

**State of Rhode Island
Department of Administration
Office of Management and Budget**

Fiscal Note for Proposed Administrative Rules (R.I.G.L. § 22-12-1.1)

Name of Administrative Rule: Child Care Assistance Program Rules and Regulations (218-RICR-20-00-4)

FISCAL IMPACT					
<i>State Revenues</i>		<i>State Expenditures</i>		<i>City/Town Expenditures</i>	
FY 2026	\$ 0	FY 2026	\$4,385,437	FY 2026	\$ 0
FY 2027	\$ 0	FY 2027	\$4,385,437	FY 2027	\$ 0
FY 2028	\$ 0	FY 2028	\$4,385,437	FY 2028	\$ 0

Summary of Policy Change: The Rhode Island Department of Human Services is looking to update Child Care Assistance Program Rules and Regulations to stay in line with federal guidelines based on the 2024 CCDF Final Rule(45 CFR § 98.45(m)(2)(i)). The main policy change is paying based on enrollment. For Rhode Island, this changes our current two (2) week absence policy to a four (4) week absence policy.

Summary of State Fiscal Impact: Recent estimates indicate that approximately 458 children (6% of the caseload) are absent during each batch period, resulting in payments based on enrollment representing about 5.5% of total caseload costs. All spending is coming from federal funds.

City or Town Impact: There is no city or town impact for this policy change.

Approved on March 11, 2026 by Erica Norcini, CFO