

**Unified Regulatory Plan of the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services for State Fiscal Year
2025**

Prepared on June 30, 2024

June 30, 2024
Revised July 1, 2024
Revised July 16, 2024

Description of Agency or Boards

The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) is designated as the state agency authorized to carry out, administer, or support programs for vocational rehabilitation, other related employment services, independent living for individuals with disabilities, brain injury services, Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center, Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative Trust Fund Program, Social Security Administration's Disability Determination Services for SSDI and SSI claimants, the Older Americans Act and services for older Virginians through area agencies on aging, the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, the state's Assistive Technology Act Program, the Virginia Assistive Technology System, and the Public Guardian and Conservator Program, and to develop and supervise local departments of social services in the delivery of adult protective services, adult services, and the Auxiliary Grant Program. The Commissioner of DARS is also required to oversee any human research conducted or authorized by the agency, any sheltered workshop, any center for independent living, and Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center. DARS operates under the supervision of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

Anticipated Regulatory Actions

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)		
Not Available		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document		
Amend IL due to WIOA and Periodic Review		
Brief Overview		
This action on 22VAC30-30 (Provision of Independent Living Rehabilitation Services) will seek to amend the regulation to comply with the federal regulation implementing WIOA, which is the most recent federal regulation for the independent living (IL) program and IL services. In addition, this action will bring the regulation up to date with the changes in the IL movement that have occurred since this regulation was last amended.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	DARS anticipates there will be substantial areas of the chapter that are derived from outdated federal regulations and can be reduced. DARS is currently identifying ways to streamline the chapter and improve the clarity.	
Expected Date	October 2024	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)		
Not Available		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document		
Amend Auxiliary Grant Regulation to Align Provider Notice Requirements		
Brief Overview		
This action will amend 22VAC30-80-45 (Auxiliary Grants (AG) Program, Conditions of participation in the program) to align with the requirements with 22VAC30-110-40 (Assessment in Assisted Living Facilities (ALF), Discharge). Specifically, the revisions to 22VAC30-80-45 will defer to 22VAC30-110-40 for the timeframes by which ALFs must provide notice to local departments of social services (LDSS) when AG residents are set to be discharged, have been discharged due to an emergency, or have died.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	These revisions will eliminate contradictory provisions and streamline the notice requirements by retaining them in one chapter and referring to them in the other. This has the added benefit of reducing regulatory content and eliminating confusion on the part of ALFs who participate in the AG Program.	

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Expected Date	October 2024
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Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 5280/Stage 8922	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Regulations Following Periodic Review	
Brief Overview This chapter, 22VAC30-60 (Grants to Area Agencies on Aging), prescribes the requirements that the 25 state-designated AAAs in Virginia shall meet to receive federal and state funds for various programs, including those for nutrition services, care coordination, legal assistance, information and referral services, and many others. Following a 2019 periodic review, DARS has determined the current chapter requires updates. Additionally, updated federal Older Americans Act regulations (that have not been amended since the original promulgation in 1988) will require Virginia’s compliance by October 2025. This regulatory action seeks to clarify content that may be unclear, inconsistent, or obsolete, make adjustments for a modernized AAA and aging-network structure, and ensure consistency with the new federal regulatory requirements.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	DARS is currently reviewing the regulatory content to identify potential reduction opportunities for inclusion in proposed regulations.
Expected Date	December 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6458 / Stage 10319	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Vocational Rehabilitation Regulations Following Periodic Review	
Brief Overview The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) will seek to amend 22VAC30-20 (Provision of Vocational Rehabilitation Services) following a Periodic Review conducted in 2021. The Periodic Review concluded there was a need to amend the chapter in order to provide minor revisions and clarifications to certain areas, comply with federal requirements, and support operational and administrative efficiencies for the agency. The department is moving forward with a Fast-Track action for changes that are deemed non-controversial.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action

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Deregulatory Component	This Fast-Track action includes revisions and clarifications to certain areas, addresses compliance with federal requirements, and supports operational and administrative efficiencies for the agency.
Expected Date	December 2024

