# Superintendent’s Memo #017-21


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: January 22, 2021

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: 2021 Granville P. Meade Scholarship

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is announcing the Granville P. Meade Scholarship that provides financial assistance to students who have achieved academically but who are financially unable to attend college. The Granville P. Meade fund awards scholarships to eligible Virginia high-school seniors to attend one of Virginia's public or private colleges or universities.

Principals of all public and nonpublic high schools are requested to assist in making students aware of this scholarship opportunity. It is anticipated that the scholarship will be awarded in the amount of $2,000 per year for four years, provided the student continues to meet the scholarship requirements.

This year, applications will be completed, submitted, and reviewed via an [online application portal](https://vastudentservices.smapply.org/helpdesk/). All students interested in applying must create an account to access the application, request letters of recommendation, and upload academic records.

Division superintendents have accounts assigned to them within the portal under their email address. Superintendents will receive an email from Survey Monkey Apply with the subject line: **Invitation to join Granville P. Meade Application Portal** on February 1, 2021. If a superintendent should wish to appoint a designee to review applications, they can do so by completing this short [Granville P. Meade Reviewer Request](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfTSD6DEw0J5CVILaga7gVS-zqfcU4d7I9mL0-hxQAGOj9mQg/viewform?usp=sf_link) form. New Application Reviewers will be added to the system within two to three days and will receive an email inviting them to create their account.

The application and selection timeline is as follows:

* **January 22, 2021** -Interested seniors can access the online portal and begin the application process.
* **March 5, 2021** - Deadline for all students to submit their completed application via the online portal. Students will not be able to make changes to their application after this date.
* **March 19, 2021** - Deadline for student recommendations to be completed and uploaded into the online portal.
* **March 20, 2021** - Local division superintendents can begin the screening process within the online portal.
* **April 2, 2021** - Deadline for school division superintendents to send their five most qualified applications to the regional selection committee via the online portal and as outlined in Attachment A: *Granville P. Meade Scholarship Program 2021 Procedures for the Selection of Recipients*. (This deadline is not applicable to private or home-school applications).
* **April 16, 2021** - Deadline for each regional selection committee, Virginia Council for Private Education, and the Homeschool Educator’s Association to select and submit the five most qualified student applications to the Virginia Department of Education via the online portal.
* **April 30, 2021** - Recipients of the Scholarship will be notified on or before this date. Students can check the status of their application at any time using the online portal.

For more information on application procedures, please reference Attachment A, as well as the VDOE [Granville P. Meade Scholarship web page](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/virginia_scholarships/granville_meade/index.shtml).

For questions about the application process, contact Sarah Bazemore, School Counseling Specialist, Office of Student Services, by email at Sarah.Bazemore@doe.virginia.gov, or by telephone at (804) 225-4024.

JFL/SB/rge

## Attachment

A. [Granville P. Meade Scholarship Program 2021 Procedures (Word)](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2021/017-21a.docx)