

Students with Limited Interrupted Formal Education

[Senate Bill 933](#), passed during the 2020 General Assembly, requires the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) to develop and adopt a common statewide definition for the term SLIFE, or "students with limited or interrupted formal education." School divisions would be required to report the number of students meeting this definition, and VDOE would collect information from divisions regarding the support provided to these students. A secondary requirement of the legislation is for the Board of Education is to determine whether calculations for the school quality indicators within the Board's *Regulations Establishing the Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* are appropriate and to make the necessary revisions to impact the methodology for the calculation of school accreditation ratings for the 2021–2022 school year.

To comport with this legislation, the VDOE has developed a proposed definition of SLIFE as —

A Student with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE) is an English Learner who

- Enters or re-enters any school in the United States at or after the age of 8; **AND**
- is identified at English Language Proficiency (ELP) Level 1 or 2; **AND**
- has at least 2 years less schooling than their similar-age peers.