

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

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING (FORMERLY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING)**

**Title of Rule:** Rules and Regulations for the Establishment of the Repurposing of Vacant Schools for Affordable Housing Program

**Rule Identifier:** 310-RICR-30-20-1

**Rulemaking Action:** Proposed Adoption

**Important Dates:**

Date of Public Notice: May 1, 2026

End of Public Comment: May 31, 2026

**Rulemaking Authority:**

R.I. Gen. Laws § 45-53-10(g)

R.I. Gen. Laws § 45-53-10

R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1

**Summary of Rulemaking Action:**

These Rules and Regulations are promulgated for the purpose of establishing the process for municipalities to report vacant schools within their school district and the process of determining whether the vacant school building is viable for adaptive reuse for creating affordable housing.

**Additional Information and Public Comments:**

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed adoption until May 31, 2026 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Tamara Dallaire  
Executive Office of Housing (formerly Department of Housing)  
Executive Office of Housing  
One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor  
Providence, RI 02908  
Tamara.Dallaire@housing.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:**

As the program is entirely voluntary, there shall be no costs to the municipality and/or community in which the vacant school building is located and will not have a fiscal impact on small businesses in the municipality. The program will have a positive impact on the community by utilizing vacant school buildings for the creation of affordable housing units and will assist municipalities in reaching their 10% affordable housing goals.

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