



#052-22

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #052-22**

DATE: March 4, 2022
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **Nominations for the 2023 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Program**

All public and accredited nonpublic schools are invited to participate in the **2023 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Program**. This award honors teachers who represent the best in teaching in the Commonwealth of Virginia and across the nation.

Since 1964, Virginia has participated in the National Teacher of the Year Program, a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). In 2006, Virginia's Teacher of the Year Program was renamed in honor of the 1989 Virginia and National Teacher of the Year, Dr. Mary V. Bicouvaris.

The program is open to all teachers in pre-kindergarten through grade 12, including school librarians, guidance counselors, and reading specialists, who hold a current renewable Virginia teaching license in the assigned teaching area. Teachers must be employed in a Virginia public or accredited nonpublic school. Candidates should be dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled, and plan to continue in an active teaching status. Candidates who accept administrative or supervisory positions will relinquish their eligibility. Candidates must hold a five- or ten-year renewable Virginia license issued by the Virginia Board of Education. Teachers holding provisional, provisional (special education), provisional (career switcher), eligibility, or international educator licenses are not eligible to participate

in the program. **Attachment A** includes general information about the application and procedures and **Attachment B** is the application. Please submit the complete application packet (application and all supplemental materials) electronically by **4:00pm EST on Friday, May 27, 2022** to Teacher.Education@doe.virginia.gov.

Cycle Adjustment

Based on feedback from previous Teachers of the Year and division leaders, the application cycle will be adjusted next year (for the 2024 Teacher of the Year). In the future, nominations will likely be requested in early October of 2022 and will likely be due to the VDOE in early January of 2023. This change will permit the selection panel to announce the Regional and Virginia Teachers of the Year in the spring of 2023, which will give the Virginia Teacher of the Year more time to prepare for the national-level application process. School divisions should make a note of this change to plan accordingly for future cycles.

For more information

Please direct any questions or requests for additional information to Dr. Meg Homer (Meghan.Homer@doe.virginia.gov).

JB/BJJ/mkh

- A. Attachment: [2023 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year General Information and Procedures](#) (DOCX)
- B. Attachment: [2023 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Application](#) (DOCX)