Anticipated Guidance Document Actions

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)		
4540		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document		
State Plan for Independent Living		
Brief Overview		
Developed an approved by the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), this federal- and state-required plan (SPIL) contains assurances of compliance with federal laws and regulations and attachments describing Virginia's SILC, Centers for Independent Living (CILs), services and providers, and Virginia's goals and objectives for the SPIL period beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2027. As required by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), the SILC administrator will send the proposed draft SPIL to ACL by June 30, 2024, so that ACL may review and accept the SPIL by September 30, 2024, a timeframe that will correspond with a Town Hall public comment period.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track Rule
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The SPIL's structure and contents are directed heavily by federal requirements. While DARS' ability to modify some content is limited, DARS will take a closer look at the SPIL for potential opportunities.	
Expected Date	July 2024	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)		
4526		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document		
2024-2027 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Combined State Plan		
Brief Overview		
Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), a Combined State Plan must be submitted to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) that outlines a four-year strategy for the state's workforce development system. The Combined State Plan contains a description, the plans, and policies to carry out the state's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services Program, the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). The VR portion requires approval from the U.S. Department of Education's Rehabilitation Services Agency (RSA) and the SCSEP component requires approval from DOL. Following approval from the federal government, DARS will update its filing to only include SCSEP and the VR Services program components, reducing the total number of pages from 620 to 99 pages.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final Rule	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document

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Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute
Deregulatory Component	The WIOA Combined State Plan structure and contents are directed heavily by federal requirements, which primarily authorizes and funds VR services. While DARS' ability to modify some content is limited, DARS has taken a closer look for potential opportunities. Following approval from the federal government, DARS will update its filing to only include SCSEP and the VR Services program, reducing the total number of pages from 620 to 99 pages (and within that the SCSEP and VR sections will go from 110 pages to 99 pages).
Expected Date	August 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 7199	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document SCSEP State Plan Modification	
Brief Overview The SCSEP State Plan is developed by state and national grantees working together to implement the program plan for the state. Per federal requirements it must be reviewed and approved by the U.S. Department of Labor. This year, under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Combined State Plan, the SCSEP Plan was included. This eliminates the need for a separate SCSEP State Plan, allowing DARS to delete the SCSEP State Plan Modification.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final Rule <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action <input type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute
Deregulatory Component	This document will be deleted as a stand-alone guidance document because is now a component of the Combined State Plan (see item above).
Expected Date	August 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 6883	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document State Plan for Assistive Technology	
Brief Overview The 21 st Century Assistive Technology Act provides funding to Virginia to operate the state's Assistive Technology (AT) Program, known as the Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS). VATS is administered by DARS and supports state efforts to improve access to and acquisition of assistive technology to individuals with disabilities of all ages through comprehensive, statewide programs. VATS mission is to ensure that Virginians of all ages and abilities can acquire the appropriate, affordable assistive and information technologies and services they need to participate in society as active citizens. VATS is required to submit a three-year plan to the U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL) to conduct the federally required AT services and activities. The new three-year State Plan	

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for AT (2024-26) data collection instrument public comment periods has ended, and ACL is moving forward with the OMB approval process. WE anticipate submitting the State Plan in September 2024.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The AT State Plan structure and contents are directed heavily by federal requirements, which primarily authorizes and funds each state's AT Program. While DARS' ability to modify some content is limited, DARS will take a closer look at the AT State Plan for potential opportunities.
Expected Date	September 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 4531	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Human Research Procedures Manual	
Brief Overview This action will update procedural guidance in the manual in alignment with 22VAC30-40-40 and 45 CFR § 46.114, to reduce the duplication of effort when two institutional review boards (IRB) are engaged in the same research project.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	DARS will streamline the IRB process so two IRBs are no longer needed for a single project involving two separate agencies, thus reducing the burden on entities seeking approval from the agency for research projects.
Expected Date	September 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 5082	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Guidance for the Provision of Community Support Services (CSS) Manual	
Brief Overview The Community Support Services (CSS) Manual provides vocational rehabilitation (VR) counselors and service providers with direction on the provision of individual CSS. It details the roles of the VR counselor and employment specialist, when and how to make a referral and authorize services, and when to modify or end services. This guidance document is being updated to reflect the service	

