

2025-26 Virginia Tiered Systems of Support Collaborative Agreement



Fully Supported VTSS Divisions

This agreement outlines the collaboration of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) with the collective organization of the Virginia Tiered System of Supports - Research & Implementation Center (VTSS-RIC). The LEA and VTSS-RIC will provide the following as a part of the commitment to implementation of Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS):

Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports Research and Implementation Center (VTSS-RIC)

The VTSS-RIC at Virginia Commonwealth University, operating in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Education, will provide the following support:

- Through the facilitation of a structured process, State Education Agency (SEA) coaches will support the assessment of division-level capacity and understanding to implement and align [Virginia's MTSS core components and features](#) within the LEA's mission and goals (outlined in strategic plans, continuous improvement plans/memorandums of understanding, and/or fidelity assessments) to enhance student outcomes.
- Technical assistance activities will be facilitated to assess and build the LEA leadership team's capacity to implement MTSS with fidelity, anchored to the VTSS Core Components: aligned organizational structures, problem-solving processes, a tiered continuum of supports, systematic implementation, and evaluation.
- Professional learning opportunities and training will be determined/offered based on the contextual needs of each LEA, their phase of implementation, and staff development needs/objectives. Activities may include attending VTSS events, assisting in the development of training plans, and building local capacity to provide training on MTSS-related content.

The Local Education Agency

The Local Education Agency agrees to minimally:

- Actively engage in activities to support the development of a local systems coaching infrastructure to organize and align resources that work to build and sustain MTSS core components and practices with fidelity at the district and school levels (e.g., see Coaching Model for sample information).

- Provide an active Division Leadership Team (DLT), with representation necessary to move implementation forward. A DLT should make a concerted effort to meet monthly with their state coaches, **a minimum of six times a year**, and communicate at regular intervals.
- Provide a documented communication protocol with the Superintendent or Superintendent's Designee, that at minimum outlines the information to be communicated, responsible parties, time allocated, and format for bi-directional communication.
- Participate in data collection and submission activities related to evaluation for VTSS implementation to support school and division-level needs, e.g., Division Capacity Assessment, Tiered Fidelity Inventory, and Outcome Summary Data.

All divisions that partner with the Virginia Tiered System of Support are eligible for the VTSS State Grant from the Virginia Department of Education. Grant funds are available to support the attendance of VTSS-sponsored professional learning and training, implementation activities, and other necessary expenses. Per state regulations, LEAs are required to submit a proposal outlining the use of funds prior to being awarded. Allocations will be made based on the quality of the proposal and the base funding formula. **No funding will be awarded or reserved for divisions that do not submit a completed grant proposal.**

Should this agreement not meet the needs of the LEA, or if either party consistently fails to meet the above outlined objectives in this collaborative agreement, one party should reach out to discuss questions or concerns with their respective point of contact. The Division Superintendent will be notified if all attempts to reach the designated point of contact are unsuccessful. If a division fails to meet the conditions outlined in the Collaborative Agreement, the VTSS team may choose to end the partnership. This agreement may be terminated in writing at any time should a division choose to end its partnership with VTSS. To begin the process of formally exiting, divisions should send written communication to the VDOE VTSS Specialist, Japeira Keys at Japeira.Keys@doe.virginia.gov, and the VTSS-RIC Director, Jodie Soracco at soraccoja@vcu.edu. Divisions that have been in partnership for more than one year will be requested to participate in an exit interview with the VTSS Evaluation team.

Local Education Agency

Superintendent or Designee Signature

Printed Name

Date

Division Coordinator Signature

Printed Name

Date