



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

September 28, 2018

The Honorable James F. Lane  
Superintendent of Education  
Virginia Department of Education  
P. O. Box 2120  
Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Superintendent Lane:

I am writing in response to the Virginia Department of Education's (Virginia's) request to the U.S. Department of Education (Department) on September 5, 2018, to amend its approved consolidated State plan under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

In its amendment request, Virginia proposes changing a portion of its methodology related to identifying the lowest-performing five percent of Title I schools for comprehensive support and improvement. I have determined that the amendment meets the requirements in the ESEA and, for this reason, I am approving the amendment to Virginia's consolidated State plan.

A summary of the amendment to Virginia's consolidated State plan is enclosed. This letter, as well as Virginia's revised ESEA consolidated State plan, will be posted on the Department's website. Any further requests to amend Virginia's consolidated State plan must be submitted to the Department for review and approval.

Please be aware that approval of this amendment to Virginia's consolidated State plan is not a determination that all the information and data included in the amended State plan comply with Federal civil rights requirements, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It is Virginia's responsibility to comply with these civil rights requirements.

Thank you for all of the work that Virginia has put into its consolidated State plan under the ESEA. If you need any assistance regarding the implementation of your ESEA consolidated State plan, please contact Collette Roney of my staff at: [OSS.Virginia@ed.gov](mailto:OSS.Virginia@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Frank Brogan  
Assistant Secretary for  
Elementary and Secondary Education

Enclosure

cc: Lynn Sodot, Virginia Department of Education

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202  
<http://www.ed.gov/>

### **Amendment to the Virginia Consolidated State Plan**

The following is a summary of Virginia's amendment request. Please refer to the U.S Department of Education's website <https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/map/va.html> for Virginia's complete consolidated State plan.

- Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools—Lowest Performing  
Virginia changed how schools are ranked in the third and final step of its process for identifying for comprehensive support and improvement the lowest-performing five percent of Title I schools in the State. Now, after identifying a subset of schools based on all the required indicators in its accountability system, Virginia will rank the schools by academic achievement and identify a number equal to five percent of Title I schools for comprehensive support and improvement. Previously, Virginia's plan had indicated that, at this stage in the identification process, it would rank schools by chronic absenteeism.