



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

DARS/ESO Weekly Updates

March 25, 2020



Supporting Virginians' efforts to secure independence and employment

Webinar Logistics

- Switched to webinar to allow for easier follow up
- Same access each week
- Please use Q&A feature or chat feature for questions



New Service Item Codes

- **TBAS - Temporary Benefits Assistance Services**
 - Code has been added to all ESOS that provide SE services for through June 30, 2020
 - Used to assist individuals who been laid off or furloughed apply for benefits
- **A5000 – ESO Intake Process**
 - Permanent service item code
 - Used for the initial intake with an ESO.
 - Will be authorized and sent along with referral documents
 - Up to 2 hours can be authorized



Pre-Employment Transition Services

- Schools are closed for the remainder of the year
- DARS is not supporting face to face Pre-Employment Services
- Existing Programs can be converted to an online program, if appropriate
 - Contact Donna Bonessi to discuss.



Pre-Employment Transition Services

- DARS has had a few requests to transition students to job development
- DARS is not supporting new JD for students at this time.



Process for RFAs and Authorizations

- DARS will support services with clients during April 2020
- Must be specific, reasonable and necessary to prevent job loss or for job training
- Must be able to adhere to appropriate social distancing

Communication with the DARS counselor is critical!

www.vadars.org



[facebook/vadars](https://facebook.com/vadars)



Emergency Relief Funds

- Application sent to all ESO Executive Directors last night
- Intended to assist ESOs to maintain staff and some services.
- Applications are due by April 1, 2020 for first round of funding.
- Applications must be completed entirely
- Applications not completed entirely will not be considered



Other updates

- DARS continues to operate. While a building may be inaccessible, staff are still working and are available to clients and providers.
- Counselors are still taking applications and doing intakes virtually, as appropriate, with clients

