

# COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the  
Virginia Association of Counties

November 7, 2019



Join us for the  
VACo Crisis  
Communications  
Workshop on  
December 3...  
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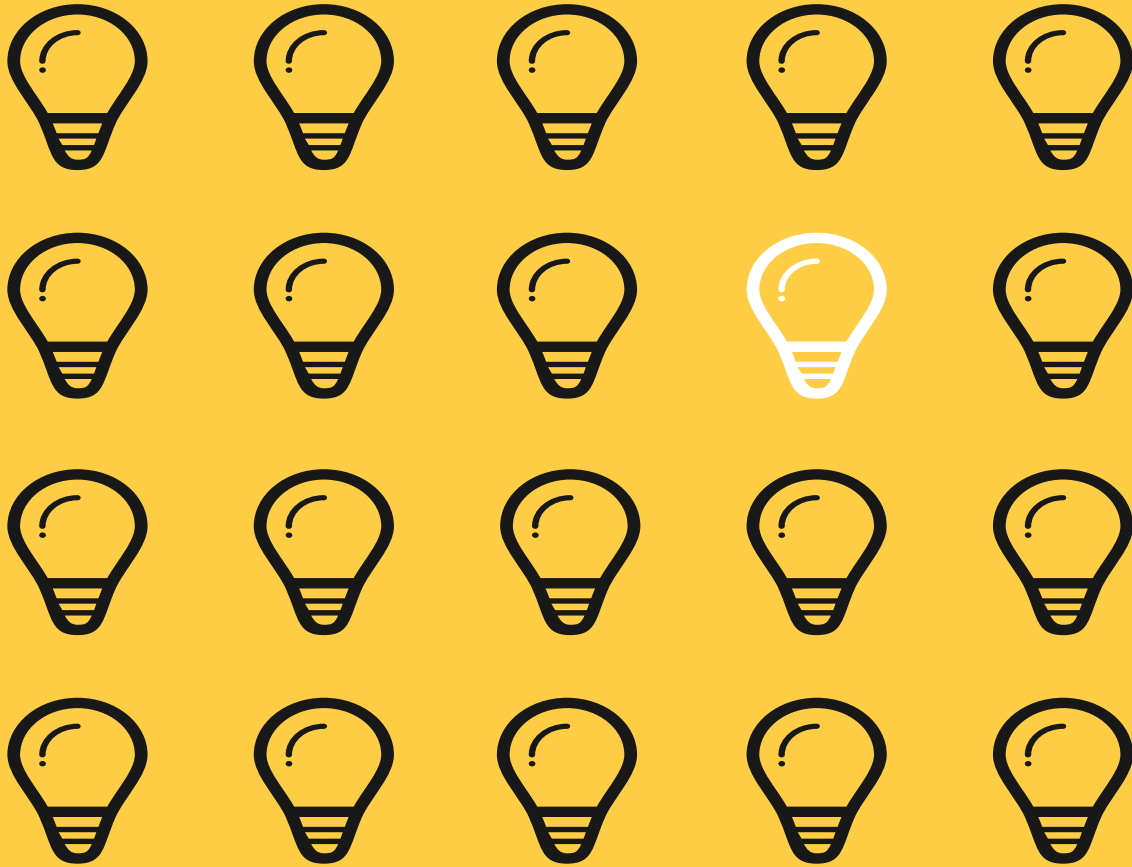
Board of  
Education  
Prescribes  
New Standards  
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Board of Elections  
Establishes Advisory  
Review Workgroup,  
Expected to Adopt  
Cybersecurity  
Standards... Page 3



Visit Madison  
County  
and the  
Lumberlost  
Trail... Page 5



• VACo's 85th Annual Conference •

WHERE YOU JUST MAY HEAR THAT ONE GREAT IDEA  
THAT CAN HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

DESIGNED FOR YOUR KNOWLEDGE

SEE YOU SOON!





