



[townhall.virginia.gov](http://townhall.virginia.gov)

## Exempt Action: Final Regulation Agency Background Document

<b>Agency name</b>	State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
<b>Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)</b>	__8__ VAC_40__ - _170_sections 10-60__
<b>VAC Chapter title(s)</b>	Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Grant Regulations
<b>Action title</b>	Repeal regulations
<b>Final agency action date</b>	May 14, 2024
<b>Date this document prepared</b>	February 10, 2026

This information is required for executive branch review pursuant to 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. In addition, this information is required by the Virginia Registrar of Regulations pursuant to the Virginia Register Act (§ 2.2-4100 et seq. of the Code of Virginia). Regulations must conform to 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*.

### Brief Summary

*Provide a brief summary (preferably no more than 2 or 3 paragraphs) of this regulatory change (i.e., new regulation, amendments to an existing regulation, or repeal of an existing regulation). Alert the reader to all substantive matters. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.*

These regulations were created to support the Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Program authorized in the state budget in [2017](#). The program was created to provide scholarships to students in exchange for a commitment to work in Virginia post-graduation. These regulations now need to be repealed.

### Mandate and Impetus

*Identify the mandate for this regulatory change and any other impetus that specifically prompted its initiation (e.g., new or modified mandate, internal staff review, petition for rulemaking, periodic review, or board decision). For purposes of executive branch review, "mandate" has the same meaning as defined*

*in the ORM procedures, “a directive from the General Assembly, the federal government, or a court that requires that a regulation be promulgated, amended, or repealed in whole or part.”*

These regulations were created to support the Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Program authorized in the state budget in [2017](#). This program was then converted to a grant program in [2019](#). The Cybersecurity Public Service Grant Program was defunded in 2023 as of the 2023-24 fiscal year, see 2023 Special Session 1 Chapter 1 [Item 142 H](#). Language authorizing the program was fully removed during the 2024 session of the General Assembly. Whereas the original and subsequent cybersecurity programs are no longer funded or operational, the regulations are no longer needed and should be repealed

### Statement of Final Agency Action

*Provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including: 1) the date the action was taken; 2) that the agency has “adopted final amendments” to the regulation; 3) the name of the agency taking the action; and 4) the title of the regulation. A suggested statement is, “On [insert date] the Board/Department of [insert name] adopted final amendments to the [title of regulation(s)].”*

Whereas the program is no longer authorized, the regulations should be repealed. Council approved repeal of these regulations on [May 14, 2024](#).

#### Resolution:

The Resources and Planning Committee may vote to approve, disapprove, approve with condition, or table for future action. If approved, adopt the following resolution and transmit it to Council:

WHEREAS, Governor Youngkin has established a goal to reduce regulatory requirements by at least 25 percent, and staff have identified such requirements that can be removed from the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant program and the Industry Based Credential Grants programs without impacting the administration of the programs; and

WHEREAS, the Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Grant program is no longer funded or making new awards; and

WHEREAS, by making the proposed changes to the above programs, the combined regulatory requirements for the reviewed financial aid programs will be reduced by over 40 percent; and

WHEREAS, the institutions have been authorized to use a portion of the respective appropriations of Virginia Student Financial Assistance programs towards making emergency assistance awards and SCHEV has been tasked to create appropriate supporting guidelines; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves: (i) the reductions, as proposed, in the financial-aid regulations and guidelines; **(ii) the repeal, as proposed, of the Cybersecurity Student Loan Repayment Grant regulations**; and (iii) the guidelines, as proposed, for the Virginia Commonwealth Emergency Assistance program, subject to any technical issues raised during the promulgation process of the Office of Regulatory Management.