

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

April 12, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: 2014 GED Test Approved

On January 2, 2014, the GED Testing Service (GEDTS) will release the fifth test series, a new assessment that will not only measure high school equivalency skills, but will also assess career and college readiness. The test will be delivered on a computer-based platform only and will include the four testing modules of reasoning through language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

The 2014 GED Test has been approved as a Virginia high school equivalency credential. All indications suggest that the 2014 GED Test will be a much improved assessment, not only measuring high school equivalency skills, as it has always done, but also providing an opportunity for adults to demonstrate career and college readiness through a new endorsement designed to facilitate a transition into employment or postsecondary education. The cost of the new test, set by the GEDTS, will be \$120 for the complete test or \$30 for each individual testing module. The current version of the GED test will expire at the end of 2013, so anyone with incomplete or non-passing scores at that time will be required to complete the entire test starting January 2, 2014, when the new test goes into effect.

If you have questions, please contact Debbie Bergtholdt, state GED administrator, at <u>Debbie.Bergtholdt@doe.virginia.gov</u> or 804-371-2333.

PIW/SMC/gjm