## **WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM**

10am – 3pm | Tuesday, December 3, 2019  
LM Meeting Room | Libbie Mill Library  
2100 Libbie Lake East Street | Henrico, VA 23230  
**[Agenda](#) | [Online Registration](#) | Cost: \$10**

### **ATTENDEE INFORMATION**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

**Cost: \$10**

**Charge Options:**    \_\_\_ VISA    \_\_\_ MasterCard    \_\_\_ American Express    \_\_\_ Discover

**Name on Card:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total to be Charged:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## State Board of Elections Establishes Advisory Review Workgroup, Expected to Adopt Cybersecurity Standards Soon



At its October 29 meeting, the State Board of Elections voted to establish a new Advisory Review Workgroup to assist the Board in carrying out its responsibilities. The Workgroup will consist of three members of the Voter Registrars Association of Virginia, three members of the Virginia Electoral Board Association, five citizen members, and two representatives of local government – one member of VACo who is recommended by the VACo President and one VML member recommended by the VML President. State Board members expressed particular interest in formally including representatives of local government, as funding partners in election administration. The workgroup will be tasked with studying and making recommendations to the Board on topics related to elections administration, as requested by the Board, and may also suggest issues for study to the Board. VACo expressed its appreciation to the Board for the inclusion of local government representation and reiterated its interest in working with the Board on the resource needs associated with elections administration.

By the end of the year, the Board is expected to adopt information technology security standards for the technology used by localities to connect to the state's voter registration system, in accordance with legislation enacted in 2019 directing that these standards be established. At the request of VACo and VML, language was added to this legislation requiring the convening of a workgroup of local IT professionals to consult on the development of the standards and to develop general cost estimates for their implementation. This workgroup, representing IT professionals from a variety of larger and smaller jurisdictions, met throughout the summer to assist with the development of the proposed standards, which the Board will consider at an upcoming meeting. As a first step, localities have been asked to conduct two self-assessments by the end of the year to establish a baseline prior to developing their elections security plans. Further details about how the Department of Elections plans to work with localities to assist with compliance are expected to be provided after the adoption of the standards.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

## Virginia Board of Education Prescribes New Standards of Quality and Finance Committees Hear Updated Rebenchmarking Figures



On October 16 and 17, 2019 the Virginia Board of Education ([VBOE](#)) met to finalize their revisions to the Standards of Quality ([SOQs](#)), which set minimum requirements that must be met by all local school divisions for K-12 education in Virginia. The Board voted unanimously to prescribe the revised SOQs to the Governor and General Assembly. If enacted in their current form, the fiscal impact to the state and local governments would approach \$1 billion.

As previously [reported](#), VBOE reviews the SOQs every two years and typically submits their recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly in September or October as mandated by Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of Virginia. However, unlike previous years, VBOE unanimously passed a [resolution prescribing](#) the SOQs. The last time VBOE took this action was in 1982. Two years later, the General Assembly [codified](#) the SOQs and VBOE submitted recommendations thereafter.

VBOE members have expressed frustration that VBOE’s constitutional recommendations have been disregarded or underfunded in previous biennia by the Governor and General Assembly. Furthermore, VBOE claims that since 1988, the General Assembly has passed 197 pieces of legislation amending the SOQs. As such, prescription of the SOQs seeks to fulfill a constitutional duty and aspires to ensure that education standards across Virginia align with the priorities of VBOE. However, given the fiscal impact of the prescribed SOQs and the existing Standards outlined in Code, the practical implications of VBOE’s actions remain unclear.

The final set of [proposals](#) contain significant changes that include increased local flexibility, but still could impose significant fiscal impacts both to state and local governments if enacted. In addition to the new requirements, VBOE specifically requested that the General Assembly remove the recession era cap on state aid to support positions. Removal of the “support cap” would yield \$371.6 million in additional state funding to localities to help pay for positions currently funded entirely by local effort.

Funding of SOQ requirements is met by a combination of state and local resources. Local ability to pay for standards with required local effort (RLE) is determined by the [composite index formula \(LCI\)](#), which is updated every two years to account for the latest available state and local values in real property, adjusted gross income, retail sales, average daily membership of students, and total population. The Department of Education (VDOE) recently released the LCIs and trend analysis to be used in the coming biennium, which can be found [here](#). The LCI data will be used to calculate the state share of K-12 funding, which will be provided in December following the release of the Governor’s 2020-2022 introduced budget.

