

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

**Title of Rule:** Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ( 218-RICR-20-00-1)

**Rule Identifier:** 218-RICR-20-00-1

**Rulemaking Action:** Direct Final Amendment

**Important Dates:**

Date of Public Notice: April 14, 2023

End of Public Comment: May 14, 2023

**Rulemaking Authority:**

RIGL 40-6-8

**Summary of Rulemaking Action:**

To simplify the collection of medical expense information from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants who are elderly (60+) or disabled, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (USDA-FNS) has approved the Department of Human Services to implement a standard medical deduction (SMD) demonstration waiver project that must be cost neutral, meaning policy changes should not increase federal expenditures on SNAP benefits for the state. After review of the most recent data submission of the project, FNS determined that in order to comply with the cost neutrality requirement, and continue to have the \$183.00 SMD, DHS will need to increase the Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) by \$ 3.00 from \$797.00 to \$800.00. This change is being made at § 1.5.7 (C)(2)(h).

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, May 14, 2023, the Department of Human Services will file the Amendment and the Final Rule will take effect on this date.

Objections should be addressed to:

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For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation, contact the agency staff person or email at the address listed above.