

Background Information:

Virginia received final approval on July 29, 2010, from the United States Department of Education (USED) for the revisions to its accountability workbook submitted by the Board of Education on June 24, 2010. Approval of the revised workbook allows Virginia to maintain its Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) for reading and mathematics at 81 percent for reading and 79 percent for mathematics for the 2010-2011 school year based on tests administered in 2009-2010. On August 23, 2010, USED informed the Virginia Department of Education that while USED maintains its approval for holding the targets for the AYP ratings based on tests administered in 2009-2010, a “To Be Determined” (TBD) status, presently stated in the workbook, was not acceptable for the remaining years through 2013-2014. USED has requested that Virginia set intermediate targets and a final target in 2013-2014 of 100 percent for both subjects. Virginia can, however, submit a waiver request to USED in any year to change the established intermediate targets. In addition, based on guidance provided by USED in 2006, states may modify their AMOs to ensure a smooth transition when changes in the test program occur. Virginia will implement new and more rigorous mathematics tests in 2011-2012 and new reading tests in 2012-2013.

As background, Virginia’s AMOs for 2001-2002 to 2009-2010 are shown below.

Year	Reading	Mathematics
	Approved 2010	Approved 2010
2001-2002	60.7	58.4
2002-2003	61	59
2003-2004	61	59
2004-2005	65	63
2005-2006	69	67
2006-2007	73	71
2007-2008	77	75
2008-2009	81	79
2009-2010	81	79

Summary of Major Elements:

Section 1111 (H)(iii) of Public Law 107-110 of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* states that intermediate targets for annual yearly progress can be maintained for up to three years without an increase in the targets. As noted above, Virginia will administer new, more rigorous mathematics tests in 2011-2012 and new, more rigorous reading tests in 2012-2013. As the new tests are implemented, Virginia will continue to pursue the development of a growth measure that can be used as a part of its AYP calculations. The following annual proficiency targets are being proposed to replace the TBD status presently listed in Virginia’s approved accountability workbook based on: 1) a review of Virginia’s current data; 2) guidance provided in the NCLB law for establishing targets; and 3) the implementation of new and more rigorous mathematics and reading tests in the next several years.

Proposed Annual Proficiency Targets (Annual Measurable Objectives) in
Reading and Mathematics between 2010-2011 and 2013-2014

Year	Reading	Mathematics
	Revised 2010	Revised 2010
2010-2011	82	80
2011-2012	82	80*
2012-2013	82*	80
2013-2014	100	100

*New tests based on revised, more rigorous SOL will be implemented.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education adopt annual proficiency targets (Annual Measurable Objectives) of 82% in reading and 80% in mathematics for 2010-2011 through 2012-2013 for Virginia's Consolidated State Application Accountability Plan under the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. Annual proficiency targets for both reading and mathematics would be 100% for 2013-2014.

Impact on Resources:

The provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) require the Department of Education to collect and analyze data related to determining Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for all schools and school divisions in the state. These requirements will continue to have an impact on the agency's resources.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Department of Education staff will notify local school divisions of the Board's decision.