

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Title of Rule: Harm Reduction Centers (216-RICR-40-10-25)

Rule Identifier: 216-RICR-40-10-25

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Adoption

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 12/02/2021

Hearing Date: 12/14/2021

End of Public Comment: 01/04/2022

Authority for this Rulemaking:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-12.10-1

R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-12.10-5

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Rhode Island Department of Health is proposing a new regulation to permit the operation of Harm Reduction Centers. The proposed regulation includes rules and regulations on how Harm Reduction Centers are to be licensed, organized and managed, confidentiality, reporting, including client deaths and overdoses, management of services, including infection control and handling of emergencies, environmental management, physical plant and equipment required at the center, and variances and plans of correction in the event of deficiencies.

Additional Information and Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed adoption until January 4, 2022 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Paula Pullano
Department of Health
Rhode Island Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill, Room 410
Providence, RI 02908-5097
Paula.Pullano@health.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, to consider the proposed adoption shall be held on December 14, 2021 at 4:00 pm at Rhode Island Department of Health, 3 Capitol Hill, RIDOH Auditorium (Lower Level), Providence, RI 02908 at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. The

seating capacity of the room will be enforced and therefore the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer, in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals who are handicapped. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-222-3395 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.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

In development of this rule, consideration was given to:

1. Alternative approaches;
2. Overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and
3. Significant economic impact on small business.

No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based on available information. RIDOH has determined that the benefits of the rule justify its costs.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.