



Virginia Department of Planning and Budget **Economic Impact Analysis**

8 VAC 20-30 Regulations Governing Adult High School Programs
8 VAC 20-680 Regulations Governing the General Achievement Diploma
Department of Education
May 27, 2014

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

Chapters 454 and 642 of the 2012 Virginia Acts of Assembly eliminated the General Achievement Diploma by folding it into the Adult High School Diploma, which is re-named the General Achievement Adult High School Diploma. The legislation provided that the General Achievement Adult High School Diploma would include the following requirements:

- Achievement of a passing score on the General Educational Development (GED) test;
- Successful completion of an education and training program designated by the Board of Education;
- Achievement of a Board of Education-approved career and technical education credential such as the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, or the Virginia workplace readiness skills assessment;
- Completion of other requirements as may be established by the Board.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for all proposed changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

The proposed requirements in the regulation do not introduce costs or benefits beyond that which is already specified in the legislation. The proposed regulation is beneficial in that it helps provide clarity.

Businesses and Entities Affected

The proposed amendments affect adult students and the 132 public school divisions in the Commonwealth.

Localities Particularly Affected

The proposed amendments do not disproportionately affect particular localities.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect employment.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect the use and value of private property.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect small businesses.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

The proposed amendments will not adversely affect small businesses.

Real Estate Development Costs

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect real estate development costs.

Legal Mandate

General: The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with § 2.2-4007.04 of the Code of Virginia and Executive Order Number 14 (2010). Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses determine the public benefits and costs of the proposed amendments. Further the report should include but not be limited to:

- the projected number of businesses or other entities to whom the proposed regulatory action would apply,
- the identity of any localities and types of businesses or other entities particularly affected,
- the projected number of persons and employment positions to be affected,
- the projected costs to affected businesses or entities to implement or comply with the regulation, and
- the impact on the use and value of private property.

Small Businesses: If the proposed regulatory action will have an adverse effect on small businesses, § 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses include:

- an identification and estimate of the number of small businesses subject to the proposed regulation,
- the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for small businesses to comply with the proposed regulation, including the type of professional skills necessary for preparing required reports and other documents,
- a statement of the probable effect of the proposed regulation on affected small businesses, and
- a description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the proposed regulation.

Additionally, pursuant to § 2.2-4007.1, if there is a finding that a proposed regulation may have an adverse impact on small business, the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules (JCAR) is notified at the time the proposed regulation is submitted to the *Virginia Register of Regulations* for publication. This analysis shall represent DPB's best estimate for the purposes of public review and comment on the proposed regulation.

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Town Hall ID: Action 3745 / Stage 6814