

**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:** Proposed Amendment

**Important Dates:**

Date of Public Notice: October 5, 2023

End of Public Comment: November 4, 2023

**Rulemaking Authority:**

R.I. Gen. Laws § § 42-12-23

Rhode Island State Budget

Fiscal Year 2024

**Summary of Rulemaking Action:**

The regulatory changes proposed in this filing include the regulatory language currently in effect as of 09/26/2023 as well as amendments that the agency intended to make as a logical outgrowth of public comments. Amendments to 218-RICR-20-00-13 were originally noticed for public comment on 07/17/2023. During the public comment period, a technical error within the RICR system may have prevented comments submitted through RICR's attachment field from being received by the agency. Any comments submitted directly through RICR's text box option (with no attachments) or submitted directly to the agency were processed successfully.

As a result of the technical error, the agency is repromulgating the regulatory changes (effective as of 09/26/2023) to ensure that the public has full access to submit public comments as originally intended. The regulatory language included in this notice shows the following categories of redlined changes:

1. Those that were proposed in the most recent Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 07/17/2023.
2. Those that were made as a logical outgrowth of the initial public comment period.
3. Those that the agency inadvertently left out while filing the final rulemaking.

Those changes in this category were all included in the Concise Explanatory Statement dated 09/26/2023 and were logical outgrowths of public comment.

The agency is noticing these changes for additional public comment.

Passage of the Rhode Island State Budget, Fiscal Year 2024, created a pilot program to allow the Department of Human Service (DHS) to provide funding for child care for eligible child care educators and child care staff with family income up to three hundred percent (300%) of the Federal Poverty Level, who work in a licensed child care center, licensed family child care home, or a licensed group family child care home.

**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 November 4, 2023 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Tara Borges

Department of Human Services

Hazard Building # 74  
41 West Road, 1st floor  
Cranston, RI 02920  
Tara.Borges@dhs.ri.gov

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 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 (300%) 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.

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