Lastly, VDOE staff gave a [presentation](#) to the Senate Finance Committee on the latest estimates for the Rebenchmarking of the Direct Aid to Public Education Budget for the 2020-2022 Biennium. The rebenchmarking budget represents the state cost of continuing the current Direct Aid programs into the next biennium, with updates to the input data used in the funding formulas that determine the cost of the programs. This technical process occurs every two years and incorporates the latest data to reflect changes in enrollment, salaries, support costs, inflation, and other factors. This process impacts localities as it helps determine RLE. The initial estimated state cost of rebenchmarking for the upcoming biennium is stated to be \$595.7 million. This represents a growth of nearly \$100 million from the last biennium.

Full meeting materials and minutes of VBOE and the VBOE Committee on the Standards of Quality can be found [here](#) and [here](#) respectively.

VACo Contact: [Jeremy R. Bennett](#)



## Visit Madison County and the Limberlost Trail

**Elevation: 3377 feet**

The Limberlost Trail leads the visitor to high elevation wetlands along a walking trail. This 1.3-mile trail provides numerous opportunities for wildlife watching not the least of which is the almost fearless white-tailed deer grazing all around. The higher elevation of this area provides for exciting birding. Species such as Blackburnian, black-throated blue, hooded, and chestnut-sided warblers, veery, Acadian flycatcher and rose-breasted grosbeak all breed here. The dense stands of spruce provide perfect cover for retiring species such as Cooper's hawk and barred owl, which on occasion dart from cover to pick off their prey from along the trail. Listen in spring when the woods resonate with the booming of ruffed grouse. Along the length of the trail there are several moist boggy areas that host numerous salamanders.

A [map](#) of this trail and the surrounding area can be found on the provided website.

**SOURCE:** [Department of Game & Inland Fisheries](#)



## Mark Your Calendars



# COUNTY STRONG 85 YEARS

## Advocacy · Engagement · Action

### 2019 VACo Annual Conference



## COUNTIES COMING TOGETHER

November 10-12 | The Omni Homestead | Bath County

As VACo's biggest event of the year, the Annual Conference is a must for every Virginia County Supervisor and county staff member. Drawing in hundreds of officials, dozens of speakers, and a host of vendors and exhibits, VACo's Annual Conference provides opportunities to learn from others, grow in knowledge, and improve skills.

The conference includes:

- Opportunities to shape VACo's Legislative Program
- General Sessions featuring speakers on issues that affect counties
- Breakout Sessions designed to educate and promote collaboration
- Exhibit Hall with vendors that serve Virginia Counties' interests
- The Annual Business Meeting when VACo's Legislative Program is adopted and the VACo Board of Directors is elected
- Steering Committee Meetings
- Regional Meetings
- Specialized Group Meetings
- Multiple networking opportunities with local government peers and state legislators

[Annual Conference Registration Form](#) | [Online Conference Registration](#) | [Agenda](#)

[VACo Lodging Policy](#) | [List of Alternative Lodging Options](#)

## VRS Lowers Assumed Rate of Return and Certifies Teacher Employer Contribution Rates



Over the course of two meetings on October 10 and 17, the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) Board approved a lower assumed rate of return (also referred to as the discount rate) and voted to certify to the Governor and General Assembly increased employer contribution rates for the teacher and state pension plans over the next biennium. These actions will have significant state and local fiscal impact.

On October 10, the Board voted to reduce the assumed rate of return from 7% to 6.75%. In FY 2019, VRS received a 6.7% return on its portfolio. The Board's action stems from the belief that a lower assumed rate of return more accurately reflects the challenges of near-term investment environment forecasts and establishes a reasonable rate to determine set employer contribution rates and funded status of the plans. An investment return assumption that is set too low will overstate liabilities and costs, causing current stakeholders (i.e. employer contributors) to be overcharged and future stakeholders to be undercharged. Conversely, a rate set too high will understate liabilities, undercharging current stakeholders at the expense of future stakeholders. VRS last lowered its assumed rate of return in 2010 from 7.5% to 7%.

