



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

To: Interested Parties

From: DHS Office of Policy Development

Date: September 14, 2026

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the Rhode Island Works 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 2 – Rhode Island Works Program Rules and Regulations

The proposed amendments are as follows:

Technical Revisions as needed

Update non parent relative caregiver to kinship caretaker

§ 2.2 (A) (24) – Added definition In-Kind income

§ 2.2 (A) (25-49) – Updated numbering

§ 2.4.3 (B) (6) – Removed sentence (...New Jersey)

§ 2.4.3 (B) (6) – Corrected capitalization of “federal” and “state”

§ 2.6 (C) - Changed “closure bonus” to benefit

§ 2.6.4 (E) – Added paragraph DHS may deny a hardship

§ 2.6.4 (F) – Added hardship statement to include DHS-2H form

§ 2.6.5 (A) (1) – Updated sentence

§ 2.6.5 (A) (1) (a) – Corrected “on a” to “using”

§ 2.6.5 (A) (1) (b) - Corrected “apply” to “provide verification that they applied”

§ 2.7.1(B) - Corrected paragraph wording and added “kinship caretaker”

§ 2.14.3 (F) (1) – Corrected spelling “Keough” to “Keogh”

§ 2.14.3 (F) (2) (a) – Corrected “those properties” to “assets”

§ 2.14.3 (F) (2) (c) – Added paragraph regarding excluding retirement account

§ 2.15.1 (E) (3) – Added 3 per AFDC audit and using interfaces

§ 2.15.1 (E) (4) – Added 4 per AFDC audit during eligibility review

§ 2.15.3 (D) – Updated title

§ 2.15.3 (D) (1) – Updated pass-through amounts per new legislation

§ 2.15.6 (K) – Added word “support” to end of title Income In-Kind Support

§ 2.15.7 (B) (4) (a) – Updated paragraph to include new pass-through amounts

§ 2.15.7 (C) (1) - Updated paragraph to include new pass-through amounts

§ 2.15.7 (D) (1) - Updated paragraph to include new pass-through amounts

§ 2.15.7 (D) (2) - Updated paragraph to include new pass-through amounts

§ 2.18.6 (A) – Changed “bonus” to “benefit”

§ 2.18.6 (A) (4) – Changed “bonus” to “benefit”

§ 2.18.6 (A) (5) – Added FPL guideline

§ 2.18.6 (A) (6) – Added receiving “set aside” and post-employment benefits at the

same time

§ 2.18.6 (B) – Changed “bonus” to “benefit”

§ 2.18.6 (C) – Changed “incentive bonus” to “benefit”

§ 2.18.7 – Added when clothing allowance guidelines.

§ 2.18.11(A) (10) – Added documented through a coordinated entry system assessment

§ 2.19.7 – Added “Skimming of EBT Card” section

§ 2.19.7 (A) – Added rule

§ 2.19.7 (B) – Added RIW-55 form needs to be used

§ 2.21.1 (A) (1) – Added “newborn children exception” for adding into household.

§ 2.21.2 (B) (8) – Added paragraph regarding future income.

The proposed rule is accessible on the Rhode Island Secretary of State website (<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/Part/218-20-00-2>), 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 October 14, 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.

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