



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR  
**GROWTH &  
OPPORTUNITY**  
IN EACH REGION

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**AGENDA**  
**VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD**  
**HEALTHCARE TASKFORCE**

Tuesday, March 12th, 2024  
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM

[Virtual Link](#)

Location:  
Library of Virginia  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room  
800 E Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219

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|------|--|--------------|
| I.   | OPENING  |              |
|      | a. Call to order   | Chair        |
|      | b. Roll Call   | Billy Gammel |
|      | c. Public Comment  | Chair        |
| II.  | ACTION ITEMS   | Chair        |
|      | a. Approval of January Meeting Minutes   |              |
|      | b. Committee Recommendation - Board Policy #17 - Healthcare Sector Investments |              |
| III. | NEW BUSINESS   | Chair        |
| IV.  | ADJOURNMENT  | Chair        |



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## VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY HEALTHCARE TASKFORCE

January 31, 2024

3:00 PM

Virtual

### Members Present

Todd Stottlemeyer

Emily O'Quinn

### Members Absent

Delegate Terry Austin

### Call to Order

Mr. Todd Stottlemeyer, Chair of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board Healthcare Taskforce, called the meeting to order.

### Roll Call

Mr. Billy Gammel, GO Virginia Program Administrator for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll, and stated that a quorum was present.

### Public Comment

Mr. Stottlemeyer opened the floor for public comment.

No members of the public appeared before the Committee for the public comment period.

The public comment period was closed.

### Discussion Items

Mr. Stottlemeyer provided the Taskforce with the goals of objectives of forming this taskforce, a directive of the Board based on the discussion at the September 12, 2023 Board meeting if the program should fund non-traded industries, specifically healthcare if it offers a competitive advantage for recruiting and retaining traded sector businesses because of the lack of healthcare workers and the lack of access to providers. Furthermore, JLARC's report recommended that the Board consider revising its policy to allow exceptions to the traded sector requirement for healthcare projects. The taskforce will be charged with establishing specific criteria for allowing healthcare projects to be funded and to advance a recommendation to the Board at its March 12, 2024 meeting.

Ms. Sara Dunnigan reviewed Board Policy #4, adopted in 2017, which addresses non-traded sector industry and scholarships and walked through JLARC's recommendation #6, which states the Board should revise its policies to allow exceptions for the traded sector requirement for healthcare grant projects that meet the following criteria: (i) are consistent with the region's growth and diversification plan, (ii) provide evidence that the project will help address an unmet healthcare need in the region, and (iii) provide evidence that addressing the healthcare need will benefit the regional workforce or economy.

Ms. Dunnigan addressed the desired outcomes of any healthcare approved project should include addressing the unmet healthcare need by expanding the pool of qualified workers; addressing regional collaboration, economic impact, project readiness, and sustainability; and deliver in core program outcomes areas, which is currently under review by the Program Performance and Evaluation Committee.

There was a consensus path forward to amend Board Policy #4 to remove the part about scholarship ineligibility and move it to the program manual, and establish a stand-alone policy that defines traded sector industries, which was also part of the JLARC recommendations; and to allow regional councils to use their per capita funds for eligible healthcare projects, and if per capita funds are fully exhausted, they would have the ability to tap into the competitive funds as a single region. There was also consensus to amend the Growth and Diversification Plan guidance to point regions toward the data sources that would provide evidence or demonstrate that they would meet the healthcare eligibility criteria.

For the next steps, Ms. Dunnigan would like to consult with partners, including the Virginia Department of Health, and put together a memo with this Taskforce's recommendations to the Board at its March 12 meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.



## Memorandum

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**TO:** GO Virginia Healthcare Task Force Members  
**FROM:** DHCD Staff  
**RE:** Board Policy 17 – Healthcare Sector Investments  
**DATE:** 3/12/2024

**BACKGROUND:** In Sept 2023, the Board directed a task force to be formed to review Board Policy #4 Scholarships and Non-Traded Sectors, and to evaluate future GO Virginia investments to support the healthcare sector.

The Board approved an application at that meeting for a Talent Pathways Initiative Planning grant that stated that Southern Virginia (Region 3) had a competitive disadvantage when attracting and retaining traded sector industry investment because of their low healthcare outcomes, diminishing access to healthcare providers, and the availability of healthcare workers.

Further, a JLARC report issued in December 2023 recommended that the Board revise its policies to allow grants for healthcare projects under certain conditions.

The task force met on January 31<sup>st</sup> to deliberate on the matter and identified four criteria for eligibility. Staff consulted with the Virginia Department of Health as well as the Virginia Office for Education Economics (VOEE) to identify aligned objective evaluation criteria. They agreed that the primary objective of any future application focusing on healthcare should be to expand the pool of qualified workers, consistent with the goals, guidelines, and core performance measures for GO Virginia’s talent development strategy.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Advance the enclosed Policy 17 to the GO Virginia State Board for approval.



## Board Policy #17

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**TITLE:** Use of GO Virginia Funds for the Healthcare Sector

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 12, 2024

**AUTHORITY:** § 2.2-2486 - §2.2-2489 of the Code of Virginia

**POLICY STATEMENT:** It is the policy of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board that Per Capita funds may be used to support the healthcare industry if a region can provide evidence that a lack of adequate healthcare services is negatively impacting its ability to grow one or more traded sector industry clusters defined in their Growth and Diversification Plan. The Board supports investments in workforce development as a means of addressing the service deficiency.

Regions requesting to use their Per Capita funds for this purpose must meet the following criteria:

- 1) The region must provide evidence that the lack of healthcare services is affecting its ability to grow one or more of the industry clusters defined in its plan.
- 2) The majority of the participating localities (by population) have been designated as a Geographic Healthcare Professional Shortage Area<sup>1</sup> by the Health Resources and Services Administration.
- 3) The effort is focused on expanding the pool of qualified workers in one or more of the occupations identified on the Virginia High Demand Occupation List (VOEE Career Clusters – Health Science) as defined by the Virginia Office of Education Economics.<sup>2</sup>
- 4) The region can demonstrate that there is not sufficient capacity to train workers for those occupations.

Approved projects must align with the GO Virginia program grant evaluation criteria – regional collaboration, economic impact, project readiness, and sustainability - and deliver one or more of the core performance outcomes for workforce development projects as defined by the Board.

This policy directs DHCD to develop final administrative guidance no later than April 12, 2024.

**APPROVAL AND REVIEW:** This Board policy was reviewed and approved on March 12, 2024.

**SUPERSESION:** This Board policy is new.

**DHCD DIRECTOR:** Bryan Horn

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<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/hpsa-find>

<sup>2</sup> Source: <https://voee.org/virginia-2024-high-demand-occupations-dashboard/>