On October 17, the Board voted to increase the [employer contribution rate](#) for the teacher plan from 15.68% to 16.62%. The primary driver of this increase was the newly lowered assumed rate of return and the desire to maintain the funded status of the plan by increasing employer contributions. Over the long term, actual investment returns, benefits, and expenses determine the amount of contributions. This is expressed in the basic funding equation of "Contributions + Investment returns = Benefits + Expenses." The current funded status of the Teacher Plan is approximately 74% of total liabilities, which are approximately \$13.1 billion.

The increase in contribution rates will have an annual estimated state fiscal impact of approximately \$90 million and an annual estimated local fiscal impact of approximately \$120 million. The employer contribution for the teacher plan is shared by the state and local governments in accordance with the Local Composite Index for positions recognized in the Standards of Quality (SOQs). However, the employer pension costs of any positions employed beyond these standards are borne entirely by local governments.

The Board expressed confidence that the General Assembly would commit to supporting the state share of the employer contribution rate for the plans. Final contribution rates for the statewide plans will become available following the biennium budget process. Combined with projected revenue forecasts anticipated growth in other state budget obligations such as Medicaid, K-12, and higher education, the increase in commitments to VRS are likely to add further strain to available general funds in the coming biennium.

The VRS staff actuary will present summary information for local governments at the Board's next meeting on November 20, with rates mailed to localities after January 1, 2020. Final contribution rates will be available at the conclusion of the 2020 General Assembly and will take effect on July 1, 2020 for FY 2021-2022.

A presentation on the overall status of VRS given to the Senate Finance Committee by VRS Director Patricia Bishop is available [here](#).

VACo Contact: [Jeremy R. Bennett](#)

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS HONOR KATHLEEN A. DOOLEY

*2019 EDWARD J. FINNEGAN AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE*



Kathleen A. Dooley, City Attorney for the City of Fredericksburg, recipient of the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia Edward J. Finnegan Award for Distinguished Service

**From left to right:** Mary Katherine Greenlaw, Mayor of Fredericksburg; Mary Jo Zukoski, Ms. Dooley's wife; Kathleen A. Dooley; Nancy Quisenberry, Mayor's executive assistant; William C. Withers, Vice-Mayor; Kerry P. Devine, City Council member

The Local Government Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. (LGA), awarded its highest honor, the Edward J. Finnegan Award for Distinguished Service, to Kathleen A. Dooley, City Attorney for the City of Fredericksburg, at its recently concluded annual fall conference in Williamsburg, Virginia.

The Finnegan Award recognizes Kathleen Dooley for her significant and sustained contributions to Virginia local government law and LGA. Ms. Dooley has devoted over thirty years to local government law, serving as the City's chief counsel since 2004 after working for the Town of Blacksburg and the City of Chesapeake.

At the presentation ceremony, Ms. Dooley was recognized as "the exemplar of integrity who approaches life's challenges with honesty, zeal, and a determination to do the right thing." A former president of LGA, Ms. Dooley has served in other statewide leadership roles as a member of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council, the Virginia State Bar Committee on Legal Ethics, and the Local Government Law Section of the Virginia State Bar. She has been elected a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation and a Local Government Fellow of the International Municipal Lawyers Association.

In the course of advocating for Fredericksburg, Kathleen has successfully participated in significant cases that impact local government law, including before the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals on the issue of governmental prayer and the Virginia Supreme Court on vested land use rights.

LGA promotes common interests and an exchange of information among its members on legal issues that are particularly relevant to Virginia's counties, cities, and towns. The LGA's member services include conferences, a legal handbook, a monthly newsletter, and other services intended to inform and enhance the practice of local government.



# VACo releases 2019 Preliminary Legislative Program



VACo has released its [2020 Preliminary Legislative Program](#), which was drafted through VACo's steering committee process. The document includes a host of important and timely proposed policy statements including language pertaining to K-12 education funding, local taxing authority, stormwater regulations, land use planning, transportation, broadband, health and human resources and other local budget and legislative issues.

Please click on the link to read the [2020 Preliminary Legislative Program](#).

The 2020 Legislative Program will be adopted during the [VACo Annual Conference](#) on November 10-12 in Bath County.