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provision of VR-sponsored individual CSS with an Employment Service Organization (ESO) only. In addition, updates include ensuring the CSS aligns with serious functional limitations, that users are given practical guidance around CSS, and to maintain the value and flexibility of the CSS while ensuring consistent statewide use.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document was last updated in 2018. DARS is taking a comprehensive look at the document's contents with an eye for streamlining requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it with expected practices. A reduction in length is expected.	
Expected Date	September 2024	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 4522		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Vocational Rehabilitation Policy and Procedure Manual		
Brief Overview The Vocational Rehabilitation Policy and Procedure Manual (also known as the VR Policy Manual), outlines the agency's requirements and practices for the implementation of the VR Program in Virginia. Providing additional detail and guidance beyond federal and state regulations, this manual defines the VR Program's eligibility, coverage and services, client rights and responsibilities, financial participation obligations, and other related topics. Generally, this manual is updated periodically throughout the year to align with federal requirements and guidance, and to provide improved clarity to the department, stakeholders, and VR clients.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	DARS is taking a comprehensive look at the manual's contents with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving readability, and aligning it with federal requirements and expected practices.	
Expected Date	September 2024 and March 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 5349
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Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document AS Adult Services Manual Chapters 1-9	
Brief Overview This manual outlines the policies for the implementation of the Adult Services (AS) and Adult Protective Services (APS) programs. Revisions to Chapter 7 will bring it into alignment with 2024 General Assembly legislative changes. Chapter 2 will be revised to include content on how to draft an APS report as the Division anticipates the launch of an online portal for making APS reports at the end of 2024. Other minor technical changes may also be made to both chapters.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	In November 2023, staff updated the manual, which resulted in the reduction of 36 pages. The agency will continue to review the manual for reduction opportunities.
Expected Date	September 2024 February 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 6496	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Pre-Employment Transition Services Manual	
Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) is authorized by § 113 of the federal Rehabilitation Act, as amended, and implemented by federal regulation (34 CFR § 361.48(a)). This manual provides guidance to Division of Rehabilitative Services staff on the Pre-ETS program, which is the earliest set of vocational rehabilitation services available to students with disabilities. Amendments will provide clarification on identifying service needs for students with disabilities, staff timesheet training, and the manager reviewal process for timesheets using job aid Cardinal links. In addition, VR Pre Flex Services will be updated, and Appendix A will be removed. Updates made during the last review will be changed from red to black type and it will be reviewed for reduction opportunities.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	DARS is taking a comprehensive look at the manual's contents with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving readability, and aligning it with federal requirements and expected practices.
Expected Date	December 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)
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June 30, 2024
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Revised July 16, 2024

