



*******IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT RI WORKS TIME LIMITS*******

Dear Rhode Island Works Participants:

DHS recently sent you a notice to let you know of a change to the Rhode Island Works (RIW) program telling you the 24-month time limit is going away and that people who have an employment plan ending before the end of the year will need to have a new plan to continue benefits.

You have been identified as needing a new employment plan.

Your case will automatically return to “regular” time, counting “regular” months as of January 1, 2020. You will need a new employment plan in order to continue to participate in RIW at that time.

How can I get a new plan?

- Go to your DHS office and update your employment plan with your DHS Employment and Career Advisor (ECA).
- Schedule an appointment with an ECA, call 401-415-8207 and leave a detailed message including your name, and phone number; and DHS will contact you for an appointment.
- Speak with your RIW vendor (ResCare, CAP Agencies, South Shore, DLT, Etc.) about opportunities to visit with an ECA.

Reminder of Hardship Criteria:

Hardship extensions would be required for anyone who needs RIW benefits after 48-months of receiving RIW. Hardships may be approved if:

- a parent has a documented significant physical or mental incapacity, can document a pending application for SSI or SSDI, and has applied for, or is already active and making progress in his/her employment plan with the Office of Rehabilitation Services; or
- a parent is caring for a significantly disabled family member who resides in the home and requires full time care; or
- a parent is homeless as defined in Rhode Island Works Program Rules and Regulations Section 2.2 A. 18 (for example: living in a homeless shelter, a motel for fewer than 90 days, under court order to vacate, etc.); or
- a parent is unable to pursue employment because of a current, documented domestic violence situation; or
- a parent is unable to work because of a critical other condition or circumstance, other than citizenship or alienage status, as approved by a DHS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS NOTICE, OR ABOUT EITHER RIW TIME LIMIT, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR DHS OFFICE AT 1-855-MY-RIDHS (1-855-697-4347).

*RIGL 40-5.2-10(H)