#  Superintendent’s Memo #158-19


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: July 12, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: The Virginia Purple Star Designation for Schools

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), in collaboration with The Virginia Council on the Interstate Compact on the Educational Opportunity of Military Children (The Council), is calling for applications from schools interested in receiving the Purple Star Designation. The Virginia Purple Star Designation is awarded to military-friendly schools that have demonstrated a major commitment to military-connected students and their families. Schools that earn the award will receive a special Purple Star recognition to display on-site and will be listed as a Purple Star School on the VDOE Military Families webpage. This distinction is used in other states around the nation and is recognized by military families.

In order for schools to qualify for the Purple Star Designation award they must first complete an application and submit documentation of requiredactivities. Those interested will find additional information on qualifiers and the award application inside the program information packet, located on the [Virginia Department of Education Purple Star Designation webpage](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/student_family/military/va-psdp/index.shtml). Applications for the 2019-2020 school year are now being accepted through September 25, 2019.

For additional information or questions about the application and program qualifiers, please contact Dan Dunham, Military Student and Families Specialist, Office of Student Services, by email at Dan.Dunham@doe.virginia.gov, or by telephone at (804) 225-2157.

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