

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Title of Rule: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (218-RICR-20-00-1)

Rule Identifier: 218-RICR-20-00-1

Rulemaking Action: Direct Final Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: September 25, 2026

End of Public Comment: October 25, 2026

Rulemaking Authority:

RIGL 40-6-8

R.I. Gen. Laws § § 42-35-2.10

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

This amendment is being filed to comply with the fiscal year (FY) 2027 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) maximum allotments, income eligibility standards, and deductions in accordance with the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 ("the Act") effective as of October 1, 2026.

Updates can be found in the following sections:

1.3 Application Process - Removal of expired waiver language.

1.3.4 Interview Requirements -Removal of expired waiver language.

1.5.1 Categorical Eligibility - Amt. updated from \$23 to \$25 dollars for 1&2 households.

1.5.5 Resources – Updated resource limit for elderly/disabled

1.5.7 Deductions and Expenses – Updates the standard deduction; maximum shelter deduction; the homeless shelter deduction; the standard utility allowance; and the standard telephone allowance.

1.13.1 Changes - Change of unearned income from \$125 to \$150.

1.15 Determining Household Eligibility and Benefit Levels – Updates the eligibility standards at 130%, 100%, 165%, 185%, 200% of the FPL.

Updated Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) acronym to Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA) acronym.

Sections pertaining to the processing waiver that has since expired have been removed.

Since this is a federal regulatory change with no discretion and is not considered controversial, this amendment will be submitted as a direct final

The Agency does not expect this filing to be controversial and therefore, a public hearing will not be held.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

If no formal objection is received on or before October 25, 2026, the Department of Human Services will file the Amendment and the Final Rule will take effect on this date.

Objections should be addressed to:

karen vartebedian

Department of Human Services

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

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

To meet the needs of individuals and families experiencing food insecurity, benefit amounts and deductions have increased to reflect recent changes in cost of living due to inflation. Updates and increases to allowable deductions and eligibility standards result in increased benefits to SNAP participants.

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