4545		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center Governance Manual		
Brief Overview This Governance Manual contains policies for the administration and operation of Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC). These policies seek to maintain the organization’s compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. It also advises WWRC clients on rights and responsibilities. WWRC is working to update this manual to align with and reflect current requirements, operations, and service delivery practices.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The Governance Manual has not been updated in over five years. DARS is taking a comprehensive look at it with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it the DARS VR Policy Manual.	
Expected Date	December 2024	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 6758		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Senior Community Service Employment Program Operations Manual		
Brief Overview Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) activities are authorized under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965. This document provides guidance for state and local SCSEP coordinators on how to administer the SCSEP program. It discusses federal regulations, monitoring, and the services to be provided.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document was last reviewed in December 2019. DARS is taking a comprehensive look at it with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it with the corresponding federal regulation. A reduction in length is expected.	
Expected Date	January 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)
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6497	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Office of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Policies & Procedures	
Brief Overview The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (OSLTCO) will undertake a comprehensive review of the OSLTCO Policies and Procedures and develop appropriate revisions to the guidance document to ensure it fully aligns with the 2024 Older Americans Act Final Rule, which requires compliance by October 2025.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document was last updated in 2018. DARS is taking a comprehensive look at the document's contents with an eye for streamlining requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it with the Older Americans Act regulatory requirements.
Expected Date	February 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 5161	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document VDA Farm Market Fresh for Seniors Handbook for Farmers	
Brief Overview This Handbook applies to all farmers authorized by DARS to participate in the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) in Virginia, also called the Farm Market Fresh Program. The authorized farmer must comply with principles and procedures outlined in this handbook to participate. This handbook is updated annually to reflect any changes to the application process, transaction requirements, monitoring, and an updated listing of participating farmers.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Virginia's SFMNP is authorized and awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which limits DARS' ability to modify some content. However, DARS will take a closer look at the handbook for potential opportunities.
Expected Date	March 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)
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June 30, 2024
Revised July 1, 2024
Revised July 16, 2024

4521	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Vocational Evaluation Best Practices Manual	
Brief Overview The manual is intended to unite all segments of DRS Vocational Evaluation Services in Virginia in an organized fashion to promote consistency of standards and practices under the leadership of the evaluators advisor group who will serve as "Quality Assurance Consults." This manual will be updated to bring it into alignment with current practices and expected program improvements.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	DARS will review the guidance for potential opportunities, and a reduction in length is expected.
Expected Date	March 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 4519	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Virginia Guide to Supported Employment and Job Coach Training Services	
Brief Overview The purpose of this document is to provide practical and specific information to supplement the Division of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Policy Manual. This guide illustrates evolving best practices gleaned from case examples and data gathered in Virginia. Specifically, the guide provides practitioners with guidance in implementing supported employment services. Revisions are needed to update definitions, group supported employment services, provisions for the benefits counseling section, align references to federal regulations, update service codes, and clarify the provisions for Long-Term Employment Support Services (LTESS).	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	DARS will review the guide for potential opportunities to reduce the burden on service providers, streamline the document, and improve clarity.
Expected Date	March 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 6495
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Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document VDA Aging Services Standards: All Standards Combined		
Brief Overview The purpose of the VDA Aging Service Standards is to provide minimum standards of practice for Older Americans Act (OAA)-funded programs that assist older adults as outlined in the OAA and as provided by Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). This document is outdated and needs reformatting and an update to bring it into alignment with current requirements as set in recent reauthorizations of the OAA and the new federal regulatory requirements that require compliance by October 2025.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Several of the Aging Service Standards have not been updated in more than five years. DARS is taking a comprehensive look at the Aging Services Standards with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving readability, and aligning it with federal requirements and expected practices. For example, DARS anticipates that standards related to the care coordination programs can be combined.	
Expected Date	May 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 5158		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document VDA National Family Caregiver Support Guidance		
Brief Overview Funding for the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) is provided under Title III, Part E of the Older Americans Act (OAA). The guidance for the NFCSP was last updated in June 2017. In FFY 2022, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) added several services that could be provided by Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) under the NFCSP, including respite vouchers, assistive technology and durable medical equipment, consumable supplies, and financial consultation. In addition, ACL issued new OAA regulations that require compliance by October 2025. This guidance will be revised to reflect these changes and support alignment with federal requirements and allowances. In addition, this guidance document will be moved and added to the VDA Aging Services Standards overall document for ease of reference.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action

