



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
Department of Education

November 1, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: 2013-2014 Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objective (AMAO) Results, Based on 2012-2013 Assessments**

Section 3122 of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) requires states to establish Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) for English language learners (ELLs) that measure: 1) progress in learning English, AMAO 1 (progress); 2) attainment of English proficiency, AMAO 2 (proficiency); and 3) performance toward meeting annual measurable objectives in reading and mathematics, AMAO 3 (AMOs). School divisions are required to meet all three Title III AMAOs based on the results of the annual English language proficiency assessment and Standards of Learning assessments.

As a reminder, the Department has been notified by USED that states that were approved for the ESEA flexibility waiver must include in Title III AMAO 3 the AMO targets under Title I to include reading and mathematics and the Federal Graduation Indicator (FGI) if the division includes one or more high school(s). The addition of the FGI element to Title III AMAO 3 determinations will take effect for the 2014-2015 Title III accountability results based on the 2013-2014 assessment data.

The 2013-2014 Title III reports, based on 2012-2013 assessments, are now available. The reports can be accessed through the Title III (ESL) application in the Single Sign-On for Web Systems (SSWS) portal. Title III reports may be viewed only by school division personnel with access to the Title III (ESL) application in SSWS. The following Title III reports are available:

- Spring ACCESS for ELLs Test Results - provides student-level ACCESS for ELLs assessment results;
- Title III Achievement Summary Report - provides a history of the school division's AMAO results for the purpose of determining Title III school division and consortia improvement status; and
- Title III Consortia Report - provides AMAO results for school divisions in a consortium.

The Title III AMAOs for 2013-2014 accountability results, based on the 2012-2013 assessments, are:

- AMAO 1 (progress) – 67 percent;
- AMAO 2 (proficiency) – 18 percent; and
- AMAO 3 (AMOs for the Limited English Proficient subgroup): Reading – 44 percent and Mathematics – 46 percent.

During a comprehensive review of Title III AMAO results for 2013-2014, an anomaly in the programming for the calculation of AMAO 1 (progress) was identified. This anomaly resulted in inflated AMAO1 (progress) results in 2012-2103 based on the spring 2012 ACCESS for ELLs assessment. The anomaly has been corrected for the 2013-2014 results based on the 2013 ACCESS for ELLs assessment.

### **Title III Separate Notification Requirement**

Section 3302(b) of the ESEA states that separate notification must be sent to parents of ELLs by the school division within 30 days of the receipt of Title III AMAO results indicating that one or more Title III AMAOs have not been met. School divisions in a consortium must send individual letters informing parents of the Title III AMAOs not met by the consortium. Superintendent's Memo 293-13 serves as the Department's notification of final Title III AMAO results for 2013-2014. Information required to be included in the letter is provided in a sample template at the following link in the Title III Toolkit under the tab entitled Compliance: [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/federal\\_programs/esea/title3/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/federal_programs/esea/title3/index.shtml).

### **Title III Division Improvement**

Title III improvement status is based on whether school divisions and/or consortia failed to meet one or more of the Title III AMAOs for two or more consecutive years. Title III AMAO results are provided through the Title III Achievement Summary Report in the SSWS portal. School divisions in consortia should review the criteria for Title III improvement status provided in [Attachment A](#).

Section 3122(b) of the ESEA requires that school divisions that do not meet one or more of the Title III AMAOs for two or more consecutive years must submit to the state an improvement plan that addresses the factors preventing the division from achieving one or more AMAO(s). School divisions that do not meet one or more of the Title III AMAOs for four or more consecutive years must submit a plan to the state to modify the curriculum, program, and method of instruction used for English as a Second Language (ESL) in the division.

All divisions in Title III improvement for 2013-2014 will be notified separately by the Department regarding the improvement planning process and related technical assistance.

### **Title III Guidance**

[Attachment B](#) provides questions and answers designed to provide guidance to school divisions on Title III AMAO determinations based on Virginia's Title III AMAO targets and the release of the Title III reports.

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Attachments:

- a. [Title III Accountability Determinations for Consortia](#) (PDF)
- b. [Question and Answer Guide for Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objective \(AMAO\) Determinations](#) (PDF)