



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

To: Interested Parties
From: DHS Office of Policy Analysis, Research & Development
Date: May 7, 2025
Subject: Proposed Direct Final Amendment to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

RICR Title 218 – Rhode Island Department of Human Services Chapter 20 – Individual and Family Support Programs Part 1 – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is filing the following proposed Direct Final Amendment to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program:

This regulation is being amended to comply and implement the following amendments for Direct Final rulemaking:

- Revised language to ensure alignment with federal regulations regarding ABAWD exemptions and work requirements, as codified by FNS in December 2024;
- Increased response timeframe from 10 days to 15 days for households to provide and submit required verification for SNAP to streamline processes and reduce churn;
- Amended language under 1.4.13 Student Eligibility Requirements to align with FNS regulation;
- Updated the homeless definition and temporary accommodations under 1.4.9 Homeless SNAP Households;
- Expanded language and time frames to align with codified FNS regulations for the ABAWD exemptions at 1.11.9.
- Amended language under 1.11.1 Work Requirements to include agency's responsibilities regarding exemptions and exceptions;
- Technical changes are included within this amendment; and
- Update to citations.

The Department does not expect this filing to be controversial and therefore a hearing will not be held. If no formal objection is received on June 6, 2025 the Department will file this Amendment and the Final Rule will take effect on this date.

This proposed rule is accessible on the R.I. Secretary of State website: (<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/Promulgations/Part/218-20-00-1>), on the Department of Human Services website (<http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Regulations/Proposed.php>) or available in hard copy upon request (401-462-2146 or RI Relay, dial 711). All written objections should be sent to: Karen Vartebedian, Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy Analysis, Research & Development, Department of Human Services, Hazard Bldg. #74, 41 West Road 1st Fl, Cranston, RI 02920, dhs.policyfeedback@dhs.ri.gov, or by fax at 401-462-6165, and must be received no later than 11:59 PM June 6, 2025.