

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Title of Rule: Rhode Island Works Program Rules and Regulations (218-RICR-20-00-2)

Rule Identifier: 218-RICR-20-00-2

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: September 14, 2026

End of Public Comment: October 14, 2026

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 40-5.2-1 et seq.

R.I State Budget FY 27

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The amendments include the increase of the Child Support Passthrough which is part of the FY27 RI state budget, as well as language regarding the addition of the Post Employments Benefit. In addition language has been updated/clarified as needed. The changes 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.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until October 14, 2026 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

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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:

This amendment supports family economic stability and self-sufficiency.

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