



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
Department of Education

July 24, 2015

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: General Assembly House Bill (HB) 1616 – Career and Technical Education Alignment with National Certification Requirements, Effective 2015-2016 School Year**

The 2015 Virginia General Assembly amended and reenacted § 22.1-227-01 of the *Code of Virginia* that requires each sequence of courses constituting a career and technical education (CTE) program completion to be aligned with state or national program certification and accreditation standards, if such standards exist. However, this enactment shall not apply to any program offered by industry in cooperation with a local school board. For more detailed information, refer to [HB 1616](#).

Currently, all state-approved CTE courses and programs are aligned with state and/or national certifications and accreditation standards for those that exist. The alignment process is part of the CTE curriculum review that includes Virginia classroom content teachers and business and industry experts.

If you have any questions, please contact Lolita B. Hall, director, Office of Career and Technical Education Services, at [CTE@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:CTE@doe.virginia.gov) or by telephone at (804) 225-2051.

SRS/LBH/aab