

**Statement of Administrative Impact and Projected Costs of Implementing the
Proposed 8 VAC 20-540-10 et seq. *Regulations Governing Approved Programs
for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education***

Prior to the adoption of any regulations affecting school divisions, Section 22.1-17 of the *Code of Virginia* requires that the Board of Education and the Department of Education prepare a statement of the administrative impact of such regulations on school divisions and the projected costs of implementing and complying with such regulations. The Department is required to send a copy thereof to each division superintendent.

The Board of Education is in the process of promulgating *Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education*.

Authority: Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-16. **Bylaws and regulations generally:**
"The Board of Education may adopt bylaws for its own government and promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out its powers and duties and the provisions of this title."

Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-298. **Regulations governing licensure:**
"The Board of Education shall, by regulation, prescribe the requirements for the licensure of teachers. Such regulations shall include a requirement that every teacher seeking initial licensure take a professional teacher's assessment prescribed by the Board. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Board may provide for the issuance of a provisional license, valid for a period not to exceed three years, to any person who does not meet this requirement or any other requirement for licensure by law."

Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-305.2. **Regulations governing the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure:** "The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure shall advise the Board of Education and submit recommendations on policies applicable to the standards for the approval of preparation programs and reciprocal approval of preparation programs."

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed regulations is to ensure that prospective teachers and other instructional personnel are provided the background preparation necessary for quality instruction in schools and a level of quality in the professional education sequence that fosters competent practice.

Substance: The *Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education* contain provisions governing:

- Standards for the Professional Education Department
- Standards for Professional Education Program Design
- Standards for Candidates in Professional Education Programs
- Standards for Faculty in Professional Education Programs
- Standards for the Operation and Accountability of Professional Education Programs

Summary of the Proposed Regulations:

The *Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education* include standards that govern the professional education department and procedures for the review of specific endorsement programs such as English or mathematics. The standards for the review of the professional education department and the indicators of achievement for the standards appear in four sections entitled as follows: I. Professional Education Program Design, II. Candidates in Professional Education Programs, III. Faculty in Professional education Program, and IV. Operation and Accountability of Professional education Programs. An on-site review team visits each institution to determine the status of the professional education department. The professional education department is the administrative body within the institution with primary responsibility for the coordination of all programs that prepare teachers or other professional personnel. The details of this process are outlined in the *Manual for Administering the Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education*.

The revision and implementation of these standards are supported by the action of the 1998 session of the Virginia General Assembly which stipulated that persons seeking initial licensure who graduate from a Virginia institution of higher education shall, on or after July 1, 2002, only be licensed as instructional personnel by the Board of Education if the endorsement areas offered at such institution have been assessed by a national accrediting agency or by a state approval process, with final accreditation by the Board of Education.

Estimated Administrative Impact:

The regulations do not have an administrative impact on Virginia school divisions. Institutions of higher education are required to incur the cost for the on-site review team. Historically, Virginia has required on-site review every five years; therefore, this is not a new cost imposed upon institutions. The Department of Education provides human and financial resources for the administration of the process to approve programs at institutions of higher education.

