



Legislation Text

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A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to establishing a digital literacy program for older adults

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 2 of title 21 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 21-210 to read as follows:

§ 21-210 Digital literacy program for older adults. a. By no later than December 1, 2023, the commissioner of information technology and telecommunications, in collaboration with the commissioner of aging and any relevant stakeholders deemed necessary by the mayor, shall design and implement a digital literacy training program to serve older adults. Such training program shall be offered at no cost and shall, at minimum, include educational information regarding the following topics:

1. accessing and navigating telehealth services;
2. accessing and navigating an online platform which offers technology classes, lectures, workshops and other programming and activities designed to help older adults learn and use technology, develop skills, and connect and socialize with other older adults;
3. using social media platforms;
4. using online or web-based calendar applications;
5. accessing and navigating the website and mobile application in which individuals obtain information on and apply for some human resources administration benefits, and human resources administration clients

obtain certain benefits case information;

6. identifying and avoiding online fraud or scams; and

7. accessing and navigating other programs or applications designed to support older adults in accessing services, as deemed appropriate by the commissioner of information technology and telecommunications or the commissioner of aging.

b. At least once every two years, the commissioner of information technology and telecommunications, in collaboration with the commissioner of aging and any relevant stakeholders deemed necessary by the mayor, shall evaluate the program established pursuant to subdivision a of this section for updates to best practices, educational materials, curricula, resources and any other program components, and make updates to any such components as necessary. Such evaluation shall at minimum include a survey for older adults who participate in such program to provide feedback regarding such program.

c. The program established pursuant to subdivision a of this section shall be made available in all designated citywide languages as defined in section 23-1101.

d. The program established pursuant to subdivision a of this section shall be offered in all department of homeless services facilities and in any other facilities deemed appropriate by the commissioner of information technology and telecommunications or the commissioner of aging.

e. Nothing in this section shall be construed to invalidate any existing contract or other agreement between any department and any entity that provides digital literacy programming on behalf of any such department.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.