

STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

Alabama State Board of Education

Governor Kay Ivey President

> Jackie Zeigler District I

Tracie West District II Vice President

Stephanie Bell District III

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D. District V President Pro Tem

> Marie Manning District VI

> Belinda McRae District VII

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D. District VIII

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D. Secretary and Executive Officer October 20, 2023

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey

State Superintendent of Education

RE: Virtual School Assurances on Cognia's eProve Diagnostics Platform

In the 2023-2024 school year, systems that have a virtual school must complete the Virtual School Assurances in Cognia's eProve Diagnostics Platform. According to the *Virtual Schools Act*, Act 2015-89, school systems are required to ensure that online providers of virtual courses are accredited by a recognized accreditation entity, and it is essential that the courses contain the required content as identified in the applicable Alabama Course of Study. Additionally, virtual schools are required to abide by federal education statutes including the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA), Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, and Title II of the *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA).

The Virtual School Assurances should only be completed by systems with a virtual school that earns foundation units and has enrollment. Brick-and-mortar schools that offer virtual programs or virtual courses do not need to complete the assurances. Each system that has a virtual school should complete the assurances on or before January 5, 2024.

For instructions on how to complete the Virtual School Assurances, please go to the following link: <u>Virtual Schools Assurance Guidance</u>.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Jean Scott by email at <u>jscott@alsde.edu</u> or by telephone at (334) 694-4641 for additional information.

EGM:JS

cc: LEA Technology Coordinators

Mrs. Angela Martin Dr. Brandon T. Payne Dr. Melissa Shields

FY24-2006