have questions regarding registration, please contact Andreina Sanchez at GMU at [msanch30@gmu.edu](mailto:msanch30@gmu.edu) or at 703-993-3602.

If you have questions about the course, please contact Judy Radford, ESL Professional Development Coordinator, at (804) 786-1692 or at [Judy.Radford@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Judy.Radford@doe.virginia.gov).

SRS/JR/jf