# Superintendent’s Memo #318-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: December 11, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

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

## SUBJECT: Deeper Learning Science Module Developer Request

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is seeking developers of virtual resources to support a new model for statewide science professional development. The new Science Learning Collaborations (SLC) model will include synchronous and asynchronous professional development implemented by division-level coaches using differentiated virtual modules. The model provides flexibility to divisions in providing sustained professional development in science that emphasizes Deeper Learning of the 2018 *Science Standards of Learning*.

The SLC model is designed for divisions to identify science coaches, choose a module focus that reflects the needs of their teachers and student population, and implement sustained professional development and coaching designed to positively impact science classroom instruction. In the spring of 2021, divisions will designate division science coaches to attend virtual summer training on the use of modules using the SLC model. These coaches will then facilitate training within their school and/or division during the 2021-2022 academic year. The SLC modules will provide both reliability and validity of content presented to teachers across the Commonwealth.

In order to create the modules that will be used by divisions to support science instruction, the VDOE team is asking for individuals to apply as module developers. These paid individuals will work as teams to develop online modules that division coaches will use when implementing SLCs within schools or divisions. The selected individuals are expected to have expertise on the module content and will also lead the training of division coaches during the week of June 21, 2021. Module topics include:

* Leadership: Using a coaching model for implementing professional development
* Literacy and Science Instruction
* Discourse in the Science Classroom
* Using Formative Assessment to Guide Science Instruction
* The Big Ideas of Science and Cross Curricular Instruction

All modules will be designed to support teachers with science instruction that reflect the diverse populations within a division. If you are interested in working with the VDOE science team in the construction of the modules as well as in training division coaches on the implementation of these modules, please apply at [Science SLC Module Developer Application](https://forms.gle/wtNtkTfS1yu26STS8).

JFL/AP