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Deregulatory Component	This standalone guidance document will be deleted, and an updated version will be integrated into the VDA Aging Services Standards guidance document (ID: 6495), thus consolidating two documents into one.
Expected Date	May 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 4525	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Long Term Employment Support Services (LTESS) & Extended Employment Services (EES) Policy Manual	
Brief Overview LTESS and EES services are authorized by the Code of Virginia §51.5-169.10 and funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia. This document provides guidance to Employment Service Organizations (ESOs) that provide long term employment support services (LTESS) and extended employment services (EES) required to assist individuals with disabilities in maintaining stability in employment. Updates will include additions and revisions to allowable services.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The manual will be reviewed for reduction opportunities.
Expected Date	May 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 4532	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Personal Assistance Services Program Handbook	
Brief Overview The Personal Assistance Services (PAS) Handbook provides information about and requirements for participation in the PAS Program. The updates will include changes in the program process, which impacts the roles and responsible of the consumer as the designed Employer of Record (EOR), on-boarding process, and the role of DARS as the fiscal agent.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The PAS Handbook has not been updated in over ten years. DARS is taking a comprehensive look at the PAS Handbook with a focus on streamlining

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	requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it with federal requirements and expected practices.
Expected Date	May 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 5079	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Vendor Application for Licensed Behavioral Health Services Provider A1205- Guidance Document	
Brief Overview The Vendor Application for Licensed Behavior Health Services provides information about the process and requirements for individuals seeking vendor status with DARS as a licensed provider. The updates will include changes in the program process, requirements, and overall process.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document has not been updated in over ten years. DARS intends to take a comprehensive look at it and identify potential opportunities.
Expected Date	June 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 5081	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Guidance for the Provision of Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)	
Brief Overview The Guidance for the Provision of Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) provides information about the requirements for the Provision of TBS. It includes among other things, expectations, licensure, and rates as they pertain to vendor services. This document will be updated to bring it into alignment with current practices and expected program improvements.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document has not been updated in over five years. DARS intends to take a comprehensive look at it and identify potential opportunities.
Expected Date	June 2025

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Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 4533	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Personal Assistance Services Policy and Procedure Manual Chapters 1-5	
Brief Overview The Personal Assistance Services (PAS) Policy and Procedure Manual Chapters 1-5 provides information about the requirements for the PAS program to include eligibility, roles, and responsibilities. This manual will need to be revised to update current practices and processes.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The PAS Manual has not been updated in over five years. DARS will take a comprehensive look at the PAS Manual with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it with federal and state requirements and expected practices. DARS will update and combine this Manual with Chapters 6-14, which is currently filed as a separate guidance document (ID: 4534).
Expected Date	May 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 4534	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Personal Assistance Services Policy and Procedure Manual Chapters 6 through 14	
Brief Overview The Personal Assistance Services (PAS) Policy and Procedure Manual Chapters 6-14) provides information about the requirements for the PAS program to include eligibility, roles, and responsibilities. This manual will need to be revised to update current practices and processes.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The PAS Manual has not been updated in over five years. DARS will take a comprehensive look at the PAS Manual with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it with federal and state requirements and expected practices. This standalone guidance document will be deleted and updated version will be integrated into Personal Assistance Services Policy and Procedure Manual Chapters 1-5 (ID: 4533), thus consolidating two documents into one.

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Expected Date	June 2025
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Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)	
6264	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document	
Licensed Behavioral Health Services - Guidance and Fees Document	
Brief Overview	
The Licensed Behavioral Health Services - Guidance and Fees Document provides information about the requirements for the Licensed Behavioral Health Services to include vendor criteria, expectations, and fees as outlined in the manual. This document will be updated to bring it into alignment with current practices and expected program improvements.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document has not been updated in over ten years. DARS intends to take a comprehensive look at it and identify potential opportunities.
Expected Date	June 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)	
4520	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document	
Consumer's Guide to Self-Employment	
Brief Overview	
The Consumer's Guide to Self-Employment provides insight into the DRS Self-Employment Enterprise program and its procedures as well as what is expected of consumers. The guide will be updated to bring it into alignment with current practices and expected program improvements.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Proposed <input type="checkbox"/> Fast-Track
Additional Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Review Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance Document
Legal Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by federal statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action required by state statute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This guide has not been updated in over ten years. DARS will take a comprehensive look at it with a focus on streamlining requirements, improving the readability, and aligning it with applicable federal requirements and expected practices. A reduction in length is expected.
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