



Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	State Board Social Services
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	22VAC40-411
Regulation title	General Relief Program
Action title	Replace Emergency General Relief Regulation
Final agency action date	April 18, 2013
Document preparation date	April 18, 2013

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, Executive Orders 14 (2010) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

Summary

Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

Due to a budget shortfall, item 332 of the 2011 Appropriation Act eliminated funding for all General Relief (GR) components, with the exception of the unattached children component, and authorized the agency to enact emergency regulations to affect the change. The emergency regulation became effective July 2, 2012, and expires July 1, 2013. This exempt action will replace the emergency regulation with a permanent regulation, to be effective July 1, 2013

The unattached children component provides assistance in situations in which a child is living with an unrelated adult and is, therefore, ineligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). According to federal statute, in order to receive TANF, a child must be living with a parent or relative. The components eliminated were: assistance for unemployed employable individuals, assistance for unemployable individuals, institutional care, ongoing medical assistance, interim assistance, food credit authorization assistance, shelter assistance, emergency medical assistance, and clothing assistance.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

The State Board of Social Services took action to amend 22VAC40-411, General Relief Program, by eliminating all components of the program except unattached children, on April 18, 2013.

Family impact

Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.

The GR Program will provide assistance and needed support to children living with unrelated adults who are not eligible for any other forms of assistance. The components eliminated were: assistance for unemployed employable individuals, assistance for unemployable individuals, institutional care, ongoing medical assistance, interim assistance, food credit authorization assistance, shelter assistance, emergency medical assistance, and clothing assistance. The regulation increases the number of vulnerable individuals who will not receive GR and are not able to fully support themselves.