



WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

KRIS WARNER

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

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Office of West Virginia
Secretary Of State

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

AGENCY: Health TITLE-SERIES: 64-67
RULE TYPE: Legislative Amendment to Existing Rule: No Repeal of existing rule: Yes
RULE NAME: DISTRIBUTION OF STATE FUNDS FOR
SUPPORT OF LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH
CITE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W. Va. Code §§16-1-4, and 16-2-11

COMMENTS LIMITED TO:

Written

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:

DATE WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: 07/23/2025 5:00 PM

COMMENTS MAY BE MAILED OR EMAILED TO:

NAME: Virginia M. Payne
ADDRESS: 350 Capitol Street, Room 702
Charleston, WV 25301
EMAIL: virginia.m.payne@wv.gov

PLEASE INDICATE IF THIS FILING INCLUDES:

RELEVANT FEDERAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE RULE:

This legislative rule establishes a formula for the Commissioner to use in distributing State funds to support local boards of health.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER CONTENTS OF CHANGES IN THE RULE AND A STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE RULE:

This rule will be repealed and combined with 64CSR73, BASIC PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE STANDARDS FOR LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER THE OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

A. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON REVENUES OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

N/A

B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS:

N/A

C. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RULE ON THE STATE OR ITS RESIDENTS:

N/A

D. FISCAL NOTE DETAIL:

Effect of Proposal	Fiscal Year		
	2025 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	2026 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost	0	0	0
Personal Services	0	0	0
Current Expenses	0	0	0
Repairs and Alterations	0	0	0
Assets	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
2. Estimated Total Revenues	0	0	0

E. EXPLANATION OF ABOVE ESTIMATES (INCLUDING LONG-RANGE EFFECT):

N/A

BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Yes

Virginia M Payne -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.

TITLE 64
LEGISLATIVE RULE
HEALTH

~~SERIES 67~~
DISTRIBUTION OF STATE FUNDS FOR SUPPORT
OF LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH

~~§64-67-1. General.~~

~~1.1. Scope. — This legislative rule establishes a formula for the Commissioner to use in distributing State funds to support local boards of health.~~

~~1.2. Authority. — W. Va. Code §§16-1-4, and 16-2-11.~~

~~1.3. Filing Date. — April 9, 2010.~~

~~1.4. Effective Date. — April 9, 2010.~~

~~§64-67-2. Application and Enforcement.~~

~~2.1. Application. — This rule applies to the distribution, by the Commissioner, of State funds to support local boards of health.~~

~~2.2. Enforcement. — This rule is enforced by the Commissioner.~~

~~§64-67-3. Definitions.~~

~~3.1. Base amount — The amount of floor funding provided to each county up to the amount required to pay the costs of four full-time staff persons, including a nurse, a sanitarian, an administrator and a clerical worker using statewide average salaries for each position plus 30% for benefits and 20% for overhead.~~

~~3.2. Bureau — The Bureau for Public Health in the Department of Health and Human Resources.~~

~~3.3. CBER Funding Study — The Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) at Marshall University. CBER performed an in-depth study of the status of public health funding in West Virginia titled, People at Risk: The Financial Crisis in West Virginia Public Health, dated December 3, 2007. The study made recommendations for establishing a new funding formula to distribute state funds more fairly and equitably. The CBER study recommendations form the basis for the distribution formula adopted in this rule.~~

~~3.4. Commissioner — The Commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health or her or his designee.~~

~~3.5. Consolidation — A formal combining of two or more local health departments and the combining of their boards of health.~~

~~3.6. Fiscal Year — Twelve (12) month period beginning the first day of July and ending the thirtieth day of June.~~

~~3.7. Interventions — The number of interventions per thousand population above the state average in the local health department service area, which may include, but shall not be limited to, total patient~~

~~encounters, environmental inspections, permits issued and other appropriate quantifiable public health services performed by local health departments.~~

~~3.8. Local Board of Health — A board of health created under the provisions of W. Va. Code §16-2-1, et seq.~~