VACo's seven steering committees will finalize and adopt their policy sections on Sunday, November 10. The Resolutions Committee will ratify the Legislative Program on Monday, November 11. VACo's membership will vote to adopt the Final Legislative Program on Tuesday, November 12.

VACo members are encouraged to continue to add their input to this document by working through their county's legislative process and the VACo steering committee process to put forward suggested changes to VACo's 2020 Legislative Program.

For questions regarding VACo's legislative process, contact Dean Lynch at [dlynch@vaco.org](mailto:dlynch@vaco.org) or 804.343.2511.

**VACo Contact:** [Dean Lynch, CAE](#)

**COUNTY STRONG 85 YEARS**  
**Advocacy · Engagement · Action**  
 2019 VACo Annual Conference 

**November 10-12**

The Omni Homestead  
Bath County, Virginia

[Annual Conference Registration Form](#)  
[Online Conference Registration](#)  
[Agenda](#)

# Keynote Speakers confirmed for the 2019 VACo Annual Conference

**Monday, November 11**  
Opening General Session  
830am

The Honorable **Ralph Northam**, Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia



**Dr. George H. Gilliam**, Lecturer, Corcoran Department of History, University of Virginia  
- Will speak about 400 years of the Virginia State Legislature.



**Tuesday, November 12**  
Closing General Session  
1030am

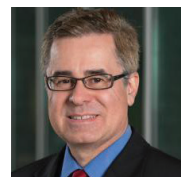
The Honorable **Tom Davis**, Attorney and Former Representative, U.S. House of Representatives



The Honorable **Jim Moran**, Professor of Practice, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech and Former Representative, U.S. House of Representatives



**Mark J. Rozell**, Founding Dean, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University



# 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Hotel Information



If you are attending VACo's Annual Conference, here are some helpful suggestions to make your time at The Omni Homestead run smoothly. Please call 804.788.6652 with questions.

## UPON ARRIVAL

Check-in time for your room is 4 p.m.

Valet parking is included in the 15 percent daily charge that is automatically added to your room rate.

When you arrive, please remember that bellmen and doormen work for tips and are not compensated through any service fees collected by the hotel. These individuals should be rewarded at the guest's discretion for their superior service.

- The doormen will give each guest a Valet Parking ticket for the car, or you may park in the complimentary parking lots at the top of the hill.
- The doormen will give each guest a luggage ticket that you should take to the front desk where you will check-in.
- You will need a credit card, a photo ID and your luggage claim ticket.
- If your room **is** ready, you will receive your room keys and hotel ID cards and the bellman will deliver your luggage to your room.
- If your room **is not** ready, you will receive a temporary ID card for charging purposes. Luggage will be stored until your room is ready.
- Please provide a cell phone number if you would like to be called when your room is available.
- Luggage delivery will take approximately 20 minutes, but can vary depending on the flow of guests arriving around the same time.

## UPON DEPARTURE

Checkout time is noon.

To order your car for departure:

- Call the Transportation Department directly at Ext. 57711.
- Allow 15 minutes for your car to be delivered at the front drive. Please keep in mind that peak departure is between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., and you may experience a wait.
- As a reminder, the hotel is unable to leave cars unattended in front of the resort, due to the flow of arrivals and departures. Please call for your car when you are ready to depart.

Luggage pick up:

- Please call the bellman directly by pressing the "Bellman Button" on your guest room phone, or dialing Ext. #57571.
- Place luggage inside your guest room by the door for the bellman.
- Your luggage may be retrieved on the front porch.
- Please speak to a doormen for assistance with departure, and notify them if you have golf clubs to load.

