

From: Williams, Edwina (VDSS) <edwina.williams@dss.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2026 9:27 AM
To: DSS_LICENSING@LISTSERV.COV.VIRGINIA.GOV <DSS_LICENSING@LISTSERV.COV.VIRGINIA.GOV>
Subject: Revision to 22VAC40-191, Background Checks for Child Welfare Agencies

The attached file is being sent to child placing agencies from the Virginia Department of Social Services Email Distribution Service.

*****Please do not reply to this email.*****



Edwina Williams
Program Support Technician / Intake Analyst
Virginia Department of Social Services
5600 Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060
(804) 726-7165 www.dss.virginia.gov



To unsubscribe from the DSS_LICENSING list, click the following link:
http://listserv.cov.virginia.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DSS_LICENSING&A=1

SCROLL DOWN TO VIEW ATTACHMENT



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DATE: September 3, 2026

TO: Licensed Child-Placing Agencies

FROM: Tara Ragland, Director
Division of Licensing Programs

SUBJECT: Regulatory Revision for *Background Checks for Child Welfare Agencies*,
22VAC40-191

This memo is to inform licensed child-placing agencies of an upcoming regulatory exempt action that updates the barrier crime exemptions applicable to foster and adoptive homes.

Purpose of the Regulatory Action

This regulatory action updates the existing *Background Checks for Child Welfare Agencies* regulation, 22VAC40-191, to reflect new mandates enacted by in Chapter 726 of the Acts of Assembly (2026) that:

- Consolidates existing barrier crime exceptions by relocating them from § 63.2-1721 of the Code of Virginia to § 63.2-901.1; and
- Adds adult household members to the list of individuals included in barrier crime exceptions.

Additional information regarding this regulatory action is available on the [Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website](#). The revised regulation and replacement pages will be posted on the DSS website when the action becomes effective on **October 7, 2026**.

If you have any questions about these requirements, please contact your licensing inspector.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting the safety, stability, and well-being of children and families across Virginia. Your dedication and partnership are deeply appreciated.