

Guidance from the Division of Registered Apprenticeship

The Education Specialists with the Division of Registered Apprenticeship at the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry want to assure you that during these unprecedented times we are doing all that we can to help meet the needs of Related Technical Instruction Providers and our Employer/Sponsors all over the state. Currently, we are reviewing Related Technical Instruction issues and concerns as they arise, doing our best to provide guidance and assistance in determining how to best complete out the 2020 Spring Semester. Please know that we are here for you and hope to assist to the best of our ability.

Continued efforts to provide you with the most accurate guidance available can be found below in statements provided by the Virginia Community College Systems and the Virginia Department of Education.

DOE CTE Guidance:

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) has been working closely with the Governor's Office, the Virginia Department of Health, and other state agencies to ensure our public schools and communities have the most up-to-date information and resources. The health and safety of our children and staff are our top priorities. Visit [COVID-19 & Virginia Public Schools](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for the latest information.

VCCS Guidance:

VCCS institutions have worked extremely hard to rapidly convert most of their training and education programs to online/distance instruction for the remainder of the spring semester/term so that students have an opportunity to complete current courses. A temporary modification to the system's grading policy has also been issued to provide students with greater flexibility in their choices this semester and to help ensure students are held harmless by these unprecedented times. Many of our colleges are planning to deliver instruction through online/distance in the summer as well and each institution is communicating all changes in delivery and schedule to their currently enrolled students (apprentices).

Some courses will be inevitably delayed because online/distance instruction is simply impossible including courses like welding. Some colleges will issue currently enrolled students Incompletes for these spring courses with the plan to complete all learning objectives as soon as it is safe to return to laboratories. Apprenticeship sponsoring employers should discuss potential impacts to VCCS provided RTI with their apprentices as the changes to instruction prompted by COVID 19 restrictions may vary by course and program. Sponsors should also not hesitate to connect with their apprentice's RTI providing institution, if they have questions about any changes to instruction.

Please reach out to caly.emerson@doli.virginia.gov or thomas.cecere@doli.virginia.gov with your Related Technical Instruction questions.