



#029-22

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #029-22**

DATE: February 4, 2022
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **Call for Presentations on Effective Alternative Education Schools and Programs in Virginia**

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) encourages school divisions to apply for inclusion as presenters in the Effective Alternative Education Schools and Programs in Virginia webinars, which will be scheduled for the Fall of 2022 and will highlight **successful alternative education programs in Virginia**. The webinars will include prerecorded 30-minute presentations or videos developed by the selected school divisions that outline the components of a successful alternative school or program in Virginia. Following the pre-recorded sessions, school division representatives will participate in a live Question and Answer (Q and A) session for the webinar attendees.

To be considered for inclusion in the webinar, the presenter or school contact must complete the [Call for Presentations on Effective Alternative Education Schools and Programs in Virginia](#) application by **March 18, 2022**. All submissions must include information about how the school or program addresses the needs of special education students. The VDOE Office of Student Services staff will review the submissions and select those with supporting data that are most closely aligned with the recommended criteria for alternative education programs. Schools and programs will be notified of their selection by **April 8, 2022**. Recorded presentations are due by **July 29, 2022**. The webinars will be scheduled for a date(s) in September or October 2022. A school or program representative must be available for the live

Q and A session on the date(s) of the webinar. Submissions chosen will be eligible for a stipend upon completion of the project.

The [Model Guidance for Positive and Preventative Code of Student Conduct Policy and Alternatives to Suspension](#) includes the criteria set by the *Code of Virginia § 22.1-209.1:2* for evaluating regional alternative education programs and Guidelines for the Reduction of Exclusionary Practices in Virginia Schools. Divisions are encouraged to use these resources to evaluate their local alternative schools and programs.

Requirements for Presentations and Videos:

- Presentations must be in a prerecorded YouTube, PowerPoint, or recorded Zoom cloud file. *All presentations must be accessible with closed captioning and/or a script.*
- Presentations should be between 20 and 30 minutes in length.
- Content must address the Recommended Criteria for Alternative Educational Programs, which forms the basis for the questions in the Call for Presentations.
- Content must include evidence and/or data documenting the success of the school or program.
- Student-produced submissions are encouraged.

For more information

For questions related to this opportunity, please contact Rebecca Kahila, School Discipline and Safety Specialist, Office of Student Services, by email at Rebecca.Kahila@doe.virginia.gov, or Doranda Scott, School Discipline and Climate Specialist, Office of Student Services, by email at Doranda.Scott@doe.virginia.gov.

JB/RCK/rge