

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Title of Rule: Child Care Assistance Program for Child Care Educators and Child Care Staff Rules and Regulations

Rule Identifier: 218-RICR-20-00-13

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: September 22, 2025

Hearing Date: October 6, 2025

End of Public Comment: October 22, 2025

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 40-5.2-20 (k)

RI State Budget FY 26

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Rhode Island Department of Human Services is looking to update Child Care Assistance Program for Child Care Educators and Child Care Staff Rules and Regulations to stay in line with federal guidelines and increase time frame based on the FY26 state budget.

The Changes are as follows:

13.2(A)(3) Removed “an associate’s degree of bachelor’s degree”

13.2(A)(9) Added definition of “excluded income”

13.2(A)(14) Updated definition of “income”

13.2(A)(17) Added definition of “Rhode Island public institution of higher education”

13.2(A)(18) Updated definition of “two-parent home”

13.3(A) Added language regarding eligibility

13.3(A)(2)(a) Added language clarifying child care programs must be licensed by the state of Rhode Island

13.3(A)(2)(c) Updated requirements for two parent families

13.3(A)(2)(d) Updated language regarding self employment as a child care provider

13.3(A)(2)(f) Added language regarding the requirement of cooperation with OCSS

13.4.1(A) Added language regarding requirement of applying to the CCAP program within the previous 60 days prior to applying to the Pilot

13.4.1(A)(1)(a) Updated link

13.4.2(B)(2) Added language regarding the requirement of providing documentation that the family had been denied CCAP or approved with a family share.

13.4.3 (D) Added language regarding 12 month interim

13.5.1 (A) changed twelve (12) months to (24) months

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until October 22, 2025 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Tara Borges

Department of Human Services

Office of Policy Development, Department of Human Services

Hazard Building, 41 West Road, Bldg. 74

Cranston, RI 02920
DHS.PolicyFeedBack@dhs.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5, to consider the proposed amendment shall be held at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. This hearing is subject to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46, Open Meetings.

Public Hearing Information:

Date: October 6, 2025

Time: 4:30 P.M.

Location: Louis Pasteur Building
West Wing Conference Room
25 Howard Avenue, Bldg. 57
Cranston, RI, 02920

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 800-745-6575 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting. For questions regarding available parking, please contact the agency staffperson listed above.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

This pilot program will allow the Department of Human Services to provide funding for eligible child care educators and child care staff with family income up to three hundred percent (300%) of the Federal Poverty Level, who are employed in a licensed child care center, licensed family child care home, or a licensed group family child care home. Families participating in this pilot will not be required to pay a family co-share.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.