

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2120  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218-2120

TESTING MEMO NO. 1574

April 18, 2023

TO: Division Directors of Testing  
Special Education Directors

FROM: Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent  
Department of Student Assessment, Accountability, and ESEA Programs

Dr. Samantha Hollins, Assistant Superintendent  
Department of Special Education and Student Services

SUBJECT: Professional Opportunity: Developing Integrated Lesson Plans for the Virginia  
Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP)

The Department of Student Assessment, Accountability, and ESEA Programs and the Department of Special Education and Student Services at the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) are pleased to announce an upcoming opportunity during the summer of 2023 for Virginia teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities. A group of teachers will be assembled to create integrated lesson plans for the Virginia Essentialized Standards of Learning (VESOL) in reading, mathematics, and science.

The Office of Student Assessment and the Office of Instructional Services are working collaboratively to create resources to support instruction and implementation of the VESOL. We are seeking teachers who specifically work with students with significant cognitive disabilities, as well as specialists in the field, to be an integral part of this work. Participants will create lesson plans, each with an integrated component, to support VESOL standards in one of the content areas of reading, mathematics, or science. All meetings will be held virtually. A brief outline of the schedule of work is provided:

- May 23, 3:00-4:30 p.m. – Team leaders meet with VDOE staff to structure the work.
- June 7, 3:00-5:00 p.m. – Training by VDOE staff of all team leaders and developers.
- June 22, 10:00-11:00 a.m. – Team leaders meet with VDOE staff.
- June 7 to July 28 – Team leaders and developers work to create and refine lesson plans.
- August 1, 10:00-11:00 a.m. – Team leaders, developers, and VDOE meet to discuss final work.
- August 4 – Lesson plans due to VDOE.

Serving on this team should not prevent participants from teaching summer school, serving on committees, or taking vacation, as most of the work can be completed during times that are convenient for individual participants. Participants will be paid for each lesson plan developed.

All interested educators who wish to participate in this work must [complete an online application](#) **by April 28, 2023**, for consideration by VDOE. Applicants selected for participation will be notified by email by May 8, 2023.

Division Directors of Testing, Special Education Directors, and school division leaders for instruction in reading, mathematics, and science are asked to share information about this opportunity with educators who are implementing the VESOL with their students. If you have questions or need technical assistance with the application process, please contact staff in the Office of Student Assessment at (804) 225-2102 or [Student\\_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Student_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov).

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