



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
Department of Education**

**DATE:** March 9, 2018  
**TO:** Division Superintendents  
**FROM:** Steven M. Constantino, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction  
**SUBJECT: Nominations for the 2019 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Program**

All public and accredited nonpublic schools are invited to participate in the 2019 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Program to select the next Virginia Teacher of the Year and to honor teachers who represent the best in teaching in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation.

Since 1964, Virginia has participated in the National Teacher of the Year Program, a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). In 2006, Virginia's Teacher of the Year program was renamed in honor of the 1989 Virginia and National Teacher of the Year, Dr. Mary V. Bicouvaris.

The program is open to all teachers in pre-kindergarten through grade 12, including school librarians, guidance counselors, and reading specialists, who hold a current renewable Virginia teaching license in the assigned teaching area. Teachers must be employed in a Virginia public or accredited nonpublic school. Candidates should be dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled, and plan to continue in an active teaching status. Candidates who accept administrative or supervisory positions will relinquish their eligibility. Candidates must hold a five-year, renewable Virginia license issued by the Virginia Board of Education. Teachers holding provisional, provisional (special education), provisional (career switcher), eligibility, or international educator licenses are not eligible to participate in the program.

Attachment A includes general information about the program, criteria for eligibility, and application procedures, and Attachment B is the application. The application must be signed by the teacher, principal, and division superintendent. **The original application packet and six copies must be received by the Virginia Department of Education on or before Friday, May 25, 2018.**

Participation in the Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Program is an activity that students, teachers, school boards, and parents in every community can share. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact Mrs. Patty S. Pitts, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, by email at [Patty.Pitts@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Patty.Pitts@doe.virginia.gov) or by phone at (804) 371-2522.

SMC/psp

**Attachments:**

- A. [General information and application procedures](#) (Word)
- B. [Application](#) (Word)