



#226-21

Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #226-21

DATE: August 13, 2021
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **State Vision Screening Grant for Fiscal Year 2022**

Good vision is a critical component to students' learning success in school. [Section 22.1-273, Code of Virginia](#), regarding annual vision screenings of students requires school principals to ensure the vision testing of students in kindergarten, grades two or three, and grades seven and ten, and establishes quality standards for implementing a "comprehensive vision program."

Given the prevalence of student vision problems, particularly among high-needs students, the General Assembly has continued to appropriate state funds for fiscal year (FY) 2022 to support technology-based comprehensive vision screenings as defined in the *Code* to eligible school divisions, defined as those schools and/or divisions with 40 percent or more of students eligible for free lunch. \$391,000 in state funding is appropriated for FY 2022. Funds will be provided to school divisions after confirmation that the qualifying vision screening services have been provided in the division.

School divisions with 40 percent or more of students eligible for free lunch, as listed in **Attachment A**, are eligible for the state-funded comprehensive vision screening program during fiscal year 2022, subject to statewide demand and the availability of funding. Eligible school divisions may receive the state's share of \$7.00 for each student reported in average

daily membership and enrolled in kindergarten, grades three, seven and ten and who has received such vision screening test.

School boards may enter into contracts with “qualified nonprofit vision health organizations” for the purpose of conducting the mandatory annual vision screenings, pursuant to subsections [F., G., and H. of Section 22.1-273, Code of Virginia](#). Eligible school divisions may be contacted by such organizations regarding conducting the required vision screenings during the 2021-2022 school year.

If you have additional questions, contact Kent Dickey, Deputy Superintendent of Budget, Finance, and Operations, at Kent.Dickey@doe.virginia.gov.

JFL/KCD/cle

- A. Attachment: [Forty percent or Greater Free Lunch](#) (XLSX)