# Superintendent’s Memo #313-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: December 4, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: CARES Act Awards to Administer and Conduct an Alignment Study on Certain Student Growth Assessments

In a July 22, 2020, Superintendent’s Email, school divisions were invited to apply for Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) state set-aside funding to conduct alignment studies of any of the [11 student growth assessments under state contract](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/school_finance/procurement/index.shtml). The purpose of these alignment studies was to ensure that any assessments administered to students for the purpose of identifying learning gaps measured Virginia’s Standards of Learning. The Virginia Department of Education received one application to conduct an alignment study.

In a September 30, 2020, Superintendent’s Email, school divisions that did not have an assessment that could be used to identify learning gaps in place prior to the start of the 2020-2021 school year were invited to apply for CARES Act ESSER state set-aside funding to support the administration of any of the 11 assessments under state contract. Nine school divisions submitted applications for this purpose.

Attachment B contains the awards for school divisions that applied for funding. Attachment A contains the Additional Required Special Terms and Conditions for Grant Awards or Cooperative Agreements. The terms of the grant award are provided in Attachment C.

Budget transfer requests and reimbursement requests for this award will be processed through the OMEGA system. Prior to submitting a budget transfer or reimbursement request, division staff should submit the appropriate [OP1 forms](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/school_finance/budget/grants_acct_reporting/omega/op1-form.xlsx) for the program. Questions about division awards should be directed to student\_assessment@doe.virginia.gov. For assistance with OMEGA, please contact OMEGA Support at OMEGA.Support@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/SLR/ls

### Attachments

1. [Additional Required Special Terms and Conditions for Grant Awards or Cooperative Agreements](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2020/313-20a.docx) (Word)
2. [CARES Act ESSER Fund Student Growth Assessment Division Awards](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2020/313-20b.xlsx) (XLS)
3. [CARES Act ESSER Fund Student Growth Assessment Terms of Grant Award](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2020/313-20c.docx) (Word)