

## Attachment A to Informational Memo No. 211

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program (CSRSD)

**Purpose:** The purpose of this grant initiative is to provide financial incentives for schools, especially those of high poverty, to implement comprehensive school reform based on reliable research and effective practices. CSRSD funding is intended for those that have not previously adopted any comprehensive school reform program.

**Funding:** Virginia has been appropriated approximately \$1,265,000 to fund 25 CSRSD programs for 2000-01. Through a competitive application process, selected schools will be funded at \$50,000 per year for up to three years.

**Eligibility:** There are two categories of eligible applicants.

**Category 1:** Title I Schools in School Improvement. Up to 18 awards will be made to Title I School Improvement schools (elementary, middle, high) that have received an accredited with warning rating in English, mathematics, or both for 2000-01 and that have not received a CSRSD grant previously.

**Category 2:** Non-Title I Schools. Up to seven awards will be made to non -Title I schools (elementary, middle, high) that have received an accredited with warning rating in English, mathematics, or both for 2000-01 and that have not received a CSRSD grant previously.

**Program Design:** The school must submit an application containing the nine primary components of a CSRSD program found in the statute describing how it will--

1. employ research-based innovative strategies and methods for student learning, teaching, and school management that have been successfully replicated in schools with diverse characteristics;
2. prepare a comprehensive design for effective school functioning, including instruction, assessment, classroom and school management, professional development, and parental involvement;
3. provide high quality and continuous teacher and staff professional development and training;
4. design measurable goals for student performance and benchmarks for meeting those goals;
5. include an assurance of support by school faculty, administrators, and staff;
6. provide for the meaningful involvement of parents and the local community in planning and implementing school improvement activities;
7. utilize high-quality external technical support and assistance from a comprehensive school reform entity with experience in school-wide reform;
8. include a plan for the evaluation of the implementation of school reforms and student results achieved; and
9. identify how other resources (federal/state/local/private) will be utilized to coordinate services to support and sustain the school reform effort.

**Models:** The public law references school reform models that may be used to meet some or all of the nine criteria for school reform. A listing of the models will be available in the application.