~~3.9. Need factor — The relative importance expressed as a mathematical value for each of five health measurement factors described in subsection 4.3. of this rule used to allocate state funds in a fair and equitable manner among local health departments.~~

~~3.10. Population — The population of a county as determined by the Population Estimates Program of the United States Census Bureau data (~~www.census.gov~~).~~

~~3.11. Population density — A calculation derived from the population data and the Land Area retrieved from the United States Census Bureau.~~

~~3.12. Poverty level — The last full year of data per county as reported in the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates for West Virginia counties.~~

~~3.13. State Funds for basic public health services — All funds appropriated by the Legislature to support local boards of health.~~

~~3.14. Years of life lost — The last full year of data as reported by the West Virginia Office of Vital Statistics by county for resident deaths and potential years of life lost before age 75.~~

~~§64-67-4. Formula; Allocation of Funds.~~

~~4.1. The Commissioner shall distribute State funds for basic public health services to local boards of health as directed by the State Legislature, this rule and State law.~~

~~4.2. The amount of State funds for basic public health services available for distribution to local boards of health by the formula established by subsection 4.3. of this rule is the amount of funds appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose: Provided, that prior to applying the formula, the Commissioner may withhold no more than two percent (2%) of the funds, as shown in the appropriate line item in the State budget, for use in emergencies according to the provisions of Section 5 of this rule; and, provided, however, that prior to applying the formula, Commissioner shall subtract no more than 4.7% of the total funds appropriated by the legislature to be retained by the bureau for state support of local boards of health.~~

~~Provided, further; That prior to applying the formula, the Commissioner shall subtract and retain no more than 4.7% of state funds for basic public health services.~~

~~4.3. The Commissioner shall calculate the amount of State funds for basic public health services funds to be distributed to each local board of health according to the following formula, based upon the recommendations of the CBER Funding Study:~~

~~4.3.1. Step 1 Poverty: The “need factor” is the percentage of individuals in the county living below the level of income established by the federal government as being in poverty. Poverty is assigned a weight of forty percent.~~

~~4.3.1.a. Coefficients are percent living below the poverty line:~~

~~4.3.1.a.1. Less than 110% = 0.00;~~

~~4.3.1.a.2. 111 – 120% = 0.05;~~

~~4.3.1.a.3. 121 – 130% = 0.10;~~

~~4.3.1.a.4. Above 130% = 0.15.~~

~~4.3.2. Step 2 Health Status: The “need factor” is years of potential life lost in the county. Health status is assigned a weight of 20 percent.~~

~~4.3.2.a. Coefficients are the percent above the state average:~~

~~4.3.2.a.1. Less than 110% = 0.00;~~

~~4.3.2.a.2. 111 – 120% = 0.05;~~

~~4.3.2.a.3. 121 – 130% = 0.10;~~

~~4.3.2.a.4. Above 130% = 0.15.~~

~~4.3.3. Step 3 Population Density: The “need factor” is density of individuals living in the county less than the state average. Population density is assigned a weight of 15 percent.~~

~~4.3.3.a. Coefficients are the percent below the state average:~~

~~4.3.3.a.1. Less than 77.0% = 0.15;~~

~~4.3.3.a.2. 77.1 – 82.4% = 0.10;~~

~~4.3.3.a.3. 82.5 – 90.0% = 0.05;~~

~~4.3.3.a.4. Above 90.0% = 0.00.~~

~~4.3.4. Step 4 Interventions: The “need factor” is the number of interventions per thousand population above the state average in the county total. Interventions are assigned a weight of 10 percent.~~

~~4.3.4.a. Coefficients are the percent above the state average:~~

~~4.3.4.a.1. Less than 110% = 0.00;~~

~~4.3.4.a.2. 111 – 120% = 0.05;~~

~~4.3.4.a.3. 121 – 130% = 0.10;~~

~~4.3.4.a.4. Above 130% = 0.15.~~

~~4.3.5. Step 5 Consolidation: While not a “need factor” this coefficient is included to encourage counties to merge in the provision of local public health services. The indicator is the number of counties served by the local board of health. Consolidation is assigned a weight of 15 percent;~~

