



Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)

WHAT ARE QRTPs?

Qualified Residential Treatment Programs are a new designation of non-family based placements by the Federal Government. QRTPs serve children with specific treatment needs who need short term placement out of their home. Upon implementation of Family First in Virginia, Title IV-E funds can only be used for non-family based placements who are designated as a QRTP.

Family First requires that QRTPs meet the following requirements:

- » Accredited by at least one of the following:
 - The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
 - Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
 - Council on Accreditation
- » Utilizes a trauma-informed treatment model
- » Must be staffed by a registered or accredited nursing and clinical staff in accordance with the treatment model
 - Provide care within the scope of their practice as defined by state law.
 - Are available 24 hours a day and seven days a week
- » Be inclusive of family members in the treatment process and documents the extent of their involvement
- » Offer at least six months of support after discharge



QRTP ASSESSMENT PROCESS:

Within 30 days of a youth being placed in a qualified residential treatment program, an assessment must be performed by a “qualified individual” to determine if a qualified residential treatment program is the best fit for them. In Virginia, a “qualified individual” means a licensed mental health professional: licensed clinical psychologist, licensed professional counselor, licensed clinical social worker, licensed substance abuse treatment practitioner, licensed marriage and family therapist, certified psychiatric clinical nurse specialist, or licensed behavior analyst. (As defined in 12VAC35-105-20.)

The court must approve or disapprove the placement within 60 days and continue to demonstrate at each status review that the placement is beneficial to the youth.

The VDSS Commissioner must submit continued placement approval, after 12 consecutive months or 18 nonconsecutive months, to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

As of April 2019, any adult working in a child care institution must undergo a criminal history and child abuse and neglect registry checks.



VDSS will work with licensing divisions at DBHDS and VDSS to designate providers who meet the QRTP requirements in Virginia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FAMILYFIRST@DSS.VIRGINIA.GOV

