



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

February 28, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: Virginia History or State and Local Government Module for Licensure Renewal**

This correspondence is a follow-up to [Superintendent's Memo #285-13](#), dated October 25, 2013, notifying school divisions that in response to Senate Bill 1345 of the 2013 General Assembly, the Virginia Board of Education amended the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* to require the following:

*Any individual licensed and endorsed to teach (i) middle school civics or economics or (ii) high school government or history who is seeking renewal of such license is required to demonstrate knowledge of Virginia history or state and local government by completing a module or professional development course specifically related to Virginia history or state and local government that has a value of five professional development points. This requirement applies for purposes of the individual's next or initial renewal occurring after July 1, 2014.*

Below is a list of teaching endorsements that permit an individual holding a valid Virginia teaching license to teach (i) middle school civics or economics, or (ii) high school government or history. Please note that some of these endorsements are no longer issued; however, individuals may have received one or more of the endorsements pursuant to previous regulations. Individuals who hold any one of these endorsements on a Virginia license will be required to satisfy the Virginia History or State and Local Government requirement for renewal after July 1, 2014.

**Endorsements**

- Early-Middle Education K-8
- Elementary Grades NK-8
- Elementary Grades K-7
- Elementary Grades K-8
- Elementary Grades 1-7
- Elementary Grades 4-7
- Kindergarten Elementary Grades 1-7
- Economics
- Government
- History
- History and Social Sciences
- Middle Education Grades 4-8
- Middle Education Grades 5-8
- Middle Education Grades 6-8
- Middle Education Grades 6-7
- Middle Education 6-8: History and Social Science
- Social Studies-Without History

To meet the requirements, the Virginia Department of Education is offering the [Virginia State and Local Civic Education Module](#) free of charge. The module may be accessed at the following address: <http://www.civiceducationva.org/>. Individuals completing the module should print a copy of the certificate of completion for verification. The module has a value of five professional development points.

#### School Divisions Submitting Licensure Renewal Requests

After July 1, 2014, school divisions submitting license renewal requests on behalf of employees will be required to verify the completion of the module or professional development course specifically related to Virginia history or state and local government.

Individuals employed in a Virginia public school or accredited nonpublic school who are interested in completing a professional development course specifically related to Virginia history or state and local government (other than the module referred to above) to satisfy this license renewal requirement must seek prior approval from their employing agencies.

#### Individuals Submitting Licensure Renewals

After July 1, 2014, an individual requesting license renewal must submit official documentation of the completion of the module or professional development course specifically related to Virginia history or state and local government.

Individuals not employed by a Virginia public school or accredited nonpublic school who are interested in completing a professional development course specifically related to Virginia history or state and local government (other than the module referred to above) to satisfy this license renewal requirement must seek approval from the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, Virginia Department of Education, prior to taking the professional development course.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. Mark R. Allan, director of licensure and school leadership, via e-mail at [Mark.Allan@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Mark.Allan@doe.virginia.gov) or telephone at (804) 371-2471.

PIW/mra