

Jeffrey C. Riley  
Commissioner

# Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906

Telephone: (781) 338-3000  
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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT

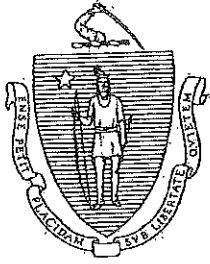
Pursuant to its authority under M.G.L. c.71, § 94, and in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 3, the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) is soliciting public comment on proposed amendments to 603 CMR 52.00, the regulations for Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools.

The proposed amendments address the two types of Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools (CMVS) outlined in statute and Single District Virtual Schools (SDVS). The proposed amendments also delete some language that is not consistent with changes made to M.G.L. c. 71, § 94, since 2014.

In general, the proposed amendments:

- clarify the two types of CMVS, both requiring a certificate issued by the Board;
- clarify the expectations for SDVSs consistent with the Guidelines for Submission of Single District Virtual School Proposals and the Frequently Asked Questions about Single District Virtual Schools;
- update the regulations to reflect the new SPEED Act, addressing the rights of military families;
- align the regulations with guidance on child safety; and
- make technical changes to conform the regulations to the statute.

Copies of the proposed amendments are available on the Department's website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/>, or by calling 781-338-3227. Written comments on the proposed amendments may be submitted by mail to: Office of Charter Schools and School Redesign, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148; by fax to: 781-338-3220; or by e-mail to: [virtualschools@mass.gov](mailto:virtualschools@mass.gov). The deadline for submission of public comment is **February 10, 2023, at 5 p.m.** The Board is expected to vote on the proposed amendments at a regular monthly meeting scheduled in March 2023.



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### Small Business Impact Statement Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §2

This statement accompanies the filing by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the proposed amendments to 603 CMR 52.00, the regulations for Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools.

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  - update the regulations to reflect the new SPEED Act, addressing the rights of military families;
  - align the regulations with guidance on child safety; and
  - make technical changes to conform the regulations to the statute.
1. The proposed amendments do not affect small businesses.
  2. Since the proposed amendments do not affect small businesses, the following considerations are not applicable:
    - a. Reporting, record keeping or other administrative costs required of small businesses for compliance associated with the amendments.
    - b. Appropriateness of performance standards vs. design standards.
    - c. Regulations of this agency or any other state agency, which may duplicate or conflict with the proposed amendments.
    - d. Analysis of whether the proposed amendments is likely to deter or encourage the formation of new business in the state.

Submitted by:

*Rhoda E. Schneider*

Rhoda E. Schneider, on behalf of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Date: 12/21/22