



**U.S. Department of State  
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs  
Private Sector Exchange**

Originally issued: June 17, 2010

## Guidance Directive 2010-04

### **Program Duration for Exchange Visitor Program Teachers Currently Teaching in Commonwealth of Virginia Public Schools**

I am pleased to advise that the Department of State will permit sponsors of the Exchange Visitor Program teacher category to extend for up to two years the program duration of exchange visitor teachers currently participating in exchange teacher programs in the public school system of Virginia.

Working in cooperation with local schools and partners to carry out Virginia Board of Education policy, and recognizing that the global economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century increasingly requires that students develop knowledge of other languages and cultures to prepare for future success, the Department of Education of Virginia has approached the Department of State with a request to permit up to two additional years of participation for exchange visitor teachers currently in its school system. Recognizing that exchange visitor teachers bring to the U.S. classroom different perspectives and skill sets for programs focused on global literacy and language instruction, and also have a great multiplier effect for public diplomacy when they return to their home countries to share their experiences with students and colleagues, the Department is pleased to accommodate this request.

A request for an “Extension Beyond the Maximum Duration of Participation” will be favorably considered upon submission of the request in SEVIS, payment of the required fee, and receipt of a written request in support of such extension from an appropriate school district official. Please note that written requests must be received in the Department by July 20, 2010.

Stanley S. Colvin  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Private Sector Exchange