



Virginia
Regulatory
Town Hall

Notice of Intended Regulatory Action Agency Background Document

Agency Name:	Department for the Visually Handicapped
VAC Chapter Number:	110
Regulation Title:	Regulations Governing Low Vision
Action Title:	Amend for Clarity & Update
Date:	04/11/00

This information is required prior to the submission to the Registrar of Regulations of a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) pursuant to the Administrative Process Act § 9-6.14:7.1 (B). Please refer to Executive Order Twenty-Five (98) and Executive Order Fifty-Eight (99) for more information.

Purpose

Please describe the subject matter and intent of the planned regulation. This description should include a brief explanation of the need for and the goals of the new or amended regulation.

This regulation provides for the low vision services referral process, eligibility criteria, financial participation criteria, and the clinical service. The Department will amend this regulation by deleting the obsolete section that deals with using the Department's endowment funds and make language changes to update terminology.

Basis

Please identify the state and/or federal source of legal authority to promulgate the contemplated regulation. The discussion of this authority should include a description of its scope and the extent to which the authority is mandatory or discretionary. The correlation between the proposed regulatory action and the legal authority identified above should be explained. Full citations of legal authority and, if available, web site addresses for locating the text of the cited authority must be provided.

Code of Virginia § 63.1-85(7) (<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+63.1-85>) mandates the Commissioner to promulgate regulations to carry out the provisions of this title and

Code of Virginia § 9-6.14:4(B), (D) and (F) (<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+9-6.14C4>) mandate the Department to have regulations for those services and programs in which Department action affects individual substantive rights and benefits. The Low Vision services is such a program.

Substance

Please detail any changes that would be implemented: this discussion should include a summary of the proposed regulatory action where a new regulation is being promulgated; where existing provisions of a regulation are being amended, the statement should explain how the existing regulation will be changed. The statement should set forth the specific reasons the agency has determined that the proposed regulatory action would be essential to protect the health, safety or welfare of citizens. In addition, a statement delineating any potential issues that may need to be addressed as the regulation is developed shall be supplied.

The Office of the Attorney General found that this regulation is mandated by state law. The Department will amend this regulation by deleting the obsolete section that deals with using the Department's endowment funds and make language changes to update terminology.

This regulation provides for the low vision services referral process, eligibility criteria, and financial participation criteria. Since these deal with an individuals substantive rights and benefits under the Department's Low Vision Program, they are essential in protecting the health, safety and welfare of citizens.

Alternatives

Please describe, to the extent known, the specific alternatives to the proposal that have been considered or will be considered to meet the essential purpose of the action.

No alternatives were considered as the Office of the Attorney General found that this regulation is mandated by state law.

Family Impact Statement

Please provide a preliminary analysis of the potential impact of the proposed regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.

Amending this regulation will have no impact on the institution of the family and family stability.