

Virgin Islands

Virgin Islands Department of Education
R372A120029

Project Title: *U.S. Virgin Islands Virtual Information System (VIVIS)*

Project Description: The United States Virgin Islands (“Virgin Islands”) is currently engaged in planning activities seeking to improve the educational and workforce outcomes of all its residents. Our vision is to establish a set of integrated data systems which allow related stakeholders to collect, manage and use data in improved information systems covering the span from birth to the workforce. These systems will allow education stakeholders to answer such critical questions as “What effect do early childhood programs have on the success of K-12 students?” and “How does the educational success of a student vary based on participation in Head Start only versus participation in both Early Head Start and Head Start programs?” Tools will be offered to allow policy makers, teachers, parents, students, education officials, researchers and other stakeholders, clear and meaningful data based on the audience. We will implement the necessary data and technology standards to provide the appropriate level of accessibility, accuracy, analysis and security based on defined roles.

The Virgin Islands Department of Education was recently appropriated and allotted \$2.875 from the Virgin Islands Legislature for the purpose of building a P-20 longitudinal data system (aka the Virgin Islands Virtual Information System (VIVIS)) beginning with K-12 data integration. The funds from this IES grant will enhance VIVIS to include data from Early Childhood, as is consistent with priority 2 of the FY12 SLDS RFA: “To develop and link early childhood data with the State’s K-12 data system.” The Virgin Islands is committed to improving student performance and increasing citizenry success by creating a culture of data use. The funds from this grant will provide the Virgin Islands the resources to:

1. Develop an Early Childhood Data System and Integration Plan which includes the business and technical requirements,
2. Enhance existing Early Childhood Systems for Data Collection system
3. Include the collection of assessment and outcome data in the Childcare Integrated Data Management System
4. Integrate Early Childhood Data with K-12/ VIVIS

The Virgin Islands established in 2011 an association of partners organized in a group called the Virgin Islands Data Governance Executive Council. This council establishes policies for all aspects of P-20 data integration. The Department of Education, a representative on the council, is the lead agency in developing VIVIS. The Department of Health and the Department of Human Services, both representatives on the council, oversee Early Childhood services. Through this partnership, these three Departments will work intimately for the successful completion of the project.