Checkout:

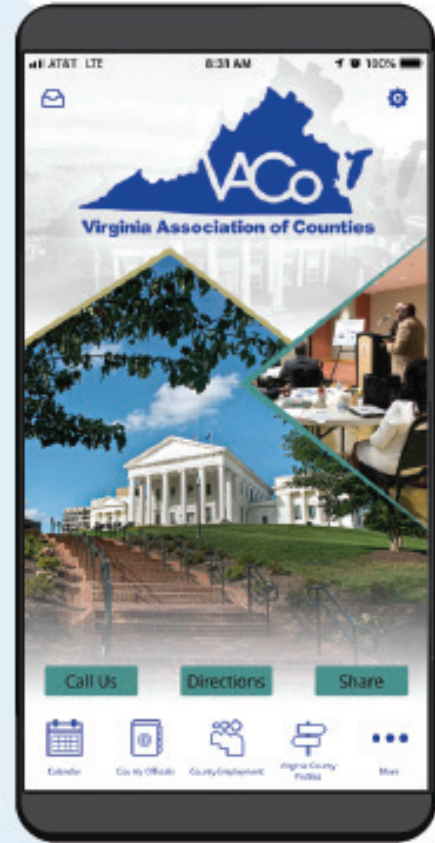
- You will receive a copy of your charges under your door the last night of your stay or as an email if an address was provided.
- You may leave your Express Checkout card (located in your key packet) at the Front Desk in the Express Checkout Box (keys may be dropped in the box).
- You may check out directly with the front desk. Please keep in mind that peak departure is between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., and you may experience an extended wait time.

## BILL SPLITTING

Separate billing for room, the Daily Resort Charge, the Modified American Plan (MAP) and related taxes will be provided for each conference attendee staying at The Omni Homestead. Expenses for spouse, guests and children, as well as incidentals will be provided on a separate bill. For more information about bill splitting, please request assistance from the front desk during check-in.

# DOWNLOAD

our new app



The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) mobile application is a valuable tool for County officials and staff to better serve their communities. With the VACo mobile app, users can easily stay informed about issues important to Counties with many features, including:

- \* VACo Events Registration and Info
- \* VACo Member Directory
- \* Legislative News and Alerts | Capitol Contact
- \* VACo Chat
- \* County Pulse Podcast
- \* Employment Opportunities

**Downloading the app is easy...**

- Scan the QR Code or search "Virginia Assn of Counties" from the iTunes or Google Play Store
- Opt-in for VACo Push Notifications to receive important VACo alerts
- For access to the most features, request an account with your email and a password
- Once your account is approved, members will have access to all the features.

# 2020 FINANCE FORUM

**JANUARY 6, 2020**

**10AM - 3:30PM**

**LOCATION: DELTA HOTELS RICHMOND DOWNTOWN**



Fee - \$90 thru Dec. 1  
Dec. 2 & after - \$100

Cosponsored by **VACo and VML**



**2020 VACo VML VAPDC  
Local Government Legislative Day**

**FEBRUARY 6**

Omni Richmond Hotel | 100 S 12th Street | Richmond, VA 23219

VACo-VML-VAPDC invites local government officials to **VACo-VML-VAPDC Local Government Legislative Day on Thursday, February 6, 2020** at the **Omni Richmond Hotel**. Keynoting the event will be Governor Northam (invited). Advocates representing the state associations will report on legislation affecting local governments; then local government officials are encouraged to go to the Capitol to participate in committee meetings and lobby state legislators. In the evening, officials are strongly encouraged to invite their state legislators to the VACo-VML-VAPDC reception.

Officials who need to stay overnight at the **Omni Richmond Hotel** can get a special room rate of \$162. For reservations, call 804.344.7000 **by January 17, 2020** with the following code: **Local Government Legislative Day** or reserve a room at this [Omni Richmond Hotel link](#).

**REFUND POLICY:** Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by **January 24, 2020**. Substitutions are accepted at any time. For more information, call VACo at 804.788.6652.

<b>REGISTRATION FEES - <u>Deadline is January 24th</u></b>		
<u>Circle One</u>	<u>Until Jan. 24</u>	<u>LATE (Jan. 25 and after &amp; at the door)</u>
A. DAY BRIEFINGS ONLY	\$ 50 PER PERSON	\$ 60
B. RECEPTION ONLY	\$ 70 PER PERSON	\$ 80
C. DAY BRIEFINGS <i>and</i> RECEPTION	\$115 PER PERSON	\$ 135

<b>AGENDA</b>	
9 AM	Respective Board of Directors Meetings
11:00 AM	Registration
11:30 AM	Lunch
12 NOON	Program
Afternoon	Visit Capitol and lobby legislators
5:30 PM	Reception

