



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

March 25, 2016

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Adapted Physical Education Content Teaching Academy (CTA)

I am pleased to announce that the Office of Science and Health Education and the Office of Special Education Instructional Services, in collaboration with James Madison University (JMU), will offer two Adapted Physical Education (APE) Content Teaching Academies in June 2016. One Academy will have an Early Childhood APE focus and the other, a K-12 APE focus.

In the K-12 APE CTA, participants will have an opportunity to delve deeper into understanding the [2015 Physical Education Standards of Learning](#) and explore a variety of instructional strategies to ensure all students are successful, regardless of ability or disability. The Academy is specifically designed to help teachers:

1. be effective in their roles as physical educators by learning how to skillfully adapt or modify curriculum, instruction tasks, equipment, and/or environment to address the individualized needs of each child so all students can successfully learn; and
2. have the tools and knowledge to transition from the 2008 to the 2015 Standards of Learning.

The Early Childhood APE Academy is designed for educators (APE, PE, PT, and ECE) interested in exploring developmentally appropriate movement-based curriculum and instruction strategies for early learners. Participants will explore the foundation of early childhood learning, including:

1. early childhood inclusion, motor development, and behavior management; and
2. developmentally appropriate early childhood content and instructional strategies.

The Academies will be held on June 27 - July 1, 2016, at JMU in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis with space limited to 30 Early Childhood and 100 K-12 health and physical education teachers and program supervisors. The Virginia Department of Education will assume the cost of registration, lodging, meals, and tuition for three semester hours of graduate credit offered by JMU.

To register and for more detailed information regarding this professional development opportunity, please visit the CTA Web site at <http://www.jmu.edu/contentacademy/>. If you have additional questions, please contact Vanessa Wigand, principal specialist for health education, physical education and driver education, Office of Science and Health Education, by e-mail at vanessa.wigand@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-3300; or Deborah Johnson, instructional specialist, Office of Special Education Instructional Services, by e-mail at Deborah.Johnson@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 371-2725; or Dr. Dawn Hendricks, early childhood special education coordinator, Office of Special Education Instructional Services, by e-mail at dawn.hendricks@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2675.

Links:

- [*2015 Physical Education Standards of Learning*](#)