

Survey of Alternative Education Programs in Virginia

The purpose of this survey is to collect data on school divisions' policies and the educational services they provide to students during periods of short-term suspension, long-term suspension, and expulsion.

The goal of the survey is to understand what school divisions currently provide, the cost of these services, and the resources school divisions need to provide these educational services or to expand the provision of educational services to students during periods of short-term suspension, long-term suspension, and expulsion.

For the purposes of this survey, the *Code* defines

- Short-term suspension as a suspension from school for not more than ten school days. (Va. *Code* § 22.1-277.04)
- Long-term suspension as suspension from school for more than ten days and less than 365 days (Va. *Code* § 22.1-277.05), and
- Expulsion as removal from school for one calendar year (365 days). (Va. *Code* § 22.1-277.06)

For purposes of this survey, alternative education services are services provided to students when they are short-term suspended, long-term suspended, or expelled from their traditional schools. These services can include, but are not limited to, **online services, homebound services, or services in a school facility.**

We are only interested in the services provided by the school division free of charge to all students who have been long-term suspended or expelled. Please note that services that are offered at the parents' expense are not included in the scope of this survey.

A staff person knowledgeable about services for youth who are suspended or expelled in your division should complete this survey. **Respondents should copy and submit Section IV for each regional and local alternative education program in your division.** Thank you for your participation.

I. RESPONDENT INFORMATION

Please fill in the following information:

Name of Person Completing the Survey: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

School Division: _____

Email: _____

II. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOL DIVISION POLICIES

1. Does your school division have a written policy of allowing students who are short-term suspended (10 days or less) and long-term suspended (10 days or more) to complete missed assignments and take missed tests or quizzes?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Depends on the policy of individual schools or teachers
- d. We have a practice, but not a written policy. Please explain:

2. Does your school division have a written policy requiring that educational services be provided to all students who are long-term suspended or expelled?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Depends on the policy of individual schools
- d. We have a practice, but not a written policy. Please explain:

3. Does your school division provide alternative education services to all students who are long-term suspended or expelled?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Provided at the discretion of the school board
- d. Provided upon request from parent

4. If yes, how many students received alternative educational services through a division-sponsored program or school during their long-term suspension or expulsion during the 2013-2014 school year?

- _____
5. If no, how many students received no educational services provided by the division during their long-term suspension or expulsion in 2013-2014?
- _____
6. How many students received services during their long-term suspension or expulsion due to their status as a student with a disability?
- _____
7. What types of alternative educational services does the school division provide? Check all that apply.
- Alternative education services in a traditional school building
 - Alternative education services in a separate school building
 - Night school services in a school building
 - Homebound services
 - Online alternative education services
 - Other? Please describe: _____
8. For alternative education services in a traditional school building, please provide an estimate of how many students received those services in 2013-2014, and approximately how much that service cost per student.
- a. Number of students served: _____
 - b. Cost per student: _____
9. For alternative education services in a separate school building, please provide an estimate of how many students received those services in 2013-2014, and approximately how much that service cost per student.
- a. Number of students served: _____
 - b. Cost per student: _____
10. For night school services in a school building, please provide an estimate of how many students received those services in 2013-2014, and approximately how much that service cost per student.
- a. Number of students served: _____
 - b. Cost per student: _____
11. For homebound services, please provide an estimate of how many students received those services in 2013-2014, and approximately how much that service cost per student.
- a. Number of students served: _____
 - b. Cost per student: _____

12. For online alternative education services, please provide an estimate of how many students received those services in 2013-2014, and approximately how much that service cost per student.
- a. Number of students served: _____
 - b. Cost per student: _____
13. For any other services, please provide an estimate of how many students received those services in 2013-2014, and approximately how much that service cost per student.
- a. Description of Service: _____
 - b. Number of students served: _____
 - c. Cost per student: _____

III. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOL-BASED ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

1. During the 2013-2014 school year, did your school division provide any alternative schools/ programs provided free of charge to long-term suspended or expelled students? If no, go to question 10.
- a. Yes
 - b. No
2. How many alternative schools/programs were there in your division in 2013-2014?
- _____
3. As of October 1, 2014, about how many students in your division were enrolled in alternative schools/programs?
- _____
4. Does your division track students after they leave alternative schools/programs?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
5. If yes, what information does the division track?
- SOL test scores
 - Grades
 - Suspensions or expulsions
 - Graduation rates
 - Other
6. If you answered yes to questions 4 and 5, please provide the most recent data for that information.
7. Does your division purchase seats at a regional alternative school program?
- a. Yes

b. No

8. If yes, how many seats does your division purchase?

9. How many seats does your division use on average?

10. If your division DOES NOT utilize an alternative education program/school, please identify the reasons why. Please check all that apply.

- Lack of financial resources
- Lack of information on alternative education models
- Lack of time and staff resources available to create a program
- Other (Please specify) _____
- Not applicable

IV. INFORMATION ON SCHOOL-BASED ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM/SCHOOL *(Copy and submit this section for each regional and local alternative education program that your division operates or utilizes.)*

Regional or Local Alternative Education Program/School information:

School Division: _____

Alternative Education Program/School: _____

Address/City Zip Code: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Contact Email: _____

1. What time of year does this alternative education program/school operate? (Select all that apply.)

- Traditional school year (September to June)
- Year-round
- Summer
- Other. (Please specify) _____

2. During the 2013-2014 school year, what grades were taught at this alternative school?

Pre-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Program Enrollment

3. What is this program or school's capacity of students from your division?

4. During the 2013-2014 school year, how many students from your school division were enrolled at any time in this local alternative education program?

5. Are all students who are long-term suspended or expelled provided the opportunity to attend an alternative program or school?

Yes

No

6. What is the student/teacher ratio for this program or school?

7. What was the average length of enrollment in this program for students from your school division?

8. What is the length of the school day?

9. Is there currently a waiting list for this program or school?

Yes

No

10. If you answered yes to question 9, approximately how many students from your school division are on the waiting list?

11. How do students become enrolled in the program or school? (Select all that apply.)

- Outside service provider referral
- Parent/Family referral
- Required by school division or school board policy
- Self-Referral
- Teacher or staff referral
- Other (please describe _____)

12. What percentages of participants are represented by categories below?

Student with a disability (students with an IEP or 504 plan)	
Are eligible for the free and reduced lunch program	
African-American	
Hispanic	
Asian	
Caucasian	
Male	

School-Based Program Costs

13. What was the total budget for the alternative program/school for the 2013-2014 school year?

14. For this program/school how much was spent to pay the costs of staff salaries and benefits during the 2013-2014 school year? _____

15. For this program/school how much was spent to cover the costs of facilities, utilities, and maintenance? _____

16. For this program/school how much was spent to cover the costs of other, non-instructional support services? _____

17. How many teachers were employed during this school year? _____

18. How many other instructional staff members were employed? _____

19. How many counselors or school psychologists were employed? _____

20. How many school administrators (principals and assistant principals) were employed? _____

21. How many other support staff members were employed? _____

22. What percentage of the funding for this program/school in the 2013-2014 school year came from local sources? _____
23. What percentage of the funding for this program/school in the 2013-2014 school year came from state sources? _____
24. What percentage of the funding for this program/school in the 2013-2014 school year came from federal sources? _____

Your participation is greatly appreciated. Please remember to submit the requested information for all regional and local Alternative Education programs in your district.