

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

**Title of Rule:** REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**Rule Identifier:** 218-RICR-20-00-6

**Rulemaking Action:** Proposed Amendment

**Important Dates:**

Date of Public Notice: August 8, 2025

End of Public Comment: September 7, 2025

**Rulemaking Authority:**

THE REFUGEE ACT OF 1980

R.I. Gen. Laws § 42.35

45 C.F.R. Part 400

Refugee Resettlement Program.

**Summary of Rulemaking Action:**

This proposed change is made in accordance with the Director of ORR's announcement of expansion of the Refugee Cash Assistance eligibility period from 12 months to 4 months for participants whose date of eligibility for benefits is on or after May 5, 2025. This rule change was made public on 3/21/25 and is being incorporated into the DHS rule to comply with this federal regulation.

**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 September 7, 2025, by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Marianne Nerbonne  
Department of Human Services  
41 West Road, 2nd Floor  
Hazard Bldg. #74  
Cranston, RI 02920  
Marianne.Nerbonne@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:**

Amending the eligibility period from 12 months to 4 months per federal regulations.

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