



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

To: Interested Parties

From: DHS Office of Policy Development

Date: August 8, 2025

Subject: Proposed Amendment to Refugee Assistance Program
Rules and Regulations

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, the Department of Human Services is advertising the following proposed and amended DHS rules. This rule is being amended in compliance with state and federal law and good practice.

**RICR Title 218 – Rhode Island Department of Human Services
Chapter 20 – Individual and Family Supports
Part 6 – Refugee Assistance Program**

Proposed amendments are as follows:

Renumbered sections as Needed

Technical Revisions as Needed

§6.2 (A)(3) Reduction of the applicant eligibility period from twelve (12) months to four (4) months, effective May 5, 2025, per federal mandate.

§6.3(A)(3) Amended definition of “Certain Amerasians”

§6.3(A)(6) Amended definition of “Executive Office of Health and Human Services”

§6.3(A)(7) Amended definition of “General Public Assistance”

§6.3(A)(8) Amended definition of “Lawful Permanent Residents”

§6.3(A)(13)(a) Amended definition of “Afghani and Iraqi Nationals”

§6.4.3(A)(8) Added “Victims of Human Trafficking”

§6.4.6(A) Amended Duration of Eligibility section

§6.4.6(A)(1) Added language to reflect prior to May 5, 2025, eligibility

§6.4.6(A)(2) Added language to reflect after May 5, 2025, eligibility

§6.4.6(C) Amended language to “end of their eligibility period”

These proposed rule is accessible on the Rhode Island Secretary of State website <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/Part/218-20-00-6> on the Department of Human Services website (<https://dhs.ri.gov/regulations/proposed-rules-regulations-hearings>) or available in hard copy upon request (401-462-3015 or RI Relay, dial 711). Interested persons should submit data, views or written comments by September 7, 2025 to Marianne Nerbonne, Office of Policy Analysis, Research and Development, Department of Human Services, Hazard Building #74, 41 West Road, 1st floor, Cranston, RI 02920, or email to DHS.PolicyFeedBack@dhs.ri.gov.

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