

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

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Title of Rule: Genetic Counselors
Rule Identifier: 216-RICR-40-05-36
Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment
Important Dates:
Date of Public Notice: October 4, 2023
End of Public Comment: November 3, 2023

Rulemaking Authority:
R.I. Gen. Laws § Chapter 5-92

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The regulatory changes proposed in this filing are identical to the regulatory language currently in effect as of 10/01/2023. The effective version was originally noticed for public comment on 07/27/2023. During that public comment period, a technical error within the RICR system may have prevented comments submitted through RICR's attachment field from being received by the agency. Any comments submitted directly through RICR's text box option (with no attachments) or submitted directly to the agency were processed successfully. As a result of the technical error, the agency is repromulgating the regulatory changes (effective as of 10/01/2023) to ensure that the public has full access to submit public comments as originally intended. The regulatory language included in this notice redlines changes made in the most recent promulgation. The agency is noticing these changes for additional public comment.

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) is proposing to adopt *Genetic Counselors* (216-RICR-40-05-36) in response to the passing of the Genetic Counselors Licensing Act (R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 5-92) which was enacted on June 29, 2022. According to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-92-5(2): "the Department shall have the following powers and duties...to promulgate regulations and adopt such rules as are necessary to regulate genetic counselors." Therefore, these regulations are being promulgated to regulate the practice of genetic counseling and to set the requirements for licensure as a genetic counselor in Rhode Island.

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 November 3, 2023 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Zachary Garceau
Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908
zachary.garceau@health.ri.gov

In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by a governmental agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the publication of this notice.

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 contact the agency staffperson listed above.