# Superintendent’s Memo #036-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: February 14, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: Student Toolkits for College Applications

Many high school seniors will be submitting college applications at an increasingly swift pace in January and February to meet upcoming deadlines. This creates a unique “real-time” opportunity for high school principals, teachers, counselors, advisors and others to remind students of the value of continuing their education after high school and to provide resources to guide them.

Our state counterpart in higher education, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), developed online materials for our students to navigate the process of preparing, applying, paying and going to college.

This effort is part of SCHEV’s 1-2-3 Go!Virginia’s Three Steps to College initiative. The materials are located through the link [123Go! Student Toolkits](https://schev.edu/123gotoolkits).

Please share these resources and others found on the SCHEV webpages widely in your school divisions.

In addition to the Toolkit, SCHEV has announced that February is Financial Aid Awareness Month. As part of this announcement, SCHEV will make available to local school divisions information about the number of high school seniors who have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. High schools can use that information to help more students navigate the complicated financial aid system.

SCHEV’s goal to make Virginia the best-educated state in the nation by 2030 builds on the Virginia Board of Education’s *Profile of a Virginia Graduate* and its commitment to graduate “life-ready” students. To reach this goal together, we will ensure that 70% of working age adults have a credential by 2030. The pipeline to success begins in your schools.

If you have questions about this material, please contact SCHEV director Peter Blake at peterblake@schev.edu.