

Virginia Board of Education

Emergency Career and Technical Education Work-Based Learning Guidelines for Internship and Cooperative Education Experiences

On March 23, 2020, Governor Ralph Northam ordered that all K-12 schools close for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year in an effort to control the spread of COVID-19. This announcement was an extension of the earlier closure order issued by Governor Northam on March 13, 2020. Recognizing that the extended closure impacts students that were enrolled in a cooperative education experience, the Board of Education has put forth the *Emergency Career and Technical Education Work-Based Learning Guidelines for Cooperative Education Experiences*. These emergency guidelines are meant to supplement the [Career and Technical Education Work-Based Learning Guide](#) that is in effect until June 30, 2020. The revised [Career and Technical Education Work-Based Learning Guide](#), approved by the Board in November 2019, will go into effect on July 1, 2020.

Under the current [Guide](#), any student enrolled in a cooperative education experience or internship must meet a 280 hour requirement to earn a standard unit of credit. For students enrolled in a cooperative education experience or internship for the 2019-2020 school year only, the 280 hour requirement for cooperative education and internships is reduced to 140 hours to earn a standard unit of credit.

School divisions must award standard credit for high school credit-bearing courses by ensuring that the student has demonstrated mastery in a majority of the standards, competencies, and objectives, including those that are essential for success in subsequent coursework. This process must be based on the [Emergency Guidelines for Local Alternatives to Awarding Standard Units of Credit](#), approved by the Board on April 2, 2020.