# Superintendent’s Memo #027-20

[](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/index.shtml)  
**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: February 7, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: ASSET Micro-Credentials

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) announces an exciting and free professional development opportunity for Virginia teachers through the Vinod Chachra IMPACT Lab at Radford University. The Appalachian Support for Specialized Education Training (ASSET) program, a federally funded program (U.S. Department of Education), offers self-paced, online professional development that provides micro-credentials, professional development contact hours, and graduate credit.

ASSET Program Information ([2-minute video overview](http://www.radford.edu/asset-video)  [2-minute testimonial](https://www.radford.edu/content/impact/asset/testimonial-video.html)):

* Free for teachers in Appalachia and provides 400 free seats available for schools outside of Appalachia
* Currently serving 3,300 teachers across twelve states
* Recommended by teachers to their colleagues with a rating of nine out of ten, and 94 percent report the professional development will impact their teaching
* Ten professional development contact hours per course
* Take five micro-credential courses and receive one graduate credit
* Classes start every two weeks

Current course offerings include:

* Overview of Literacy
* Effective Instruction for Inclusive Classrooms
* Classroom Management
  + Foundations of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
  + Tier 1 PBIS
* Mathematics
  + Number Sense
  + Number Relationships
  + Teaching the Elementary Math Progression Towards Proportional Reasoning
  + Making Sense of Word Problems
  + Making Sense of Fractions.

To review course descriptions of each micro-credential, click [here](https://www.radford.edu/content/impact/asset/micro-credentials.html).

To enroll in the program click [here](http://www.radford.edu/asset) and click on “Enroll Now.” If you have questions, please contact the ASSET program directly through their [website](https://www.radford.edu/content/impact/asset.html) or call 540-831-7140.

JFL/MFB/oml