

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Department of Social Services
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	N/A
VAC Chapter title(s)	N/A
Action title	Virginia Department of Social Services Child & Family Services Manual- Chapter D, Resource Family
Date this document prepared	11/8/2024
Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)	N/A

Cost Benefit Analysis

Complete Tables 1a and 1b for all regulatory actions. You do not need to complete Table 1c if the regulatory action is required by state statute or federal statute or regulation and leaves no discretion in its implementation.

Table 1a should provide analysis for the regulatory approach you are taking. Table 1b should provide analysis for the approach of leaving the current regulations intact (i.e., no further change is implemented). Table 1c should provide analysis for at least one alternative approach. You should not limit yourself to one alternative, however, and can add additional charts as needed.

Report both direct and indirect costs and benefits that can be monetized in Boxes 1 and 2. Report direct and indirect costs and benefits that cannot be monetized in Box 4. See the ORM Regulatory Economic Analysis Manual for additional guidance.

Table 1a: Costs and Benefits of the Proposed Changes (Primary Option)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>The updated guidance document itself has no direct or indirect costs and benefits that would be monetized. Any monetized costs were addressed during the 2024 General Assembly session, when SB39/HB27 were passed.</p> <p>Direct Costs: Describe the direct costs of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: Describe the indirect costs of the proposed change.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: Describe the direct benefits of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits of the proposed change.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Net Monetized Benefit		
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	<p>Additional clarity & specificity for local departments of social services around the expectations for the recruitment, approval, and retention of foster families is a benefit. The lack of specificity leads to confusion at the local level and possible errors in the approval of kinship and non-relative resource families. Clarifying guidance will reduce these errors and maximize the use of Title IV-E funds.</p> <p>The updates better align guidance with the state’s goal of supporting improved kinship practice by dedicating a chapter specifically to the approval and support of kinship resource families. Additionally, the proposed changes meet the legal mandate of state law, regulation, and best practices.</p>	
(5) Information Sources		

Table 1b: Costs and Benefits under the Status Quo (No change to the regulation)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Direct Costs: Describe the direct costs of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: Describe the indirect costs of the proposed change.</p>	
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	<p>Direct Benefits: Describe the direct benefits of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits of the proposed change.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Net Monetized Benefit		
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(5) Information Sources		

Table 1c: Costs and Benefits under Alternative Approach(es)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Direct Costs: Describe the direct costs of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: Describe the indirect costs of the proposed change.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: Describe the direct benefits of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits of the proposed change.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Net Monetized Benefit		
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(5) Information Sources		

Impact on Local Partners

Use this chart to describe impacts on local partners. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 2: Impact on Local Partners

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	Direct Costs: Describe the direct costs of this proposed change here. Indirect Costs: Describe the indirect costs of the proposed change. Direct Benefits: Describe the direct benefits of this proposed change here. Indirect Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits of the proposed change.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	Local departments will receive instruction on how to meet the legal mandate of state law, regulation, and best practice. The additional clarity and specificity were requested by local departments, who utilize the guidance. The updates were made with input from local departments.	
(4) Assistance		
(5) Information Sources		

Impacts on Families

Use this chart to describe impacts on families. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 3: Impact on Families

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	Direct Costs: Describe the direct costs of this proposed change here. Indirect Costs: Describe the indirect costs of the proposed change. Direct Benefits: Describe the direct benefits of this proposed change here. Indirect Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits of the proposed change.	
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(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	The updated guidance addresses support of resource parents in the approval and retention process. It outlines more specific ways the local department should materially support families without passing costs to them. The changes promote placement with and ongoing support of relatives and fictive kin.	
(4) Information Sources		

Impacts on Small Businesses

Use this chart to describe impacts on small businesses. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 4: Impact on Small Businesses

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	Direct Costs: Describe the direct costs of this proposed change here. Indirect Costs: Describe the indirect costs of the proposed change. Direct Benefits: Describe the direct benefits of this proposed change here. Indirect Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits of the proposed change.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(4) Alternatives		
(5) Information Sources		

Changes to Number of Regulatory Requirements

Table 5: Regulatory Reduction

For each individual action, please fill out the appropriate chart to reflect any change in regulatory requirements, costs, regulatory stringency, or the overall length of any guidance documents.

Change in Regulatory Requirements

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Authority of Change	Initial Count	Additions	Subtractions	Total Net Change in Requirements
	(M/A):				
	(D/A):				
	(M/R):				
	(D/R):				
Grand Total of Changes in Requirements:					(M/A):
					(D/A):
					(M/R):
					(D/R):

Key:

Please use the following coding if change is mandatory or discretionary and whether it affects externally regulated parties or only the agency itself:

(M/A): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting the agency itself

(D/A): Discretionary requirements affecting agency itself

(M/R): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting external parties, including other agencies

(D/R): Discretionary requirements affecting external parties, including other agencies

Cost Reductions or Increases (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Description of Regulatory Requirement	Initial Cost	New Cost	Overall Cost Savings/Increases

Other Decreases or Increases in Regulatory Stringency (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Description of Regulatory Change	Overview of How It Reduces or Increases Regulatory Burden

Length of Guidance Documents (only applicable if guidance document is being revised)

Title of Guidance Document	Original Word Count	New Word Count	Net Change in Word Count
Chapter D, Resource Family 12/2024	15,240	32,284	+17,044
Chapter D, Local Department Resource, Foster and Adoptive Home Approval Guidance 7/2022**	16,592	N/A	-16,592
Chapter D, Resource Family Home Approval 11/2020**	15,932	N/A	-15,932

*If the agency is modifying a guidance document that has regulatory requirements, it should report any change in requirements in the appropriate chart(s).

**These are portions of Chapter D updated previously. They will be removed from Town Hall, once the 12/2024 update is effective. At that time, the agency will post a complete, updated Chapter D to replace the two partial chapters.