



#069-21

Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #069-21

DATE: March 19, 2021
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **United States Department of Education Approval of Amendment 4 to Virginia's Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) State Plan**

On March 3, 2021, the United States Department of Education (USED) approved Amendment 4 to *Virginia's Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) State Plan*. The approved amendment will result in the following changes to Virginia's ESSA State Plan.

- Modify plan to state that Grade 8 students who take rather than pass the Algebra I Standards of Learning assessment may use a higher-level math assessment for federal accountability in high school.
- Remove the Title I, Part C objectives from the plan to reference a webpage, thus allowing Virginia to modify these objectives during the typical review process without requiring a new amendment.
- Add an acceptable use of Title IV, Part A funds.

An updated [redline version of Virginia's Consolidated State Plan](#) (DOCX) has been posted to the Virginia Department of Education ESSA website. Additionally, the approval letter from USED is attached.

For more information

Questions regarding Virginia's ESSA State Plan may be submitted to Accountability@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/JAM/as

- A. Attachment: [Approval Letter from United States Department of Education for Amendment 4](#) (PDF)