**REGISTRATION**

The following people will attend on **February 6, 2020**. Accompanying this form is a check for the total amount due or a charge authorization.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (County/City/Town/Company) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Special Accommodations \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian lunch? \_\_\_\_\_

Charge Options:  VISA  MasterCard  AMX  Discover EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

TOTAL TO BE CHARGED: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_





**VACo and the Center for Rural Virginia  
2020 Rural Caucus Reception**

Wednesday, February 5 | Omni Richmond Hotel | 5:30 to 8:00 pm

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**\*\*\* REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 27 \*\*\***  
 \$75 per person thru January 27  
 \$90 per person January 28 & after | \$90 At the Door  
 \*Room block at the Omni Richmond closes January 17

The 2020 Rural Caucus Reception is an evening of collaboration and discussion on the issues that impact rural Virginia. Attendees acquire a healthy understanding of matters affecting rural Virginia and their possible solutions as well as make personal connections across the region. Registration fee includes two drink tickets; heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

County or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

My guest's name is \_\_\_\_\_ (Add \$75)  
Leave blank if no guest.

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (\$75 per person) **LATE FEE: \$90 per person after**  
 Make checks payable to: **Virginia Association of Counties or VACo.** January 27th and at the door.

CHARGE OPTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Discover

TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE CHARGED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_  
MONTH YEAR

Print cardholder's name as it appears on the card \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Optional for credit card receipt: List a 2nd email address if a second person needs a copy of the receipt.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Register today by faxing this completed form with credit card information to 804.788.0083 or mail with a check to: Virginia Association of Counties, 1207 East Main Street, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219.

**\*Hotel Information**

Officials can stay overnight at the Omni Richmond Hotel with special rates from \$162. For reservations, call 1.800.THE.OMNI by **January 17, 2020** with the following code: VACo/VML Local Government Day or make reservations online at this [Omni Richmond Hotel link](#).

**Refund Policy**

Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by 10 am on January 27, 2020. Substitutions are accepted at no additional cost. For questions, please call VACo at 804.788.6652.

**\*\*\*Room Block Deadline is January 17, 2020\*\*\*      \*\*\*Event Registration Deadline is January 27, 2020\*\*\***

VACo FAX NUMBER IS 804.788.0083

# VACo County Board Chairpersons' Institute

## February 7-8, 2020

at VACo Training Center  
1207 East Main Street | Richmond, VA 23219



**The Institute:** Virginia Association of Counties offers the County Board Chairpersons' Institute to Board Chairs to focus on the specific roles of that position, including meeting management, internal and external communications, work relationships, leadership, and goal setting. An overview of county government and the work of county supervisors is also covered.

**Who should attend:** New and incumbent County Board Chairs and Vice Chairs will come away with information they need to guide their Board through their leadership cycle.

**Enrollment:** Will be limited to 20 participants.

**Conference Registration Details:** The registration fee for County Officials is \$295, which covers conference materials, Friday lunch and dinner and Saturday breakfast. The fee for spouses and guests (non-County Officials) who wish to attend the Dinner & Reception is \$50. To register, mail or fax this form along with a check or charge authorization to VACo, 1207 East Main Street, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219. FAX: 804.788.0083

**Hotel Reservation Details:** Lodging costs are not covered in the registration fee. Lodging is available at the Omni Richmond Hotel, 100 S. 12th Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Room rates begin at \$147 (single). Reserve your room by calling 804.344.7000 with the following code: **Local Government Legislative Day** or reserve a room online [with this link](#).

Room reservations at the Omni Richmond Hotel must be made by **January 17, 2020**.

**Refund Policy:** Requests for registration refunds are honored if received by **January 27, 2020**. However, substitutions are accepted at any time. For more information, call VACo at 804.788.6652.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name (Dinner & Reception) \_\_\_\_\_ (Add \$50)

Payment Method: Check \_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Please return with payment by January 27, 2020:  
Virginia Association of Counties  
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300  
Richmond, VA 23219-3627.

Credit card payments may be faxed to 804.788.0083.







