



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.
Secretary of Finance

January 10, 2020

The Honorable Janet D. Howell
Chair, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 2608
Reston, VA 20195

The Honorable Luke E. Torian
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Virginia House of Delegate
4222 Fortuna Plaza, Suite #659
Dumfries, VA 22025

Dear Senator Howell and Delegate Torian:

This letter is to serve as the required annual report pursuant to § 23.1-1243. This Code Section refers to the Tech Talent Investment Program (TTIP) passed by the 2019 General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor.

As part of the Commonwealth's agreement to bring Amazon's second headquarters to Arlington, Virginia agreed to work with its public colleges and universities to produce at least 25,000 new bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science and related fields over the next 20 years. This agreement was the impetus for the creation of the Tech Talent Investment Program, which called for the signing of the Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) between the Governor and participating public colleges and universities.

In November, Governor Northam announced that the Commonwealth had signed agreements with 11 universities, which will create 31,000 new degrees in these fields, exceeding the legislative goal. It is expected that additional agreements will be established with other institutions, including Virginia's community colleges.

Section § 23.1-1243 requires an update as to the progress of each institution with a signed agreement in meeting the goals set forth in its MOU and the aggregate amount of grants awarded to the qualified institution pursuant to this chapter.

Specifically, the MOUs we signed this fall, and the first year funds were distributed. As a result this letter serves as the required report for 2019. Any progress made by the institutions by December 1, 2020, will be included in the next annual report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.', with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.

Enclosures

**C: April Kees, Staff Director, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee
Anne Oman, Staff Director, House Appropriations Committee**

Code of Virginia

Title 23.1. Institutions of Higher Education; Other Educational and Cultural Institutions

Chapter 12.1. Tech Talent Investment Program

§ 23.1-1243. Annual report

The Secretary of Finance, in consultation with the other designated reviewers, shall submit a report by December 1 of each year to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance. Such report shall provide an update as to the progress of each qualified institution in meeting the goals set forth in its memorandum of understanding and the aggregate amount of grants awarded to the qualified institution pursuant to this chapter.

2019, cc. 638, 639.

The chapters of the acts of assembly referenced in the historical citation at the end of this section may not constitute a comprehensive list of such chapters and may exclude chapters whose provisions have expired.