



## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

**To: Interested Parties**  
**From: DHS Office of Policy Analysis, Research & Development**  
**Date: February 9, 2026**  
**Subject: Proposed Amendment to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

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**RICR Title 218 – Rhode Island Department of Human Services  
Chapter 20 – Individual and Family Support Programs  
Part 1 – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, the Department of Human Services is advertising the following proposed and amended DHS rules. This rule is being amended in compliance with state and federal law and good practice.

The Department of Human Services is amending this rule in order to comply with the provisions set forth in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 (OBBB) (Pub. Law 119-21), also known as H.R.1., as well as updates to the Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) for Fiscal Year 2026. The proposed changes are included within the following sections: Citizenship and Eligible Non-Citizen Status (§ 1.4.2); Deductions and Expenses (§1.5.7 (C)(2)); Sources of Verification (1.6.3 (A)(4)); and Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) (§ 1.11.9)

This proposed rule is accessible on the R.I. Secretary of State website: (<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Promulgations/Part/218-20-00-1>), on the Department of Human Services website (<http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Regulations/Proposed.php>) or available in hard copy upon request (401-462-2146 or RI Relay, dial 711). Interested persons should submit data, views or written comments by March 11, 2026, to Karen Vartebedian, Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy Analysis, Research & Development, Department of Human Services, Hazard Bldg. #74, 41 West Road 2nd Fl, Cranston, RI 02920, [dhs.policyfeedback@dhs.ri.gov](mailto:dhs.policyfeedback@dhs.ri.gov),

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