



For Immediate Release

September 18, 2008

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VDOE Awards 21st Century Community Learning Center Grants

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is awarding 38 year-one grants to fund 21st Century Community Learning Centers in communities across the commonwealth. The grants range from \$82,880 to \$200,000 and will allow school divisions, faith-based organizations and community groups to provide tutoring, enrichment and counseling programs for students and families in high-poverty neighborhoods and low-performing schools. The centers offer services on a variety of schedules, including after school, during school breaks, during summer vacation and on weekends and holidays.

Applicants were encouraged to consult parents, community groups, businesses, arts and cultural organizations and other agencies in developing proposals for projects. The recipients for 2008-2009 awards are (recipients indicated by an asterisk have been awarded a grant for more than one school):

- Amelia County
- Augusta County
- Bedford County
- Brunswick County
- Carroll County
- Charlotte County
- Chesterfield County
- Community Lodgings, Inc.
- Cumberland County
- Dinwiddie County
- Grayson County*
- Greensville County
- Hampton*
- Henrico County*
- Lunenburg County*
- Lynchburg
- Martinsville-Henry County After Three Initiative
- Newport News*
- Norfolk (city)
- Nottoway County
- Petersburg
- Pittsylvania County
- Pulaski County
- Roanoke
- Russell County*
- Smyth County*
- Southampton County
- University Instructors, Inc.
- Westmoreland County
- Winchester

VDOE also is continuing funding for 54 programs that received initial funding in 2006 and 2007.

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers is a competitive grant program authorized under Title IV, Part B, of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. The program provides funding for community learning centers that offer academic enrichment and tutoring to help students meet academic standards in core subjects such as reading and mathematics. For the 2008 competition, priority was awarded to applicants that proposed to serve students in middle or high schools.

Additional information about the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program is available on the VDOE Web site at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/comp.html#title4>. Details about the next competition for 21st Century Community Learning Center funds will be announced in March 2009.