~~4.3.5.a. Coefficient is the number of counties in the district served by the local board of health:~~

~~4.3.5.a.1. One County = 0.00;~~

~~4.3.5.a.2. Two to four counties = 0.10;~~

~~4.3.5.a.3. Five or more counties = 0.15.~~

~~4.3.6. Step 6: Weighted population calculation: The weighted population for each local board of health is determined by:~~

~~4.3.6.a. Multiplying each coefficient from steps 1 through 5 by the factor weight for that coefficient;~~

~~4.3.6.b. Adding the results for each calculation in paragraph 4.3.f.1. of this subdivision to the number one;~~

~~4.3.6.c. Multiply the number of people in the county by the result of paragraph 4.3.6.b. of this subdivision to obtain the weighted population of the county.~~

~~4.3.7. Step 7: Base Amount: The determination of the base amount of funds per county shall be calculated as follows:~~

~~4.3.7.a. Twenty two percent (22%) of the amount of state funds for basic public health services available for distribution to local boards of health;~~

~~4.3.7.b. Divide the base amount calculation by fifty five counties to determine the base amount for each county; and~~

~~4.3.7.c. The base amount shall not exceed the amount needed to pay for four full time staff, a nurse, a sanitarian, an administrator and a clerical worker, using statewide average salaries for each position, plus 30% for benefits and 20% for overhead.~~

~~4.3.8. Step 8: Per Capita Distribution: Per capita distribution is determined by;~~

~~4.3.8.a. Subtracting the total base amount allocation from the funds available for distribution;~~

~~4.3.8.b. Then dividing the weighted population of each county into the amount remaining to determine the per capita distribution for each local board of health.~~

~~4.3.9. Step 9: Hold Harmless: This step is included to provide that each local board of health receives no less in state funds than it received in the 2009 budget year for a minimum of three years from the effective date of this rule. To implement the hold harmless provision, the Commissioner shall make the following calculations:~~

~~4.3.9.a. Determine the sum of all amounts lost;~~

~~4.3.9.b. Determine the sum of all amounts gained;~~

~~4.3.9.c. Divide the sum of the amounts lost by the sum of the amounts gained to find the percent to be subtracted from local boards of health with gains to fund those with a loss to achieve the hold harmless funding level;~~

~~4.3.9.d. Redistribute the amounts determined by paragraph 4.3.9.c. of this subdivision to bring each local board of health back to at least its 2009 funding level;~~

~~4.4. In performing the calculations described in subsection 4.3. of this rule, the Commissioner shall use the most recent federal, state and county population figures available.~~

~~4.5. The Commissioner shall complete the calculations as soon as possible, but not more than two (2) weeks after the budget is passed and the legislative budget instructions are approved.~~

~~4.6. After completing the calculations described in subsection 4.3. of this rule, the Commissioner shall inform local boards of health in writing of their allocation as quickly as possible, but in any case not more than four (4) weeks after the Legislature has passed the budget and approved the legislative budget instructions.~~

~~4.7. The Commissioner shall cause State funds for basic public health services to be distributed to eligible local boards of health according to standard State procedures beginning the first day of July of the fiscal year for which the funds have been appropriated or as soon as possible after the Legislature has passed the budget and approved the legislative budget instructions.~~

~~§64-67-5. Emergency Fund; Establishment; Administration.~~

~~5.1. The Commissioner shall use the emergency fund established under the provisions of subsection 4.2. of this rule to assist local boards of health in need of funds to meet unanticipated financial emergencies. The Commissioner may develop an application form for one or more local boards of health to use to apply for emergency funds.~~

~~5.2. Funds not obligated for emergency use by the fifteenth day of May shall be distributed by the Commissioner to local boards of health according to the provisions of subsection 4.3. of this rule.~~

~~§64-67-6. Administrative Due Process.~~

~~6.1. Any person adversely affected by the enforcement of this rule desiring a contested case hearing to determine any rights, duties, interests or privileges shall do so in a manner prescribed in the Bureau for Public Health rule, Rules of Procedure for Contested Case Hearings and Declaratory Rulings, 64CSR1.~~