



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

March 14, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Virginia Center for Excellence in Teaching 2014 Inaugural Academies

The [Virginia Center for Excellence in Teaching](#) (VCET) at George Mason University provides professional development opportunities in instruction, education policy, and leadership for 100 exemplary teachers.

The VCET will conduct four, no-cost, innovative summer residential academies in 2014 with each academy enrolling 25 exceptional teachers. The academies (STEM, Fine Arts, Humanities & Language Arts, and Interdisciplinary Studies) include teacher leadership and education policy components, and will allow attendees to meet with Virginia's elected officials and other policy makers. Attendees will also participate in online coursework this fall and attend a conference in Richmond in the spring of 2015.

Participants must hold a five-year renewable Virginia license, be employed by a Virginia school division, have a minimum of five years of successful teaching experience, and have a consistent record of effective instruction and demonstrated leadership ability.

Teachers are encouraged to apply for the academies through the [VCET Web site](#). The deadline to apply is April 15, 2014.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jeff Davis, project coordinator, via e-mail at jdavis40@gmu.edu or telephone at (703) 993-5899.

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