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Periodic Review and Small Business Impact Review Report of Findings

Agency name	Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	12VAC35-12
VAC Chapter title(s)	Public Participation Guidelines
Date this document prepared	06/25/2025

This information is required for executive branch review and the Virginia Registrar of Regulations, pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), Executive Order 19 (2022) (EO 19), any instructions or procedures issued by the Office of Regulatory Management (ORM) or the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) pursuant to EO 19, the Regulations for Filing and Publishing Agency Regulations (1 VAC 7-10), and the *Form and Style Requirements for the Virginia Register of Regulations and Virginia Administrative Code*.

Acronyms and Definitions

Define all acronyms used in this Report, and any technical terms that are not also defined in the "Definitions" section of the regulation.

DBHDS- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Legal Basis

Identify (1) the promulgating agency, and (2) the state and/or federal legal authority for the regulatory change, including the most relevant citations to the Code of Virginia or Acts of Assembly chapter number(s), if applicable. Your citation must include a specific provision, if any, authorizing the promulgating agency to regulate this specific subject or program, as well as a reference to the agency's overall regulatory authority.

Section 37.2-203 of the Code of Virginia gives the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services the authority to adopt regulations that may be necessary to carry out the provisions of Title 37.2 of the Code and other laws of the Commonwealth administered by the DBHDS commissioner.

Alternatives to Regulation

Describe any viable alternatives for achieving the purpose of the regulation that were considered as part of the periodic review. Include an explanation of why such alternatives were rejected and why this regulation is the least burdensome alternative available for achieving its purpose.

This regulation is required per Section 2.2-4007.02 of the Code of Virginia, therefore there is no alternative.

Public Comment

Summarize all comments received during the public comment period following the publication of the Notice of Periodic Review, and provide the agency's response. Be sure to include all comments submitted: including those received on Town Hall, in a public hearing, or submitted directly to the agency. Indicate if an informal advisory group was formed for purposes of assisting in the periodic review.

No comments were received.

Effectiveness

Pursuant to § 2.2-4017 of the Code of Virginia, indicate whether the regulation meets the criteria set out in the ORM procedures, including why the regulation is (a) necessary for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare, and (b) is clearly written and easily understandable.

This regulation is required per § 2.2-4007.02 of the Code of Virginia, and meets the requirements set out in the ORM procedures in that it lays out a structure for the agency to actively seek input for proposed regulations from interested parties, stakeholders, citizens, and members of the General Assembly. Regulations function best when citizen input is gained and balanced with state and federal requirements, which should be kept to a minimum while helping to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of citizens.

Decision

Explain the basis for the promulgating agency's decision (retain the regulation as is without making changes, amend the regulation, or repeal the regulation).

If the result of the periodic review is to retain the regulation as is, complete the ORM Economic Impact form.

There are no necessary changes at this time as the regulation meets the requirements in the in the Administrative Process Act and the ORM procedures.

Small Business Impact

As required by § 2.2-4007.1 E and F of the Code of Virginia, discuss the agency's consideration of: (1) the continued need for the regulation; (2) the nature of complaints or comments received concerning the regulation; (3) the complexity of the regulation; (4) the extent to which the regulation overlaps, duplicates, or conflicts with federal or state law or regulation; and (5) the length of time since the regulation has been evaluated or the degree to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed in the area affected by the regulation. Also, discuss why the agency's decision, consistent with applicable law, will minimize the economic impact of regulations on small businesses.

- (1) The regulation is needed to comply with § 2.2-4007.02 of the Code of Virginia.
- (2) No comments received concerning the regulation.
- (3) The regulation is straightforward and minimal while meeting requirements for notification to the public.
- (4) The regulation does not overlap, duplicate, or conflict with federal or state law or regulation.
- (5) It has been four years since the regulation was evaluated and technology, economic conditions, or other factors have not changed in the area affected by the regulation.

The agency's decision will minimize the economic impact of regulations on small businesses as the requirements on the agency will help to keep regulants informed of proposed changes to regulations and how to comment on them in a timely manner.
