

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Title of Rule: Child Care Assistance Program for Child Care Educators and Child Care Staff Rules and Regulations

Rule Identifier: 218-RICR-20-00-13

Rulemaking Action: Direct Final Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: October 27, 2026

End of Public Comment: November 26, 2026

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 40-5.2-20 (k)

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The FY 27 Rhode Island state budget increases the income threshold for exiting the Child Care for Child Care Educators and Child Care Staff Pilot from three hundred (300%) percent to three hundred twenty-five percent (325%) of the federal poverty level (FPL). The change allows eligible child care educators and staff to continue receiving child care assistance as household income increases.

§ 13.2(A)(12)-Updated the definition of "financial unit" to align with CCAP regulation.

§ 13.3(A)(2)(e)-Added language increasing the exit income threshold to 325%.

§ 13.4.3(B)(1)-Changed three hundred percent (300%) to three hundred twenty-five percent (325%)

The Agency does not expect this filing to be controversial and therefore, a public hearing will not be held.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

If no formal objection is received on or before November 26, 2026, the Department of Human Services will file the Amendment and the Final Rule will take effect on this date.

Objections should be addressed to:

Tara Borges

Department of Human Services

Office of Policy Analysis, Research & Development

Hazard Bldg. #74, 41 West Road

Cranston, RI 02920

DHS.PolicyFeedBack@dhs.ri.gov

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

This pilot program will allow the Department of Human Services to provide funding for eligible child care educators and child care staff with family income up to three hundred percent (325%) of the Federal Poverty Level, who are employed in a licensed child care center, licensed family child care home, or a licensed group family child care home. Families participating in this pilot will not be required to pay a family co-share. This amendment expands the exit income threshold.

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