

Proposed Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas

Statement of Administrative Impact and Projected Costs of Implementation

Prior to the adoption of any regulation 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 as to the administrative impact of such regulation on school divisions and the projected costs of implementation of and compliance with such regulation and shall send a copy thereof to each division superintendent. The Board of Education is in the process of revising the Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas (8VAC 20-650-10 et seq).

Authority:

Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-212.2:1. Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program established; purpose; Board of Education to administer Program; eligibility requirements for scholarship and awards; collaboration and consultation with State Council of Higher Education; repayment of scholarship required.

C. The Board of Education shall establish, in regulation, criteria for determining, biennially, critical teacher shortage areas for awarding the scholarships pursuant to this section. The criteria shall include such factors as the needs in teacher endorsement areas among the several school divisions of the Commonwealth, teacher shortages at the elementary and secondary grade levels, and teacher shortages in rural and urban regions of the Commonwealth. The Program shall be administered by the Board of Education, which shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary for the implementation of the Program. The Board shall consult with the State Council of Higher Education in the development and implementation of the Program.

Purpose:

The proposed Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas are intended to replace the Emergency Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas for Awarding the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Program that became effective March 2, 2001. General Assembly funding of the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program (VTSLP) provides scholarships to prospective teachers enrolled in teacher preparation programs. The intent of the VTSLP is to support teachers who are preparing to teach in critical teacher shortage areas. A process must be in place to identify those critical teacher shortage areas for the awarding of the scholarships. The regulations provide a procedure for determining critical teacher shortage areas. The goal of the regulations is to collect the supply and demand information from school divisions and provide a reasonable and scientific procedure to identify critical teacher shortage areas in Virginia.

Estimated Fiscal and Administrative Impact:

The proposed Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas are not expected to impose substantial administrative and fiscal impact.

