

ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR
DISADVANTAGED PERSONS

22 VAC 40 - 375

ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
FOR DISADVANTAGED PERSONS

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22 VAC 40-375-10. Definitions. The following words and terms, when used in this regulation, will have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Chronically unemployed” means an individual who performs no work and earns no wages for 12 months or longer.

"Custodial parent" means the biological, adoptive or stepparent with whom the child resides.

["Demographics" means the population distribution of urban-versus-rural areas/regions.]

“Department” means the Virginia Department of Social Services.

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“Disadvantaged” means individuals ~~[other than individuals with disabilities]~~ who have economic or academic disadvantages and need assistance and services to enable them to succeed in career development and economic independence.

“Hard-to-employ” means a public assistance recipient or a person returning to the community from a federal or state correctional facility.

“Minor child” means a child who is under the age of 18, or if 18 and not yet 19, is enrolled and attending a secondary school or vocational/technical school of secondary equivalency and is expected to complete the high school or vocational/technical program prior to or in the month he attains age 19.

“Participant” means an individual who has been determined to be eligible to receive services under the Economic and Employment Improvement Program for Disadvantaged Persons and who is enrolled and receiving services under this program.

“Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)” means the program administered by the Virginia Department of Social Services and based on Title IV-A of the Social Security Act as amended by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation ACT (PRWORA) and § 63.2-600, et seq. of the Code of Virginia.

22 VAC 40-375-20. The Economic and Employment Improvement Program for Disadvantaged Persons.

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A. In order to improve the employability of and provide assistance to disadvantaged, certain hard-to-employ and chronically unemployed persons through education and job skills programs:

1. The Department must administer the Economic and Employment Improvement Program for Disadvantaged Persons (Program) pursuant to § 63.2-700, et seq. of the Code of Virginia.

2. The Program is designed to assist eligible participants to secure employment and move from minimum wage jobs to employment and/or college that will facilitate career development and economic independence.

B. Grant Program Project Awards.

1. The Grant Awards Committee, composed of nine members pursuant to § 63.2-702 (A) of the Code of Virginia, makes grant awards pursuant to § 63.2-702 (B) of the Code of Virginia and Program funding availability.

2. No more than ten grants will be awarded [annually] pursuant to § 63.2-702 (C).

3. Of any grant amount awarded for the Program, no more than fifteen percent of the total award may be used for administrative costs.

4. Grant applicants may include, but are not limited to, Local Workforce Investment Boards, local departments of social services, public and private colleges and universities, disability community organizations, community action agencies, and private entities such as community development corporations, both non-profit and profit.

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5. Funds will be equally distributed geographically [~~and demographically~~] throughout the Commonwealth [taking into consideration demographics].

6. The Grant Awards Committee can renew grants for a period not to exceed twelve months upon satisfactory evaluation of the Program project performance.

22 VAC 40-375-30. Grant Applicant Eligibility. Grant applicants must satisfy the eligibility criteria pursuant to § 63.2-702 (C) of the Code of Virginia.

22 VAC 40-375-40. Grantee Responsibility.

1. Grantees must operate their programs in accordance with, but not limited to, § 63.2-702 (D) of the Code of Virginia; and

2. Grantees must, through performance outcomes, show that they meet the TANF objective of ending dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage pursuant to Title 42 U.S.C §§ 601-619.

22 VAC 40-375-50. Participant Eligibility.

1. Participants must have at least one minor child and be either a custodial or non-custodial parent; and

2. Participants must have an income below 200 percent of the current federal poverty level as published by the federal Office of Management and Budget[; -or.]

[3. Other eligibility requirements as determined by the Department.]

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22 VAC 40-375-60. Participant Responsibility.

1. Participants in the Program that are not participating in the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare are required to work a minimum of eight hours per week in paid employment pursuant to § 63.2-702 (D) of the Code of Virginia.

2. Participants are required to comply with the guidelines established by the individual grantees.

I certify that this regulation is full, true, and correctly dated.

Debra Price Andrews, Chair
State Board of Social Services
January 30, 2003