## Excellence in Virginia Government Awards

### EVGA Nominations Now Open

The L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University will honor individuals and organizations who have made noteworthy contributions to the practice of government and the betterment of the state on Wednesday, April 15, 2020.

The 14th Excellence in Virginia Government Awards program, a signature event of the Wilder School, will take place during a luncheon ceremony at the Richmond Marriott, 500 E. Broad St. “These awards recognize outstanding work at all levels of government in Virginia and honor dedicated public service, innovative approaches and commitment to excellence,” said Susan T. Gooden, Ph.D., interim dean of the Wilder School. “This year’s recipients have made astounding impacts for our communities and the Commonwealth.”

Tickets for the luncheon are \$75 per person, and sponsorship opportunities are available. Proceeds from the event help fund scholarships for Wilder School students. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Wilder School’s Director of Development James Wasilewski at [wasilewskijr@vcu.edu](mailto:wasilewskijr@vcu.edu) or 804.828.6205.

[EVGA Award Criteria](#) [pdf] and [EVGA Past Recipients](#) [pdf]

### For questions regarding EVGA, contact:

**Paula Otto** | Senior Director of Special Projects | L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs  
[piotto@vcu.edu](mailto:piotto@vcu.edu) | 804.828.1146

### Support Scholarships

This program supports Excellence in Virginia Government Awards program scholarships. [Please follow this link if you would like to make a gift to support this effort.](#)

If you are interested in additional Wilder School scholarships or opportunities to support our students, please visit our [Giving page](#).

### EVGA 2020 Nomination Information

Nominations are open October 1-November 15, 2019

[Online Nomination Form](#) | [Printable Nomination Form](#) [docx]

[EVGA Award Criteria](#) [pdf] | [EVGA Past Recipients](#) [pdf]



**NOMINATE AN  
OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER!**



**DEADLINE**

The deadline for nominations is 5:00 p.m., Dec. 6, 2019

**AWARD CATEGORIES**

- Senior Volunteer
- Adult Volunteer
- Young Adult Volunteer
- Youth Volunteer
- Volunteer Family
- Corporation
- Small Business
- Faith-based Organization
- Educational Institution
- Community Organization

*Do you know someone who is always putting others first? How about an organization or business that never hesitates to help out whenever there's a problem in the community? The Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards are presented in each of 10 categories. The outstanding award winners represent the millions of generous Virginians who offer their time and talents to others each year. The Governor's Advisory Board on Service and Volunteerism, the Virginia Service Foundation, and the Virginia Office on Volunteerism and Community Services are honored to assist the Governor in selecting and recognizing these volunteers. Winners will be honored by the governor at a special ceremony in the spring.*



**Nominate someone today at [VirginiaService.virginia.gov](http://VirginiaService.virginia.gov)!**

## Join the Virginia Local Broadband Network!



The Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) invites you to join the Virginia Local Broadband Network (VLBN). The VLBN is an interactive forum where Virginia localities, schools, and libraries can discuss broadband-related issues in their communities and chat with other members to learn about how they've handled similar situations. Additionally, VLBN members will receive notifications regarding state and federal activities - pertinent news, funding window openings, resources, etc.

The VLBN operates through simple emails to promote inclusion and avoid varying technology and applications that may be restricted to some, or require a strong broadband connection.

To join, please contact Caroline Luxhoj ([caroline.luxhoj@cit.org](mailto:caroline.luxhoj@cit.org)).

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**Contact Valerie Russell: [vrussell@vaco.org](mailto:vrussell@vaco.org) or call 804.788.6652**

Virginia Association of Counties | 1207 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219

# VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

EIGHTH EDITION, 2019

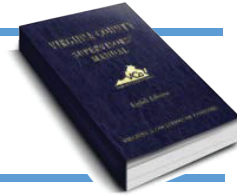


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# employment opportunities



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. The cost is \$50 per ad for non-VACo members. VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Valerie Russell](mailto:Valerie.Russell).



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Posted October 23



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Posted October 23



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Posted October 23



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Posted October 18



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Posted October 18



**KINSHIP NAVIGATOR** | James City County |  
Posted October 18



# COUNTY CONNECTIONS

1207 East Main St., Suite 300  
Richmond, VA 23219-3627



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VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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