



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

March 29, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF)
Automotive Technology Programs Implementation, Effective 2013-14 School-Year**

Legislation enacted in the 2011 Virginia General Assembly ([HB 1493](#)) and amended in 2012 ([HB 1108](#)) requires where there is a national industry certification for career and technical education instructional personnel or programs for automotive technology, the Board of Education must make such certification mandatory. The provisions of this act shall become effective July 1, 2013. To comply with the requirements, all Career and Technical Education (CTE) automotive technology programs must be NATEF accredited and the instructors must be certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE).

In September 2012, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) convened technical panels consisting of automotive personnel and curriculum development committees consisting of automotive instructors to review, revise, and align Virginia's automotive technology programs' competencies with the 2012 NATEF Standards. The VDOE in collaboration with NATEF, National Institute for ASE, and Virginia Automobile Dealers Association will offer again this summer specialized training for automotive instructors. In addition, the VDOE is partnering with CDX Online to provide "live" and online training to assist instructors in preparation for taking the ASE certification test.

Currently, there are 140 automotive technology programs statewide of which 124 are either NATEF accredited or in the process of becoming accredited. There are 16 programs offered in 12 divisions that have not yet begun the accrediting process. Waivers will not be available for automotive technology programs that are not NATEF accredited for the 2013-14 school year.

Under a separate cover, the CTE administrators will be provided an update and more detailed information about resources and summer training opportunities for automotive technology. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Rowe, coordinator for curriculum and instruction, Office of Career and Technical Education at CTE@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2051.

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