



**#206-21**

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Education  
Superintendent's Memo #206-21**

DATE: August 6, 2021  
TO: Division Superintendents  
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction  
SUBJECT: **ESSER III Maintenance of Equity - Required Identification of High Poverty Schools**

[Superintendent's Memorandum #169-21](#) announced the U.S. Department of Education's guidance on the Maintenance of Equity requirements in the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III program. The guidance provides information on the identification of high poverty schools, which must be completed by each school division in Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. **Attachment A** provides the tool that school divisions will use to identify their high poverty schools in accordance with the guidance. The completed tool must be submitted to [VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov) by September 10, 2021.

On August 5, 2021, the Virginia Department of Education provided an overview of the guidance and a demonstration of the tool for school division staff. Information on joining the webinar was provided to school divisions via Superintendent's Email.

**For more information**

Questions should be directed to [VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:VDOEfederalrelief@doe.virginia.gov).

JFL/LS

- A. Attachment: [ESSER III Maintenance of Equity Tool to Identify High Poverty Schools](#)  
(XLSX)