



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

To: Interested Parties

From: DHS Office of Policy Development

Date: March 23, 2026

Subject: Proposed Amendment to Child Care Assistance Program Rules and Regulations

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.

RICR Title 218 – Rhode Island Department of Human Services Chapter 20 – Individual and Family Support Programs Part 4 – Child Care Assistance Program Rules and Regulations

The proposed amendments are as follows:

- Technical revisions as necessary
- Renumbered as necessary
- Changed all references to the absence policy for two (2) weeks to four (4) weeks
- §4.2(A)(26)-Updated definition of financial unit for clarity
- §4.2(A)(47)-Added definition of RISES
- §4.8.1(E)(1)-Added language enrolling a child through Provider Portal and payment based on enrollment
- §4.8.1(E)(4)-Added “during the first (1st) week of care”
- §4.8.1(E)(6)-Added “licensed”, Added “including”
- §4.8.1(E)(7)-Added language regarding providers charging additional fees
- §4.11.2-Updated language to add references to RISES for licensed providers and remove language regarding paper applications
- §4.11.2-Removed “Category Specific” section title
- §4.11.2(A)(3)-Updated language to reference Comprehensive Background Check
- §4.11.2 (B)- Added language specifying the process for License Exempt providers to become CCAP provider and added Comprehensive Background Check as a requirement for License Exempt
- §4.11.3(A)- Removed “form”, removed “date stamped”
- §4.11.3(C)(2)-Added “through RISES”
- §4.11.5(C)-Changed “licensed” to “CCAP approved”
- §4.11.5(F)(1)-Updated language regarding reassessing enrollment hours
- §4.11.5(F)(2)-Removed language
- §4.11.6(D)(2)-Added language
- §4.11.6(D)(4)-Added language

The proposed rule is accessible on the Rhode Island Secretary of State website (<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/Part/218-20-00-4>), on the Department of Human Services website (<https://dhs.ri.gov/regulations/proposed-rules-regulations-hearings>) or available in hard copy upon

request (401-462-3015 or RI Relay, dial 711). Interested persons should submit data, views or written comments by April 22, 2026 to Tara Borges, Office of Policy Analysis, Research and Development, Department of Human Services, Hazard Building #74, 41 West Road, 1st floor, Cranston, RI 02920, or email to DHS.PolicyFeedBack@dhs.ri.gov.

The Department of Human Services does not discriminate against individuals based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religious belief, political belief or handicap in acceptance for or provision of services or employment in its programs or activities.