

2022 Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) Public Input Guidance

Posted September 9, 2021 Updated September 14, 2021

In preparation for the 2022 QAP development process, this document is intended to:

- Clarify the intended scope of changes for the 2022 QAP
- Provide the public with an expected timeline of public releases and hearings
- Ensure the public understands how to submit written input

Log of Updates to this Document

The below table provides a high-level description of changes made to this document from one version to the next.

Update	Changes
9/14/21	 Public Input Timeline: Added link to Policy Proposals document on DCA website. Added link to public forum virtual access information on DCA website.
09/01/21	Initial document release

Intended scope of changes for the 2022 QAP

Please note: this section is intended to clarify how DCA currently anticipates the 2022 QAP policy development scope and process differing from that of the 2021 QAP. However, final policy proposals and QAP drafts may deviate from the below, depending on the outcomes of staff research, internal deliberation, and public input.

Context

During last year's 2021 QAP development process, DCA included provisions in initial QAP drafts proposing to not change scoring criteria between the 2021 and 2022 QAPs. Following public input and internal discussions highlighting the risks of freezing scoring over multiple years given the number of significant changes being implemented, DCA removed any mention of this from the final 2021 QAP.

Strategy for 2022

DCA intends to approach the 2022 QAP policy development process so as to retain the primary benefits of minimizing scoring changes between consecutive years, without fully freezing scoring. The original goals underlying DCA's intention to freeze scoring were the following:

- DCA partners have more time to secure sites and assemble development plans that meet a greater number of QAP priorities.
- By minimizing changes to existing policies from one year to the next, DCA staff gain more data and time for policy efficacy evaluation.

Accordingly, DCA's approach for the 2022 QAP for purposes of substantive changes to *Scoring Criteria* can be summarized as follows:

- Most substantive changes should not impact potential site scores, or at least not decrease site scores.
- In a more limited number of cases, substantive changes may adversely impact site score potential if the change addresses an unintended consequence rooted in an existing *Scoring Criteria* provision.

Illustrative Example

DCA is aware that the test scores underlying *Scoring Criteria*, *Quality Education Areas* do not reflect current circumstances to the same extent that they did prior to the pandemic, due to the COVID-19 impact on standardized testing.

To address this, DCA will first assess options that (a) are consistent with the intent of this scoring section but (b) do not reduce the scoring potential of sites. This might include introducing a new scoring subsection under *Quality Education Areas* that offers an alternative scoring path related to educational opportunity but utilizes better data. However, DCA may determine that the inaccuracies associated with continuing to use CCRPI data outweigh the benefits of maintaining scoring stability under this section. If so, DCA may remove this scoring option from the 2022 QAP.

Submitting Written Input

All written public input must be submitted through the online QAP public input survey (<u>click here</u>). Individuals are welcome to provide written input either directly in the survey or as an uploaded Word or PDF document. DCA accepts written input through this survey throughout the year.

As indicated in the public input timeline below, DCA anticipates notifying the public of specific DCA priorities in the first two weeks of September prior to releasing a formal QAP draft in October. Consistent with the above-described intended scope of changes, DCA is especially interested in public input that highlights any perceived unintended consequences of existing policies. In most cases, DCA will attempt to address such unintended consequences so as to not impact, or at least not decrease, the potential scores of existing sites.

Public Input Timeline

Date	Event or Public Release
September	DCA publishes details covering agency priorities. For details, see "Policy Proposals" on the DCA website (<u>click here</u>).
Tuesday, Sep. 21	Virtual listening session (1:30 pm – 3:00 pm)
Friday, Oct. 01*	Publish first draft
Tuesday, Oct. 12	First virtual public hearing (10:30 am – 11:45 am)
Friday, Oct. 22*	Publish second draft
Thursday, Oct. 28	Second virtual public hearing (10:30 am – 11:45 am)
Early November*	Publish QAP version sent to DCA Board

Please note the following:

- Asterisks (" * ") indicate the above is a target date or timeframe. Actual date or timeframe may differ.
- Virtual access information is posted to the **2022 QAP and Related Documents** page of the DCA website (<u>click here</u>).