
VIRGINIA STATE BUDGET

2022 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB29 (Chapter 1)

Bill Order » Office of Commerce and Trade » Item 130

Virginia Economic Development Partnership

Item 130	First Year - FY2021	Second Year - FY2022
Economic Development Services (53400)	\$34,802,309	\$43,752,309 \$45,179,309
Economic Development Services (53412)	\$34,802,309	\$43,752,309 \$45,179,309
Fund Sources:		
General	\$34,802,309	\$43,752,309 \$45,179,309

Authority: Title 2.2, Chapter 22, Article 4 and Chapter 51; and § [15.2-941](#), Code of Virginia.

A. Upon authorization of the Governor, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership may transfer funds appropriated to it by this act to a nonstock corporation.

B. Prior to July 1 of each fiscal year, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership shall provide to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees and the Director, Department of Planning and Budget a report of its operational plan. Prior to November 1 of each fiscal year, the Partnership shall provide to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees and the Director, Department of Planning and Budget a detailed expenditure report and a listing of the salaries and bonuses for all partnership employees for the prior fiscal year. All three reports shall be prepared in the formats as previously approved by the Department of Planning and Budget.

C. In developing the criteria for any pay for performance plan, the board shall include, but not be limited to, these variables: 1) the number of economic development prospects committed to move to or expand operations in Virginia; 2) dollar investment made in Virginia for land acquisition, construction, buildings, and equipment; 3) number of full-time jobs directly related to an economic development project; and 4) location of the project. To that end, the pay for performance plan shall be weighted to recognize and reward employees who successfully recruit new economic development prospects or cause existing prospects to expand operations in localities with fiscal stress greater than the statewide average. Fiscal Stress shall be based on the Index published by the Commission on Local Government. If a prospect is physically located in more than one contiguous locality, the highest Fiscal Stress Index of the participating localities will be used.

D. The State Comptroller shall disburse the first and second year appropriations in twelve equal monthly installments. The Director, Department of Planning and Budget may authorize an increase in disbursements for any month, not to exceed the total appropriation for the fiscal year, if such an advance is necessary to meet payment obligations.

E. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership shall provide administrative and support services for the Virginia Tourism Authority as prescribed in the Memorandum of Agreement until July 1, 2022, or until the authority is able to provide such services.

F. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership shall report one month after the close of each quarter to the

Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees on the Commonwealth's Development Opportunity Fund. The report shall include, but not be limited to, total appropriations made or transferred to the fund, total grants awarded, cash balances, and balances available for future commitments.

G. Prior to purchasing airline and hotel accommodations related to overseas trade shows, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership shall provide an itemized list of projected costs for review by the Secretary of Commerce and Trade.

H.1. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$2,250,000 in the first year and \$2,250,000 in the second year from the general fund shall be deposited in the Virginia Brownfields Restoration and Economic Redevelopment Assistance Fund established pursuant to § 10.1-1237, Code of Virginia.

2. Guidelines developed by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality, governing the use of the Fund shall provide for grants of up to \$500,000 for site remediation and include a requirement that sites with potential for redevelopment and economic benefits to the surrounding community be prioritized for consideration of such grants.

I. Any requests for administrative or staff support for the Committee on Business Development and Marketing or the Committee on International Trade established to advise the Virginia Economic Development Partnership shall be directed to, and are subject to the approval of, the Chairman or the Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

J.1. Out of the amounts in this item, \$5,020,387 the first year and \$7,370,387 the second year from the general fund is provided to support the development of a workforce program to provide training and recruitment services to select companies locating or expanding in the Commonwealth.

2. Out of the amounts in this item, \$1,427,000 the second year from the general fund is provided for expenses related to recruitment and training services for the benefit of the operators of a nitrile butadiene rubber production plant and a medical-grade glove manufacturing facility slated for development in Progress Park in the County of Wythe. The authority shall administer the funds contained in this paragraph in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 731 and Chapter 746 of the 2022 Acts of Assembly. This funding is supplemental to the funds provided in Paragraph J.1. and shall not be included in any base budget for the Virginia Talent Accelerator Program.

K. Out of the amounts in this item, \$562,500 the first year and \$5,562,000 the second year from the general fund is provided to characterize, inventory, and develop economic sites in the Commonwealth.

L.1. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$500,000 the second year from the general fund is provided to establish the Office of Education and Labor Market Alignment in accordance with Senate Bill 1314 of the 2021 General Assembly, Special Session I.

2. Notwithstanding any provision of law, the Office of Labor Market Alignment (the Office) shall serve as a resource for education and workforce programs administered by state government to better inform programmatic decisions on workforce education and training. Additionally, the Office shall serve as a guide and resource for the Governor and the General Assembly in determining strategic education and workforce investments in current and future education and workforce training programs with a particular focus on those programs supported with state general fund dollars. The Office shall communicate relevant information in a clear and concise manner to better enable policy makers and decision makers to navigate the complex, often confusing connections between education and the labor market.

3. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership shall include in its annual report, due on November 1st of each year, an update on the activities of the Office of Labor Market and Alignment.

M. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$1,100,000 the second year from the general fund is provided to support implementation of Virginia's International Trade Plan. Out of the amounts provided in this paragraph, \$330,000 shall be used to increase Virginia's capacity to leverage federal trade funding, and \$370,000 shall be used to support businesses with supply chain security. The remaining funds shall be used to expand current trade programs managed by the Partnership including the Virginia Leaders in Export Trade program.