

Unified Regulatory Plan of the Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for State Fiscal Year 2026

Prepared on July 23, 2025, updated September 26, 2025

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.

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)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☒ Fast-Track	
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document	
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ 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	