

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

December 20, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Changes to Fulfillment of GED® Credentials

Beginning January 1, 2014, the Office of Adult Education and Literacy (OAEL) will no longer accept paper, phone, fax, or e-mail requests for the fulfillment of GED® credentials. On that date, the OAEL will transition its GED® credentialing process from the issuance of paper transcripts and official GED® certificates to a paperless Web-based service called GED CredentialingTM.

GED Tests Taken Prior to 2014 - Individuals or organizations requesting duplicate transcripts and certificates for GED® tests taken prior to 2014 will log in to the GED CredentialingTM system Web site located at http://www.gedtestingservice.com/testers/gedrequest-a-transcript to order electronic or paper transcripts and professionally-printed Virginia GED® certificates (the GED CredentialingTM Web site will go live on January 1, 2014). Requesters will pay a \$15 fee per document. Transcripts and GED® certificates will be issued and delivered in a secure electronic format, although paper fulfillment will be an option. Test takers who do not have Internet access can call a toll-free number and receive phone support for ordering transcripts or GED® certificates. The OAEL will still accommodate walk-in requests for credentials by having Internet access available for test takers to order transcripts online.

2014 GED Computer-Based Tests - Initial GED® certificates and transcripts are <u>free</u> to test takers who pass the 2014 computer-based GED® test. Test takers who pass the 2014 GED® test will automatically receive an electronic, secure, Virginia GED® certificate and a Smart Transcript delivered to the e-mail address provided at registration. Test takers can view, print, and request an initial professionally-printed Virginia GED® certificate free of charge.

Please visit the GED CredentialingTM Web site for more information about this service. Frequently asked questions for test takers and GED program administrators about changes to the fulfillment of GED® credentials are available on the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Web site at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/adulted/ged/index.shtml.

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