

Unified Regulatory Plan of the Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for State Fiscal Year 2025

Prepared on 6/30/2024

Description of Agency or Boards

The Department of Deaf and Hard of Hearing is the policy-making entity responsible for the administrative procedures in the provision of accessible telecommunication-related and interpreting related services as well as other activities pertinent to service provision for deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind people throughout the Commonwealth. Acting through the Director, the Department is authorized to adopt regulations necessary or incidental to the performance of duties or execution of powers conferred by law. Title 2.2, Chapter 40 of the Code of Virginia provides that the Department shall promulgate administrative procedures in the executive branch. The Department operates under the supervision of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

REGULATORY ACTION

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)	
Not available	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document	
Title 22. Social Services. Agency 20. Department for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing. Chapter 20. Regulations Governing Eligibility Standards and Application Procedures for the Distribution of Assistive Technology Equipment	
Brief Overview	
The Code of Virginia directed the Department to promulgate regulatory framework concerning eligibility and application procedures regarding the distribution of assistive technology to deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind people. The Department must address eligibility criteria to approve applicants and identify procedures to submit applications.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	<input checked="" 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 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	A FY23 periodic review identified needed regulatory changes to simplify the language, clarify the eligibility criterion, and to streamline the application procedures.
Expected Date	October 2025

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)
Not available
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document

VDDHH-1 - VDDHH Technology Assistance Program Procedures (Implementing 22 VAC 20-20 Regulations Governing Eligibility Standards and Application Procedures for the Distribution of Assistive Technology Devices)	
Brief Overview Guidance document details procedures on documenting proof of eligibility and how to submit along with an application. The # of word count was 674 words and the projected # of word count to be eliminated is 169 words achieving a 25% reduction. After revisions to the TAP document, the final word count is 439.	
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 Department conducted a periodic review to revise & update the Guidance document. It was completed. An Economic Review Form need to be submitted to ORM and the updated TAP document needs to be uploaded into the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall.
Expected Date	September 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Not available	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document VDDHH-2 - VDDHH Interpreter Services Procedures (Implementing 22 VAC 20-30; Regulations Governing Interpreter Services for the D/HH)	
Brief Overview VDDHH-2 is the Department's procedures and forms for state and local government agencies, courts, and deaf or hard of hearing consumers to request interpreter services. It is a process for interpreter service coordination which is detailed in the Service Agreement manual. The manual is on a webpage with all the links etc. VDDHH sectioned all of this and made a state agency tab with trimmed info. The measure is using the webpage current # of word count and projected # of word count to be eliminated achieving a 25% reduction. The old webpages totaled approximately 3,752 words and the new/revised webpage totaled 1,461 words plus hyperlinks to downloadable forms. An approximate 50% reduction will be achieved.	
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 Department conducted a periodic review and revised & updated the relevant webpages pertaining to this Guidance document. It was completed. An Economic Review Form need to be submitted to ORM and the updated TAP document needs to be uploaded into the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall.

Expected Date	September 2024
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Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)	
Not available	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document	
VDDHH-3 - VDDHH Directory of Qualified Interpreters Procedures (Implementing 22 VAC 20-30; Regulations Governing Interpreter Services for the D/HH)	
Brief Overview	
The Guidance document details procedures on how to be listed in the Directory of Qualified Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing which is intended to be a resource for businesses, service providers and individuals who are interested in obtaining the services of qualified interpreters. Directions are provided on the webpage on how to complete the Directory Release Form. Directions are on the webpage and the form itself is a hyperlink to download the form. The measure is using the webpage current # of word count and projected # of word count to be eliminated achieving a 25% reduction. Currently # of word count is 178 words and projected # of word count to be eliminated is 44 words achieving a 25% reduction. Looking at only the directions, it is somewhat impractical to achieve 25% reduction but can be edited for brevity and simplicity.	
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 Department conducted a periodic review and revised & updated the relevant webpage pertaining to this Guidance document. The webpages need to migrate from test to production for public use. An Economic Review Form need to be submitted to ORM and the information needs to be updated in the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall.
Expected Date	September 2024

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available)	
Not available	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document	
VDDHH-4 -VDDHH Virginia Quality Assurance Screening Applicant Packet (Implementing 22 VAC 2-30; Regulations Governing Interpreter Services for the D/HH)	
Brief Overview	
The “VQAS Applicant Packet” refers to an application packet on taking a written & performance assessment for interpreters. It is dated 2011 and we no longer have an application packet with a check payment system. The registration process with credit card payment is now online. It is suggested that perhaps the guidance document should be deleted in its entirety. Currently, information is on the VQAS webpage. The webpage has been revamped for clarity and to explain what the test is and what to do to take it. A compilation of hyperlinks to three downloadable PDF documents which comprises of the “VQAS Assessment Preparation Packet”. The measure is using the webpage current # of word count and projected # of word count to be eliminated achieving a 25% reduction.	

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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 Department conducted a periodic review and revised & updated the relevant webpage pertaining to this Guidance document. It was completed. An Economic Review Form need to be submitted to ORM and the information needs to be updated in the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall.	
Expected Date	September 2024	