

The Division is organized into two branches: Instructional Technology, and Instructional and Information Services.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY BRANCH
Gregory K. Talley, *Chief*
581-4224

The Instructional Technology Branch was created in 1987. The Branch is responsible for updating computer technology in the schools. The Branch provides local schools with information and technical support services relating to computer hardware and software for instructional use. In addition, it evaluates local technology needs and trains staff to use new programs and equipment.

INSTRUCTIONAL & INFORMATION SERVICES BRANCH
Patricia Murphy, *Chief*
581-4209

The Instructional and Information Services Branch was formed in 1970. The Branch designs instructional videos, selects quality programs from other sources, and creates support materials for teachers. For Maryland Public Television, the Branch schedules instructional programs aired weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Channel 22, Annapolis; Channel 28, Salisbury; Channel 31, Hagerstown; Channel 36, Oakland; Channel 62, Frederick; and Channel 67, Baltimore.

DIVISION OF CERTIFICATION & ACCREDITATION

A. Skipp Sanders, *Assistant State Superintendent*
200 W. Baltimore St.
Baltimore, MD 21201
333-2141

Created in 1970, the Division of Certification and Accreditation regulates and administers the certification of teachers, staff development, General Education Development (G.E.D.) requirements, and the accreditation of nonpublic schools.

TEACHER EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION BRANCH
Evelyn DiTosto, *Chief*
333-2155

The Teacher Education and Certification Branch was formed in 1981. In accordance with State Board of Education bylaws, the Branch evaluates teacher education programs offered by Maryland colleges and universities and approves programs leading to the Advanced Professional Certificate. The Branch also issues certificates to teachers and administrators in public and private schools, and various other institutions.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT BRANCH
Vacancy, *Chief*
333-2173

Organized in 1981, the Staff Development Branch develops and coordinates inservice training programs for principals, supervisors, administrators, teachers, and Department staff throughout Maryland. The Branch offers training institutes through the Maryland Professional Development Academy, also known as the Principals' Academy.

GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT BRANCH
Mary A. Corley, *Chief*
333-2280

The General Education Development Branch was established in 1943. Pursuant to State Board of Education bylaws, the Branch administers the General Education Development (G.E.D.) testing program, which leads to attainment of a Maryland high school diploma. Tests are given on the second Saturday of every month at 21 test centers throughout the State. Persons interested in taking the test must apply through the General Education Development Branch or through the local adult education center of their local school system.

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL ACCREDITATION BRANCH
Virginia Cieslicki, *Chief*
333-2160

The Nonpublic School Accreditation Branch started in 1948. By issuing certificates of approval to approved schools, the Branch ensures that nonpublic nursery schools, group day care centers, kindergartens, elementary schools, middle schools, secondary schools, residential juvenile or child care facilities, tutoring schools, and schools for handicapped in Maryland provide educational programs that conform to Maryland law and to State Board of Education regulations. The Branch also compiles the *Directory of Approved NonPublic Schools in the State of Maryland*.

BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Martha J. Fields, *Assistant Deputy State Superintendent*
333-2489

The Bureau of Educational Development was organized in 1988. Four Divisions are administered by the Bureau: Instruction, Compensatory Education and Support Services, Special Education, and Career and Technology Education.